

STARLAND COUNTY

COUNCIL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2014

A regular meeting of the Council of Starland County was held in the Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, on Wednesday, September 24th, 2014, commencing at 8:00 a.m.

Attendance

Present: Reeve: Barrie Hoover
Deputy Reeve: Allen Avramenko
Councillors: Murray Marshall, Bob Sargent and Steven Wannstrom
Staff: CAO R. Rawlusyk
Special Projects Manager M. Kreke
Recording Secretary S. Bremer

CAO Report

Chief Administrative Officer Ross Rawlusyk reviewed his CAO Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- Ross noted that we now have a new Premier and a new Cabinet as well. The new Cabinet is smaller, with 20 ministers down from 29 previously.
- The County received an overall score of 88% on the External Safety Audit which was recently completed. The audit results will be presented on Friday of this week.
- The ARMAA Conference was held the first week of September in Drumheller. Starland County acted as the host municipality and all in all, the conference was a great success.
- There have been further discussions in regards to the Delia Area Rural Water Expansion Project. Office staff met with Theo Owel from MPE Engineering Ltd. and reviewed the areas that could be added on that make sense from an economic point of view. Ross noted that there are a few amendments recommended to our rural water policy which will be discussed at a future date.
- Range Road 18-2 (West of the NW 35-29-18-W4M) will be temporarily closed commencing on Wednesday, September 10th, 2014 for approximately 30 days to facilitate the removal of an existing bridge and the installation of a new bridge size culvert.
- Ross attended a Solar Celebration held by the Town of Black Diamond on Friday, September 19th, 2014. The Town also announced that they have approved a joint funding application with Starland County to enhance solar administration.
- The County of Stettler advised that they seconded the resolution we prepared for the Fall Zone meeting of the CAAMDC on October 17th at the Handhills Clubhouse. The resolution calls for the implementation of a system for reimbursing solar power micro-generators that is based on a detailed analysis of its time of production, and carbon offset benefits.
- The tender documents for the gravel supply tender have now been finalized.

C14-148 Approval of Minutes

[C14-148] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the minutes of the August 27th, 2014 regular meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Attendance of PWS Pratt & PW Report

At 8:30 a.m., Public Works Supervisor Pratt attended the meeting and reviewed his Public Works Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- The Road Crew are nearing completion of the Rowley Hill Road Project;
- The grademen have been maintaining their gravel roads as well

as working on the back roads. The recent moisture has been hindering their progress on the back roads.

- Unit 62, the 2008 Cat 160M grader is now ready to go to Ritchie Bros. Auction.
- 97 miles of the 2014 gravel program has been completed, as well as 44 miles of add-ons.
- Brenda has been quite busy with permits, road damages and lease clean-ups.
- Besides the regular work items, the public works crew have been busy with Hamlet Clean-up Days; hydro-vacuating water out of ruts and holes on back roads; straightened out the road at the MixCor Pit; crackfilling at Horsethief Canyon access and Delia access; and hauled equipment to the Courtney/Handhills pit for the Heavy Equipment Course that Olds College is putting on;
- Colby & Justin had the water truck at the tough Mudder event on September 5th and 6th.
- Al and Thomas attended the tire seminar that was put on and paid for by Michelin Tire at Nisku.
- Bridgemen Services have indicated that BF13658 is nearing completion.

Complaint re: Use of retarder brakes

PWS Pratt discussed a complaint with regards to retarder brake usage on SH576. He noted that in order for Alberta Transportation to put up signs prohibiting their usage in a certain area, the County must submit a request for same.

C14-149
Request to AB
Transportation re:
Signs prohibiting
use of retarder
brakes

[C14-149] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that Starland County request Alberta Transportation to place signs on SH576, near Range Road 19-3, prohibiting the use of retarder brakes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Gravel Hauling Contractor

CAO Rawlusyk advised that he re-advertised for a Gravel Hauling Contractor. He received an application from Mark Chambers of Morrin, Alberta.

C14-150
Motion to accept
Gravel Hauling
Contractor

[C14-150] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that Mark Chambers of Morrin, Alberta, be added to the Contract Gravel Hauler list, effective immediately; and that the terms and conditions be as per the Contract Gravel Hauler contract.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Road Construction Projects and Back Road Projects

CAO Rawlusyk reviewed the status of the future Road Construction Projects. He noted that we still require further environmental approvals for the Norlie Road, and that due to the timing and the on-going harvesting, we are reluctant to start on the Rowley Road West from Hwy 56. He suggested that the road crew could work on some of the back road projects and provided a list of proposed projects to Council that was prepared a few years ago, for their review and comments. Council agreed that it would be prudent to not start a new major road construction project at this time of year, and that the crew could work on some of the back road projects until freeze-up.

Gravel Supply Tender

CAO Rawlusyk reviewed a draft copy of the Gravel Supply Tender which will be advertised in the near future. This is for the supply of gravel in both the Handhills Area and the Rumsey Area.

C14-151
Authorization to
advertise Gravel
Supply Tender

[C14-151] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that Starland County advertise for tenders to be submitted for the supply of Gravel (Crushed and Stockpiled) for the County; and that it be for the supply of the following:

From the Handhills Area:

90,000 m³ of Des. 4 Cl. 20
15,000 m³ of Des. 4 Cl. 40
7,500 m³ of Des. 5 Cl. 8

and from the Rumsey Area:

30,000 m³ of Des. 4 Cl. 20
10,000 m³ of Des. 4 Cl. 40

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Monthly Financial
Statement

The monthly financial statement of Starland County for the month ending August 31st, 2014, was presented to Council for their review.

C14-152
Approval of
Financial
Statement

[C14-152] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that the Monthly Financial Statement of Starland County for the month ending August 31st, 2014 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Departure of
PWS Pratt &
Attendance of
Manager Riep

At 9:40 a.m., Public Works Supervisor Pratt departed from the meeting and Municipal Services Manager Riep attended the meeting.

Municipal Services
Report

Manager Riep reviewed his Municipal Services Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- The Craigmyle Sewage Lift Station Project is nearing completion and the electrical components are being installed. The transition from the existing station is scheduled for early October as the change-over will require some coordination of temporary waste disposal while the work is being done.
- The fall rain has certainly lowered our risk levels in regards to fire suppression this season.
- Glen is meeting with a fence supplier this week to go over the Michichi Dam Fencing Project in order to get a firm quote.
- The Craigmyle Park project is progressing as they have prepped the lot for the laying of sod and some grass seeding areas within the park as well as some shrubs that will be planted this fall.
- The Alberta Star Party held their annual star-gazing event last weekend at the Starland Recreation Area. There was a large turnout for the event that includes visitors from all over the province.
- The crew has been doing some restoration and landscaping work around the CLV Booster vault as a result of overland flooding of the station after each rain.
- Glen has been dealing with outstanding issues concerning the CLV water system upgrade. There are some concerns regarding potential water line leaks and water infiltration; an outstanding damage claim as a result of water damage to a basement and fixtures; and cleaning of some water cisterns.
- Glen is working to get a contractor lined up to install a small water service line to a new service to Chris Care's property.
- Water flushing had to be done in some remote areas due to some taste and odour issues with Drumheller's water supply.
- He met with Ken Trudel of Westcan Wireless regarding the communications system upgrade.

- He noted that we have joined with the Town of Drumheller Fire Department in a joint application under the Fire Services and Emergency Preparedness Program. The application is for a number of fire related training courses which will be used to further develop and train our existing and new members in the fire services.

Delia Rural Water Expansion Draft Report

Chief Administrative Officer Rawlusk reviewed the Draft Report and Recommendations with Council in regards to the Delia Rural Water Expansion. While the costs in some areas are definitely cost prohibitive at this time, there are some areas that we can work on getting water to. He noted that we will be getting a revised plan prepared by MPE and also talking to other potential users along the proposed water line areas.

Legal Opinion on Land Use Bylaw Review

CAO Rawlusk noted that we now have Brownlee LLP's comments with regards to the Land Use Bylaw Review. Their opinion letter provides an overview of the draft LUB in light of the requirements established by the MGA. They have identified areas in which there may be inconsistency or ambiguity arising from the language of the LUB. CAO Rawlusk advised that staff will review this opinion letter and provide recommendations back to Council.

ATCO Electric re: Billings for fires

CAO Rawlusk noted that staff met with ATCO Electric in regards to billings for fire calls. They recently noted that they don't feel that ATCO should be invoiced for a fire call if the fire was caused by a bird and have refused payment of these invoices. Starland County obtained advice from our lawyers and they would like us to share the legal opinion in this regard as well as Council's decision around whether or not to continue to invoice for all fires, including bird related, or just when maintenance is the apparent cause. Council discussed this issue and felt that our legal opinion should not be shared, and that the County should continue to invoice all fires as we have done for many years now.

Departure of Manager Riep

At 10:45 a.m., Manager Riep departed from the meeting.

Upcoming Organizational Meeting & Committee Appointments

A copy of the Council Committee List was distributed to Council for their review prior to the upcoming Organizational Meeting. It was also noted that the terms for the two ASB Farm Members are up and replacement members will be needed.

C14-153
Organizational Meeting Scheduled

[C14-153] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that as per Section 192(1) of the Municipal Government Act, that the Organizational Meeting of the Council of Starland County be scheduled for Wednesday, October 22nd, 2014, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Resolution on Micro-Generation Reimbursement

Council reviewed the Resolution on Micro-Generation Reimbursement that is to be presented at the upcoming CAAMDC Zone Meeting. The County of Stettler No. 6 forwarded a letter of support, noting that their Council seconded this resolution at their September 10th, 2014 Council Meeting.

Gas Tax Fund

Correspondence was received from Alberta Municipal Affairs advising us of the availability of the program materials for the Federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) and confirming that \$208 million in GTF funding will be provided to Alberta's municipalities in 2014. The renewed GTF provides long-term funding to help build and revitalize local public infrastructure and now includes recreation and cultural infrastructure, broadband connectivity, disaster mitigation infrastructure and brownfield redevelopment. Starland County's 2014 GTF allocation is \$112,549, which is approximately \$20,000 less than in previous years. It is based on our 2013 population and was calculated using the funding formula established under the previous GTF program. Our GTF is

subject to the County entering into a funding agreement with the Government of Alberta.

C14-154
Motion to enter into GTF Agreement

[C14-154] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WANNSTROM

that Starland County enter into a funding agreement with the Government of Alberta for funding under the Gas Tax Fund (GTF); and that the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to endorse this agreement on behalf of Starland County.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Review of Website Development

Matthew Kreke reviewed the website redevelopment recommendations with Council and presented an overview of the menu structure and basic user interface.

Hanna & District Ambulance Society re: Request for Funding Assistance

Correspondence was received from the Hanna and District Ambulance and Medical Society, requesting funding assistance to help pay for the signing incentive they provided to a new doctor.

C14-155
Funding Assistance Request Tabled

[C14-155] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

to table discussions in regards to the Hanna and District Ambulance and Medical Society's request for funding.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RCMP Report

The Drumheller RCMP provided a statistical comparison for 2013 to 2014 for Council's review.

Delinquent Accounts

Council reviewed a list of delinquent accounts that have previously been sent to collections and still not been paid.

C14-156
Cancellation of Delinquent Accounts

[C14-156] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the following accounts receivable be cancelled; and that these clients are to remain on our delinquent list permanently, prohibited from receiving any services or goods, or until such time as they are paid in full:

Name		Date	Service	Amount
Mike Hobbs	14352	Jan 2/14	Snowplowing	\$40.00
Mike Hobbs	14651	July 30/14	Penalty	\$0.60
Mike Hobbs	14709	Aug 15/14	Penalty	\$0.60
Mike Hobbs	14785	Sep 16/14	Penalty	\$0.61
Clinton Lutes	13494	May 29/12	Gravel	\$335.58
Clinton Lutes	13529	July 17/12	Penalty	\$5.03
James B. Lynn	13852	Jan 2/13	Snowplow	\$35.00
Stephen Melville	13965	May 28/13	Fire Call	\$400.00
Morning Glory Co-op	14196	Oct 22/13	Water Repairs	\$1,911.00
Morning Glory Co-op	13945	Apr 19/13	Equipment Rent	\$1,731.46
Morning Glory Co-op	14771	Sep 16/14	Penalties	\$54.64
Mike Neuman	12978	May 17/11	Computer	\$1,756.03
Mike Neuman	13395	Jan 3/12	Penalty	\$26.34
Mike Neuman	13528	July 17/12	Penalty	\$26.74

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Payroll Survey

CAO Rawlusyk noted that further to the payroll survey that was proposed by the East Central Municipality Group, (Stettler, Paintearth, Special Areas, Kneehill & Starland) a consultant has now been hired to prepare same. Human Resources Consulting Group Inc. provided an estimate in the amount of \$8,750 - \$14,375, which would be split between the partnering municipalities.

C14-157
Motion to pay share of payroll survey

[C14-157] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WANNSTROM

that authorization be given for Starland County to participate in the salary survey being prepared for the East Central Municipality Group; and that Starland County pay their portion of the costs incurred for same.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Committee Reports

Each of the Councillors present briefly reported on the various committees to which they are appointed.

Council Communications

Council Communications:

- i) Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association re: A White Paper on Transportation Infrastructure Debt in Alberta
- ii) Federation of Canadian Municipalities re: "President's Corner"
- iii) Rowley Community Hall Association (1976) Ltd. Re: Thank-you for donation of funding to assist with summer students
- iv) Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties
 - Member Bulletin re: Recap of Alberta Municipal Governance Symposium
 - Contact Newsletter (3 issues)

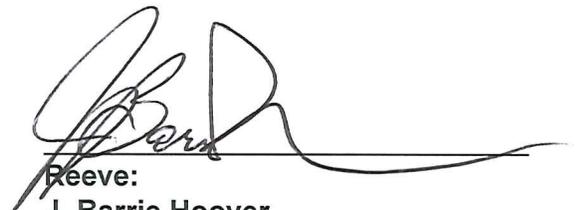
C14-158
Adjournment

[C14-158] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that the meeting be adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next regular meeting of the Council of Starland County is to be held on Wednesday, October 8th, 2014, in the Starland County Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, commencing at 9:00 a.m.


Reeve:
J. Barrie Hoover


Chief Administrative Officer:
Ross D. Rawlusyk