

STARLAND COUNTY

COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 28th, 2020

A regular meeting of the Council of Starland County was held at the Administration Office in Morrin, Alberta on Wednesday, October 28th, 2020, commencing at 10:45 a.m.

Attendance Present: Reeve: Steve Wannstrom
Deputy Reeve: Bob Sargent
Councillors: Murray Marshall, John Rew and Jackie Watts
Staff: CAO Shirley Bremer
Assistant CAO Matthew Kreke

C20-218
Approval of Minutes

[C20-218] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that the minutes of the October 14th, 2020 regular meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Accounts

Councillor Rew and Deputy Reeve Sargent checked accounts with Administrative Assistant Laya Montgomery.

C20-219
Accounts

[C20-219] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE SARGENT

that accounts (cheque no. 51410 to 51461 inclusive) totalling \$227,836.60 be approved for payment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Attendance and PW Report

At 11:00 a.m. PW Supervisor Ken Menage attended the meeting and reviewed the PW Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- The PW Crew has been installing skirting to the new generator building, moving tools and equipment to the new shop, doing sign work, and finishing the gravel program.
- The Shop Crew have been working on approximately 30 pieces of equipment and 2 CVIPs and helping with the move.
- Gradersmen have been blading roads and working on some dirt roads.
- Ken has been working on the new yard parking plan, the Morton Pit application and reviewing bale complaints.
- The new shop has turned out to be excessively noisy and Ken has put together a quote for acoustic panels for the new shop. He would like it to be considered if there are any remaining funds this year.

Departure

At 11:45 a.m. Ken departed from the meeting.

CAO Report

Chief Administrative Officer Shirley Bremer reviewed the CAO Report with Council. Highlights of the report included the following:

- Following Minister Tracy Allard's announcement on October 19th with regards to the assessment model review by the province, we now have a somewhat clearer view of where we stand in regards to our assessment base for 2021. There will be a further reduction in assessment, allowing additional depreciation adjustments for lower-producing wells which is predicted to reduce tax revenues in the amount of approximately \$450,000.00.
- Shirley spoke with Keith Bocking of Alberta Parks and

Recreation regarding Starland's expression of interest in taking over the Tolman Bridge Campground. The issue has not been decided at the Ministerial Level and there is still some question as to whether the disposition of this land will be a Parks and Recreation responsibility or a Public Lands issue.

- The sub-contractors have been busy working on various warranty items with our new building over the past couple of months. They are still waiting for parts on the overhead door in the inventory room, carpet replacement in the reception area, pavement repairs and some new water leaks in the roof. We will be releasing the hold back soon however the bulk of the last payment is still being held while the deficiencies are outstanding.

MS Report

CAO Bremer reviewed the MS report with Council. Highlights of the report included:

- The Utilities Crew has been busy working on the annual water flushing and infrastructure review program. The process includes the operation of all the main valves and hydrants throughout all the various systems. The procedure helps to identify any deficiencies or operational problems such as valves that will not open or close. This allows the opportunity to make repairs prior to any critical situations or events.
- The past few weeks have been very busy for permitting of fires across the County. The advisory for Starland County was lifted with the snow and many landowners have taken advantage of the opportunity to burn off some debris. All the permits at this time have been restricted to pits only. Glen has also drafted up a set of new guidelines and conditions for "Flax Straw Burning" which has become an issue in some areas of the County.
- Glen has begun working to compile information with respect to various projects and capital projects for the purpose of outlining some priorities for strategic planning for the next year and into the future. Included in the review will be development of county properties, recreational lots, utility servicing, water station upgrades or repairs and areas within the scope of "essential services".

Policy 120-1

Council was issued with a finalized copy of Policy 120-1, Employee Use of Municipal Vehicles, Equipment and Facilities. The policy sets out the conditions whereby staff may use County assets for their own benefit. Administration are proposing revisions to bring the policy in line with current practice. Council discussed the possibility of removing section 2 entirely and limiting rentals to ratepayers only.

C20-220
Policy 120-1

[C20-220] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW

that Starland County amend Policy 120-1 by removing section 2, Employee Use of Equipment.

MOTION CARRIED.

Stettler County
ICF

Council was presented with a draft copy of the Stettler-Starland County ICF document and Bylaw which is required under the terms of the new Municipal Government Act. The document lists all separate and jointly provided services and outlines a dispute resolution process should disagreements arise.

C20-221
Bylaw 1157 –
Motion to
Establish

[C20-221] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that Bylaw No. 1157, to adopt an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework between Starland County and the County of Stettler, be established.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C20-222
Bylaw 1157 –
1st Reading

[C20-222] MOVED BY DEPTUY REEVE SARGENT

that Bylaw No. 1157 be given First Reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C20-223
Bylaw 1157 –
2nd Reading

[C20-223] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that Bylaw No. 1157 be given Second Reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C20-224
Bylaw 1157 –
Motion to Have 3rd
Reading

[C20-224] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW

that Bylaw No. 1157 be presented for Third Reading at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C20-225
Bylaw 1157 –
3rd Reading

[C20-225] MOVED BY REEVE WANNSTROM

that Bylaw No. 1157, to adopt an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework between Starland County and the County of Stettler, be given Third and Final Reading and finally passed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RMA Fall
Convention
Information

Council was given a copy of the agenda for the Fall RMA Conference which will be held digitally on November 3rd and 4th. Administration also prepared a summary and recommendation list for all resolutions that will be under consideration at the conference.

Municipal
Indicator Results

Notice was received from Municipal Affairs that after review Starland County has been deemed to be “not at risk” of being unsustainable based on the departments 13 indicators.

Hanna Medical
Requisition

Hanna Medical Properties issued its 2021 requisition to Starland County which based on a formula of \$45.53 per user is \$8,650.70. Starland County has estimated 190 users based on previous census information.

C20-226
Hanna Medical
Requisition

[C20-226] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that Starland County pay the Hanna Medical Properties requisition of \$8,650.70 for the 2021 fiscal year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Operational and
Recreation Grants

CAO Bremer reminded Council that the 2020 Operational and Ice Plant Grant deadline is coming up and all eligible community groups should prepare and submit their applications.

Election 2021

2021 will see the next Alberta Municipal Election and in preparation for this the Government of Alberta has released a Question and Answer Publication as well as some new resources for Returning Officers. This year the period for accepting nominations has been extended so Starland will have to appoint a returning officer earlier than usual.

C20-227
**Appointment of
Returning
Officer**

[C20-227] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW

that Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Matthew Kreke be appointed as Returning Officer for the 2021 Municipal Election.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Municipal
Assessment
Review

Council was presented with a copy of a communication from Minister of Municipal Affairs Tracy Allard detailing how her department will be moving forward on changes to the assessment system for oil and gas properties in Alberta. The government will not be going with any of the previously proposed models and will instead be offering targeting tax holidays to new oil and gas developments as well as increased depreciation on some low producing wells. The developments are expected to decrease Starland County's revenues by an additional \$450,000.00 annually which when combined with reductions to shallow gas well assessment has reduced Starland County revenue approximately 10%. The impacts of this change have been summarized in a public news release that administration will be submitting to the media.

Policy 120-8

Council reviewed administration's proposed amendments to Policy 120-8, the Public Participation Policy. The amendments proposed were suggested during Starland County's Municipal Accountability Program Review. The changes recommended add circumstances whereby Starland County would engage in public participation. This policy amendment will be reviewed by Council and discussed further at the next Council Meeting.

C20-228
**Motion to
Proceed
In-Camera**

[C20-228] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that under the exemption granted by Section 17, Division 2, Part 4 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Personal Privacy Act Reeve Wannstrom, Deputy Reeve Sargent and Councillors Watts, Rew and Marshall along with Staff Bremer, Fazekas and Kreke proceed with the meeting In-Camera at 2:35 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Departure

At 3:45 p.m. Deputy Reeve Sargent and Finance Manager Fazekas departed from the meeting.

C20-229
**Motion to
Proceed Out of
In-Camera**

[C20-229] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW

that the meeting proceed out of In-Camera at 3:50 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council
Committees

All councillors present reported briefly on the committees to which they are appointed.

Council
Communications

Council Communications:

- i) Prairie Land Public School Division re: News Release
- ii) Alberta Police Interim Advisor Board re: Information Update
- iii) Alberta RCMP re: Annual Report 2019-2020
- iv) Rural Municipalities of Alberta
 - Contact Newsletter (2 Issues)
 - Presidents Message

Accounts

Accounts - see prior motion.

A.H. GRADER SERVICE LTD.	CK# 51410	8,967.00
ACKLANDS-GRAINER INC.	CK# 51411	178.42
ADAMS INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES INC.	CK# 51412	856.58
ALBERTA MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS	CK# 51413	33,133.98

ALBERTA MUNICIPAL DATA SHARING	CK# 51414	200.00
ALTAGAS UTILITIES INC.	CK# 51415	1,924.95
AUTO VALUE PARTS – DRUMHELLER	CK# 51416	1,897.09
BARRON, FRANCIS	CK# 51417	906.50
BURT, EDWIN L.	CK# 51418	150.00
CIMA CANADA INC.	CK# 51419	771.75
CINTAS CANADA LIMITED	CK# 51420	414.64
DG FRAMES STORE	CK# 51421	3,766.35
DRUMHELLER EQUIPMENT SALES	CK# 51422	99.75
EAST CENTRAL GAS CO-OP LTD.	CK# 51423	206.95
ENMAX	CK# 51424	10,207.19
FOURLANE FORD SALES LTD.	CK# 51425	66.41
FRESON BROS DRUMHELLER	CK# 51426	206.14
FRONTIER CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS	CK# 51427	2,398.41
GREATWEST KENWORTH LTD.	CK# 51428	992.82
HI-WAY 9 EXPRESS LTD.	CK# 51429	383.92
HODGE, ROGER	CK# 51430	4,897.90
IMAGE CRAFTER SIGNS INC.	CK# 51431	157.50
INTERLOCK IT INC.	CK# 51432	7,443.53
KNEEHILL COUNTY	CK# 51433	4,635.00
LAPP	CK# 51434	20,441.20
LOOMIS EXPRESS	CK# 51435	159.75
MARSHALL, MURRAY	CK# 51436	5,869.71
MURRAY, PATRICK D. & BARBARA	CK# 51437	540.00
NETAGO	CK# 51438	320.00
PRIMROSE, BRAD	CK# 51439	8,676.31
QUEST FABRICATION	CK# 51440	67.95
RECEIVER GENERAL OF CANADA	CK# 51441	40,585.42
RIEP, GLEN	CK# 51442	1,222.10
RMA FUEL	CK# 51443	10,376.75
ROCKY MOUNTAIN PHOENIX	CK# 51444	1,733.72
SAFETY CODES COUNCIL	CK# 51445	225.00
SAMUEL PLUMBING & HEATING LTD.	CK# 51446	241.50
SHRED-IT INTERNATIONAL ULC	CK# 51447	258.48
STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.	CK# 51448	21,156.25
STARLAND REGIONAL WATER	CK# 51449	1,089.18
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY	CK# 51450	17,769.31
TELUS	CK# 51451	636.70
TELUS MOBILITY INC.	CK# 51452	186.27
VILLAGE OF DELIA	CK# 51453	207.00
WANNSTROM, STEVE	CK# 51454	268.75
WATER PURE & SIMPLE	CK# 51455	36.00
WATTS, JACKIE	CK# 51456	2,282.04
WESTVIEW CO-OPERATIVE ASSN LTD.	CK# 51457	1,008.56
WOLF, TRACY	CK# 51458	1,305.00
WOLF, TRACY & MONTGOMERY, CINDY	CK# 51459	2,620.50
WOLSELEY WATERWORKS	CK# 51460	1,172.05
XYLEM CANADA COMPANY	CK# 51461	2,518.32

Sub-Total: \$ 227,836.60

TOTAL: \$ 227,836.60

**C20-230
Adjournment**

[C20-230] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW

that the meeting be adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Council of Starland County is to be held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2020, at the Starland County Administration Building in Morrin, Alberta, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

**Reeve:
Steve Wannstrom**

**Chief Administrative Officer:
Shirley Bremer**