

COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7
COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2009 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Call to Order

Reeve Henry Zolkewski called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with

The following were in attendance during the course of the meeting on this date:

DIVISION NAME A.M. P.M.
ATTENDANCE

1	CHARLES NEWELL	X	X
2	KEVIN GRUMETZA	X	X
3	HENRY ZOLKEWSKI	X	X
4	CORI KUZYK	X	X
5	WAYNE CROSWELL	X	X
6	SHELLY HANASYK	X	X
County Manager	DAN SMALL	X	X
Agriculture & Community Services Director	CINDY OLCHOWY	X	
Director of Corporate Services	JANELLE CORNELIUS	X	X
Gas & Utilities Director	JOYCE PIERCE		
Public Works Director	RICK NIETUPSKI		X
Recording Secretaries	JEANNETTE CHOLACH & LAURIE ANDRUSHCHYSHYN	X	X

Public Hearing(s)

There were no Public Hearings scheduled for this meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 346-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the Agenda for the Council Meeting of August 25, 2009 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes
August 11, 2009
Regular Council Meeting

Resolution 347-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 11, 2009, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Gas and Utilities
Business Arising
Minutes/New Business
and Correspondence

Cindy Olchow, Director of Agriculture and Community Services, and Harold Hamilton, Agricultural Fieldman, joined the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

There was no information presented with respect to the Business arising from the Minutes/ Correspondence sections for this meeting.

Committee Report

County Manager Dan Small presented the following verbal report in the absence of Gas and Utilities Director Joyce Pierce:

- Work on the commission's water line is ongoing
- Newbrook reservoir status – going well
- Newbrook water system – continual maintenance of chlorination levels

Agriculture and Community Services - Northlands
2009 AMA Farm Family Awards

Cindy Olchow, Director of Agriculture and Community Services, advised that Northlands is inviting a representative and a guest from each county to attend the 2009 AMA Farm Family Awards banquet to recognize Ross and Penny Lyons upon their County of Thorhild Family Farm nomination on Sunday, November 8, 2009.

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 AUGUST 25, 2009

Correspondence –
2009 AMA Farm
Family Awards

Resolution 348-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the July 27, 2009 letter from Northlands pertaining to the 2009 AMA Farm Family Awards be accepted as information.

CARRIED

Correspondence –
Alberta
Environmental
Farm Plan
Company

Resolution 349-2009

Moved by Charles Newell that the July 2009 edition of the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan Company report to industry be received as information.

CARRIED

Committee
Reports
Agricultural
Fieldman

Agricultural Fieldman Harold Hamilton reported on the following matters:

- Road side and special weed spray programs
- Beaver dam concerns
- Also working on crop, grasshopper, drought and weed infestations, collecting data and reporting to Alberta Rural Development
- Have received inquiries relating to coyotes, a bear sighting, land rentals, drought assistance programs, pumping water, hay bales and straw prices and availability
- The North West Agricultural Tour was interesting; one of the highlights was Pioneer’s new club resistant canola.

Resolution 350-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the Agricultural Fieldman’s report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Recess

Reeve Henry Zolkewski declared the meeting in recess at 10:03 a.m.

Reconvene

Reeve Henry Zolkewski reconvened the meeting in order to conduct the 2009 Public Auction with Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Taxes and Land Use, in attendance.

2009 Public
Auction

The Manager of Land Use and Taxes advised that there are now two parcels of land on the 2009 Public Auction list as the third advertised parcel has since been removed.

Ms. Pasay provided Council with the background information, and terms and conditions pertaining to the following two parcels up for Public Auction:

Lots	Block	Plan	Reserve Bids
8 & 9	1	3467 CE	\$12,000
10 & 11	3	3467 CE	\$15,000

Lots 8 & 9, Block 1,
Plan 3467 CE

Reeve Henry Zolkewski called for bids on the first parcel, Lots 8 & 9, Block 1, Plan 3467 CE, Radway, 7800 square feet lot, with a reserve bid of \$12,000. Al Litwin bid \$12,000 for the parcel.

Reeve Zolkewski called out whether there were any other bids. There were no other bids offered.

Lots 8 & 9, Block1, Plan 3467 CE

Sold to Andrew M. D. Litwin with a bid price of \$12,000.

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 AUGUST 25, 2009

- 2009 Public Auction - Lots 10 & 11, Block 3, Plan 3467 CE
- Reeve Henry Zolkewski called for bids on the second parcel, Lots 10 & 11, Block 3, Plan 3467 CE, Radway, 12,500 square feet lot, with a reserve bid of \$15,000. Darrell Gladeau bid \$5,000 for the parcel.
- Reeve Zolkewski called out and questioned whether there were any further bids. There were no other bids offered.
- Reeve Henry Zolkewski stated that the bid price of \$5,000 is under the reserve bid prepared by the County assessor, and is rejected.
- Lots 10 & 11, Block 3, Plan 3467 CE
In effect, the parcel remains with the County of Thorhild as the reserve price was not met.
- Reeve Henry Zolkewski declared the Public Auction closed at 10:24 a.m.
- Reconvene into Council Meeting
- Reeve Henry Zolkewski reconvened the Council Meeting at 10:30 a.m. with Cindy Olchow, Director of Agriculture and Community Services, in attendance.
- Agriculture and Community Services Director's Report
- Cindy Olchow, Director of Agriculture and Community Services, reported to Council on various matters pertaining to agriculture, emergency services, occupational health and safety, bylaw enforcement and community services.
- Resolution 351-2009
- Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the Agriculture and Community Services Director's report be accepted as presented.
- CARRIED
- Cindy Olchow, Director of Agriculture and Community Services, left the meeting at 10:42 a.m. and Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, rejoined the meeting at 10:43 a.m.
- Bylaws
- Bylaw 1125-2009 – Rezoning Application for Plan 168CL, Block 2, Lots 8 & 9 (117 – 6th Avenue, Thorhild)
- The Manager of Land Use and Taxes stated that the County received a request to rezone Plan 168CL, Block 2, Lots 8 & 9, (117 – 6th Avenue), in the Hamlet of Thorhild from Central Commercial (C) to Residential (R1) District.
- Ms. Pasay briefed Council on the rezoning process that would be followed.
- Bylaw 1125-2009 – First Reading and Schedule Public Hearing
- Resolution 352-2009
- Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council give first reading to Bylaw 1125-2009 in order to commence the rezoning process as requested by the landowner, and that the Public Hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.
- CARRIED
- Notice(s) of Motion
- There were no notices of motion brought forward to this meeting.
- Recess
- Reeve Henry Zolkewski declared the meeting in recess at 10:51 a.m.
- Reconvene
- Reeve Henry Zolkewski reconvened the meeting at 11:01 a.m. with Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, in attendance.
- Other Business
- Vesta (Community Association) School
- Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, presented Council with the historical events pertaining to the sale of Vesta (Community Association) School at Pt. SE 27-59-23-W4 (3 acre parcel).

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 AUGUST 25, 2009

Offer to Purchase -
Vesta (Community
Association)
School – Pt. SE
27-59-23-W4

The adjacent landowner has expressed the intent to purchase the parcel and restore the property as a historical pioneer school obtained through funding applications to the provincial and federal governments. He has counter offered \$35,000.00 to the County's asking price of \$44,000.00.

Resolution 353-2009

Moved by Henry Zolkewski that Council accept the offer to purchase for the Vesta (Community Association) School – Pt. SE 27-59-23-W4 (3 acres) from Mr. Sandy Lupul in the amount of \$35,000.

CARRIED

Public Works Director Rick Nietupski joined the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Public Works

Business Arising from
Minutes/New Business
and Correspondence

There was no information presented with respect to the Business arising from the Minutes/New Business and Correspondence sections for this meeting.

Committee Report

Public Works
Director's Report

Public Works Director Rick Nietupski reported on the following matters:

- Summer gravelling
- Roadside mowing
- Updates on Administration Office, Radway Hospital Street and Newbrook sidewalk paving projects

Resolution 354-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the Public Works Director's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Councillor Cori
Kuzyk, Notice of
Motion – Develop a
Road Building
Program

Councillor Cori Kuzyk spoke to his notice of motion from the August 11, 2009 Council Meeting:

That the County of Thorhild develop a road rebuilding program to identify roads which have fallen below a defined minimum standard and to rebuild these roads back to the defined municipal standard.

- This would allow for budgeting ahead to ensure a perpetual road maintenance program is established and enforced to bring failing roads back up to acceptable standards and ensure a strong infrastructure, well into the future throughout the County of Thorhild No. 7;
- Establishes standards for both rural and urban road infrastructure and maintenance guidelines;
- Identifies failing roads well ahead to allow for proper budgeting a year in advance;
- County of Thorhild No. 7 will hold themselves as well as developers to these standards to ensure strong infrastructure throughout the County.

Pamela Ehrler and Conrad Kirchner, delegation representatives from Stewart Weir and Co. Ltd., joined the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Public Works Director Rick Nietupski responded to Councillor Kuzyk's notice of motion with an explanation of Public Works' current plan of action regarding road maintenance within the County.

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 AUGUST 25, 2009

Approval -
Development of a
Road Building
Program

Resolution 355-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the County of Thorhild develop a road rebuilding program to identify roads which have fallen below a defined minimum standard and to rebuild these roads back to the defined municipal standard.

CARRIED

Recess

Reeve Henry Zolkewski declared the meeting in recess at 12:05 p.m.

Reconvene

Reeve Henry Zolkewski reconvened the meeting at 12:47 p.m. with Pamela Ehrler, Project Manager for Community Infrastructure, Engineering Department and Conrad Kirchner, Project Director, with Stewart Weir and Co. Ltd., in attendance.

Delegation –
Stewart, Weir –
Report on Long
Lake Consultation
Process

Conrad Kirchner, Project Director, with Stewart Weir and Co. Ltd. reported to Council with respect to the Alternative Long Lake Access Road Open House held on Friday, August 14, 2009. Discussion at the Long Lake consultation open house centered around the following points:

- The need for the road for emergency purposes
- Naming of the access road
- Restrictions on public access – the majority of residents favoured a gate or some other form of restricted entry for emergency vehicles and evacuations only.
- Concerns raised by residents: more vehicle traffic, ATVs, noise, theft, vandalism, further development and environmental process

County Manager Dan Small outlined the history preceding the access road consultation process. Further information is required with respect to the following four issues:

1. Building Canada – Communities Component grant agreement ruling in order to determine if restricted access as discussed is actually permissible.
2. Provincial – Environmental impact and an environmental process of some kind will have to be conducted.
3. County of Athabasca and gravel pit owner's permission
4. Liability if the road is not built.

Long Lake
Emergency
Access Road
Decision Deferral

Resolution 356-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the decision supporting the construction of the Long Lake Emergency Access Road be deferred to the September 22, 2009 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

Conrad Kirchner, Project Director, with Stewart Weir and Co. Ltd., also reported to Council on the status of the correction line road project.

Pamela Ehrler, Project Manager for Community Infrastructure, Engineering Department and Conrad Kirchner, Project Director, with Stewart Weir and Co. Ltd., Public Works Director Rick Nietupski and Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, left the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

Other Business
Financial
Statement and
Variance Report

Director of Corporate Services Janelle Cornelius presented Council with the Financial Statement and corresponding variance report as at July 31, 2009.

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 AUGUST 25, 2009

Adoption of Financial Statement and Variance Report

Resolution 357-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the Financial Statement and corresponding variance report as at July 31, 2009 be accepted as information.

CARRIED

Councillor Wayne Croswell left the meeting at 2:04 p.m. and rejoined the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Policy 325, Councillor Access to Administration Building After Regular Hours and Distribution of Keys

Director of Corporate Services Janelle Cornelius provided Council with the survey results of the five municipalities who were contacted with respect to their councillor key distribution/after hours building access policies and procedures. Ms. Cornelius advised that Policy 325, Councillor Access to Administration Building After Regular Hours and Distribution of Keys, was developed for Council's consideration. Policy 325 recommends that Administration Building keys not be distributed to Councillors and only allows Councillors after hours access to the Administration building provided they follow Policy 316, booking and usage of the administration building meeting room and council chambers.

Councillor Cori Kuzyk requested a recorded vote with respect to the following resolution.

Resolution 358-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council vote on Administration's recommendation to approve Policy 325: Councillor After Hours Administration Building Access and Distribution of Keys.

<u>For</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Charles Newell	Cori Kuzyk
Shelly Hanasyk	Wayne Croswell
Kevin Grumetza	
Henry Zolkewski	

CARRIED

Councillor Wayne Croswell, Notice of Motion, Amend Procedural Bylaw

Councillor Wayne Croswell spoke to his notice of motion from the August 11, 2009 Council Meeting:

1. Audio taping of council meetings be permitted by media, staff, Council or any member of the public.
2. Question and Answer period with Council. Have ½ hour scheduled per meeting in which the public can ask questions of Council.

Councillor Croswell requested that this matter be referred back to Administration for more information.

Resolution 359-2009

Moved by Wayne Croswell that Council request the review of the County of Thorhild's Procedural Bylaw 1082-2007, whereby all Councillors are to read the bylaw and provide written comments to Administration prior to the September 22, 2009 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

Salary and Benefits Review and Analysis Plan

Director of Corporate Services Janelle Cornelius stated that Administration is proposing a process to gather information on salary/wage ranges and benefits in order that Administration can make pertinent recommendations for Council's decision.

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 AUGUST 25, 2009

Approval of
Salary and
Benefits Review
and Analysis Plan

Resolution 360-2009

Moved by Henry Zolkewski that Council approves the proposed salary, wage, and benefit review and analysis outline and authorize Administration to move forward with the process and report back to Council during the 2010 budget process.

CARRIED

Request for
Funding to the
Northern Alberta
Recycling
Conference

The Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County have requested funding to attend the Northern Alberta Recycling Conference to be held September 9 – 11, 2009 in Cold Lake. Conference fees for two persons is \$500.00 with accommodations extra.

Resolution 361-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council encourages any County resident to attend the Northern Alberta Recycling Conference at their cost.

CARRIED

Correspondence –
Thorhild & District
Agricultural
Society

A letter dated June 24, 2009 from the Thorhild & District Agricultural Society requesting inclusion under the County's insurance umbrella and for funding assistance to replace the heating boiler, condenser and compressor components of the ice plant at the Thorhild Agriplex/arena was reviewed by Council.

Resolution 362-2009

Moved by Henry Zolkewski that Council refers the Thorhild & District Agricultural Society's request for funding to Administration to research and bring forward a recommendation, and to discuss insurance and grants in an effort to assist the community group.

CARRIED

Requisitions and
Confidential Items

There was no information presented with respect to the requisitions and confidential item sections for this meeting.

Adjournment

Being that the agenda matters were concluded, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.