

COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7
COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Call to Order

Deputy Reeve Charles Newell called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. with Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, in attendance. Councillor Cori Kuzyk was absent from this meeting.

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 | Vacant | | |
| 4 | CORI KUZYK | | |
| 5 | WAYNE CROSWELL | X | X |
| 6 | SHELLY HANASYK | X | X |
| County Manager | DAN SMALL | X | X |
| Director of Corporate Services | JANELLE CORNELIUS | X | X |
| Recording Secretary | JEANNETTE CHOLACH | X | X |

Public Hearing(s)

There were no public hearings scheduled for this meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 411-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the Agenda for the Council Meeting of October 13, 2009, be adopted with the following amendment:

Strike off: Councillor Wayne Crowwell from item J. By-Laws a) Amendment to Procedure Bylaw 1082-2007 as Councillor Crowwell had withdrawn his amendment.

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes
September 22, 2009 Regular Council Meeting

Resolution 412-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the minutes be adopted with the following amendments:

Delegation: Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County, Betty Kolewaski re: Proposed Landfill, Page 152

Change: Poor compensation for area residents and for County as a whole. Rather than: Lack of compensation for area residents.

Should read: Local residents have been unable to receive bank mortgages (Insert: and operating loans) due to the proximity of the proposed landfill and decreasing land values.

CARRIED

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Administrative Reports

County Manager's Report

County Manager Dan Small presented his report and reported on the following matters:

- Long Lake Cabin Owners Association
- County of Lamont Meeting
- Water Commission Update
- Correction Line Road Update
- Procedure Bylaw Review

Adoption of County Manager's Report

Resolution 413-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the County Manager's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Administrative Reports

Planning and Development Report

Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, reported on the following matters:

- Linear Reassessment
- Tax Penalty
- Provincial Land Use Framework
- Kalyna Country Fall 2009 Tourism news and upcoming events
- Fort McMurray Trade Show
- Undeveloped road allowances

Resolution 414-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the Planning and Development Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Unfinished Business

Hosting Agreement – Waste Management of Canada Corporation

County Manager Dan Small advised Council that at the July 30, 2009 Special Meeting, Administration, County engineers and County legal counsel were requested to negotiate the hosting agreement with Waste Management of Canada Corporation. The agreement was to be submitted to Council by the first regular Council meeting in October 2009.

However, this deadline has not been met due to the aforementioned representatives taking holidays at various times. County Administration will continue negotiations later in October and November, 2009.

Resolution 415-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Administration report back to Council as to progress at the November 10, 2009 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

Correspondence and Committee Reports

There was no information presented with respect to the Correspondence and Committee Reports sections for this meeting.

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Bylaws

Amendment to Procedure Bylaw 1082-2007 per: Councillor Shelly Hanasyk

Resolution 416-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the following be considered by Council as an amendment to Procedure Bylaw 1082-2007:

All notes made by the council and administration during and after meetings are subject to Freedom of Information and Privacy legislation. Council members shall refrain from making any personal notes during "in-camera" sessions by placing their pen/pencils in the center of the table.

CARRIED

Bylaw 1125-2009 – Rezoning: Hamlet of Thorhild, 117 – 6th Avenue, Plan 168 CL, Block 2, Lots 8 & 9 from Central Commercial to Residential

Councillor Shelly Hanasyk declared a possible pecuniary interest as per Municipal Government Act section 172 (1) pertaining to Bylaw 1125-2009, refrained from participation in debate or vote on the matter, and left Council Chambers at 10:04 a.m.

Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, provided Council with the historical events of Bylaw 1125-2009 and stated that Council may give second and third reading at this meeting as part of the rezoning process.

Resolution 417-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Bylaw 1125-2009 be given second reading.

DEFEATED

Councillor Shelly Hanasyk rejoined the Council meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Bylaw 1126-2009 – Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Congregation of Egremont Designation to repeal Bylaw 1123-2009

The Manager of Land Use and Taxes reported that Bylaw 1123-2009, designating St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Egremont, had been rejected by Land Titles due to the submission of an incorrect name and multiple landowners.

In order to make the necessary land titles changes, Bylaw 1123-2009 is to be repealed and Council may give three readings to Bylaw 1126-2009, designating the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Congregation of Egremont also known as St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Egremont, Alberta as a Municipal Historical Resource.

Resolution 418-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Bylaw 1126-2009 be given first reading.

CARRIED

Resolution 419-2009

Moved by Wayne Crowell that Bylaw 1126-2009 be given second reading.

CARRIED

Resolution 420-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that third reading of Bylaw 1126-2009 be given.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution 421-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Bylaw 1126-2009 be given third reading.

CARRIED

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Notice of Motion

There was no information presented with respect to the notice of motion section for this meeting.

New Business

From Councillor Cori Kuzyk's Notice of Motion, September 22, 2009 Council Meeting: To Hold A By-Election to Fill the Vacancy in Division 3

Resolution 422-2009

Moved by Wayne Crowwell that the County hold a by-election to fill the vacancy of council representation in Division 3.

DEFEATED

Councillor Wayne Crowwell's Notice of Motion, September 22, 2009 Council Meeting: To Arrange a Public Meeting with the Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County re: the Proposed Waste Management Landfill

Resolution 423-2009

Moved by Wayne Crowwell that Administration arrange a public meeting within the next month with the Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County and anyone else in the general public to discuss questions and concerns regarding the proposed Waste Management regional landfill.

DEFEATED

Budget Timelines

Janelle Cornelius, Director of Corporate Services, presented Council with projected timelines for the 2010 budget.

Resolution 424-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the budget timelines report presented by the Director of Corporate Services be accepted as information.

CARRIED

Policy 322, Useful Life and Amortization Methods

Janelle Cornelius, Director of Corporate Services, recommended to Council that Procedure, point 5 as listed in Policy 322, be revised to record no amortization in the year of acquisition and full amortization in the year of disposal. The procedure as currently worded is not a common nor auditor recommended procedure.

Resolution 425-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Council approve the amendment to Policy 322 as presented by the Director of Corporate Services.

CARRIED

Delegation: Kathleen Bruce, Vice President, Long Lake Cottage Owners Association

Kathleen Bruce, Vice President of the Long Lake Cottage Owners Association, expressed a number of concerns and presented questions to Council regarding the building of the Long Lake Emergency Access Road. Her comments and questions included the following issues:

- In time of recess and budget restraints, how will the extra expenditures for this road project be dealt with by the County. The association is concerned about property increases.
- Many of the cottage owners did not receive notification of the meeting that was held on August 14, 2009.
- Will funding be granted if the road is designated "Emergency Access Only" with the restriction or closure to public access?
- Policing of road when closed
- Method of access restriction
- Monitoring of road during closure times
- Alberta Transportation approval regarding exiting onto Secondary Highway 831
- Road being built to county standards
- Upgrading of Long Lake Drive
- Schedule of road maintenance

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- Delegation:
Kathleen Bruce,
Vice President,
Long Lake Cottage
Owners
Association
(Continued)
- Concerns of other crown leaseholders
 - Environmental impact studies – Will association receive copies?
 - Development/expansion on the north end of Long Lake
 - Non-residents not observing ATV bylaw
 - Forest Improvement Association of Alberta – residents require information about the proposed fire break
 - Unrestricted access would have a negative impact upon community
 - Increase in theft, vandalism, traffic and noise
 - The association will be conducting a vote to obtain accurate numbers of those either in favor or against the proposal.

Delay Decision re: Resolution 426-2009
Long Lake
Emergency
Access Road

Moved by Wayne Crosswell that Council delay the decision regarding the Long Lake Emergency Access Road until such time as council members have met with the Long Lake cottage owners in order to discuss their questions and to look at other options within the next month.

CARRIED

Written Response
to Kathleen Bruce,
Vice President,
Long Lake Cottage
Owners
Association Resolution 427-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Administration provide a written response to Ms. Kathleen Bruce's questions and concerns that were raised on behalf of the Long Lake Cottage Owners Association regarding the Long Lake Emergency Access Road.

CARRIED

Delegation, Dean
Flach

Dean Flach presented a number of questions that he had to Council pertaining to the following matters:

1. Property taxes went up 32% in the County of Thorhild; 2% in the County of Sturgeon
2. Resolution pertaining to the expenditure of funds for the Long Lake Ski Hill renovations
3. Executive Assistant Position - 1) budgeted for?
2) Open competition?
3) Why needed?
4. Did not receive a response to his last set of questions
5. The Administrator wrote a cheque to the Athabasca-Redwater PC Association for Fundraising Dinner tickets. Monies were refunded by the County. Who has the tax receipt for those dollars?
6. The Administrator paid for a supper at the Radway Royale Hotel in the amount of \$470 – does this fall under Policy 203?
7. Negative impact study has not been contracted – who is the Council working for Waste Management or local residents?
8. By-election for Division 3

Reeve Charles Newell stated that a response would be forwarded to Mr. Flach within two weeks time.

Delegation – Sgt.
Jennifer Jackson,
Redwater RCMP
Detachment

Sgt. Jennifer Jackson introduced Constable Brent Perry who had recently joined the Redwater RCMP Detachment.

Sgt. Jackson presented her statistical quarterly report to Council, July 1 – September 30, 2009. She also reported on the COP (Citizens on Patrol) Program.

Recess

Reeve Charles Newell called for a recess at 11:07 a.m.

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- Reconvene Reeve Charles Newell reconvened the meeting at 11:21 a.m. with Sierra Systems Group Inc. consultant Lazina Mckenzie and Executive Assistant Angela Bilski in attendance.
- Delegation – Sierra Systems Group Inc.: Electoral Boundary Review Lazina Mckenzie, Sierra Systems Group Inc. Consultant, presented various boundary options to Council and spoke to the ALP2 Spectrum of Public Participation as a reference for Council's consideration. Ms. Mckenzie also gave an overview of Sierra Group's approach to the Open House meetings as well as the Municipal Electoral Boundary Redistribution Fact Sheet and Survey.
- Electoral Boundary Review, Approval of Divisional Alternatives Resolution 428-2009
 Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that Council accept the following divisional alternatives for public consultation as presented by Sierra Systems Group Inc. Consultant Lazina Mckenzie:
 Alternatives A & B, 4 Divisions
 Alternatives A & C, 5 Divisions
 CARRIED
- Reeve Charles Newell stated that item O. a) In Camera 2:00 p.m., Betty Kolewaski, Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County, Confidential Matter, as listed on the agenda, would be moved to 1:00 p.m.
- Recess Reeve Charles Newell called for a recess at 11:59 a.m.
- Reconvene Reeve Charles Newell reconvened the meeting at 12:59 p.m.
- Betty Kolewaski, Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County – Betty Kolewaski, President of the Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County, stated that she requested an in camera session with Council as individuals' names and finances were to be discussed.
 Reeve Charles Newell spoke to his concern regarding banking institutions turning down mortgages and operating lines of credit due to the rezoning of the lands for the proposed Waste Management landfill. He specified that Council requires concrete information as other developments could also be affected.
- In Camera:
 Betty Kolewaski, Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County – Confidential Matter Resolution 429-2009
 Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that Council go in camera to hear specifics relating to a confidential matter raised by the Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County at 1:04 p.m.
 CARRIED
- Resolution 430-2009
 Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the meeting return to open meeting at 1:55 p.m.
 CARRIED
- Recess Reeve Charles Newell called for a recess at 1:57 p.m.
- Reconvene Reeve Charles Newell reconvened the meeting at 2:02 p.m. with Cindy Olchowy, Director of Agriculture and Community Services and Project Coordinator Pete Stefura in attendance.

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New Business
 Fire Hazard
 Reduction and
 Forest Health
 Program –
 Newbrook/Long
 Lake Project
 Progress

The Director of Agriculture and Community Services reported to Council that the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta approved \$180,331 for the Newbrook/Long Lake Fire Hazard Reduction and Forest Health Program. Project completion is set for February 28, 2010.

In order to meet expected project deadlines, it is necessary to secure the resources as soon as possible and to bypass regular procurement policies for contracted services.

Pete Stefura, Project Coordinator, outlined the process to be used for the construction of the fire breaks.

Resolution 431-2009

Moved by Wayne Crosswell that Council authorize Administration to bypass the regular procurement policy for contracted services and proceed to advertise locally and contract the Newbrook/Long Lake Project, as approved.

CARRIED

Fire Hazard
 Reduction and
 Forest Health
 Program –
 Northbrook/
 Pinebrook Project

Cindy Olchoway, Director of Agriculture and Community Services, advised that as the Northbrook/Pinebrook subdivisions lack permanent firebreaks and wildfire barriers, the project would be eligible for submission under the Fire Hazard Reduction and Forest Health Program. The proposed project proposes permanent fireguards to be constructed.

Heavy equipment and hand operations would be used. Pete Stefura provided Council with firebreak and wildfire barriers project details.

Resolution 432-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Council approve the Fire Hazard Reduction and Forest Health Program submission in the amount of \$85,261 for the firebreaks and wildfire barriers project for Northbrook and Pinebrook subdivisions.

CARRIED

Long Lake
 Emergency
 Access Road Time
 Restrictions

County Manager Dan Small outlined the process and results of the consultation open house held on August 14, 2009 for the Long Lake Emergency Access Road.

No resolution of Council was made with respect to this matter.

Requisitions

There was no information presented with respect to the requisitions section for this meeting.

Confidential Items:

Legal: Confidential
 Issue – Utilities
 Department;
 Legal Advice: Long
 Lake Emergency
 Access Road and
 Undeveloped
 Road Allowances

Resolution 433-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that Council go in camera to discuss a confidential issue in relation to the Utilities Department and legal advice pertaining to the Long Lake Emergency Access road and undeveloped road allowances at 2:46 p.m.

CARRIED

Resolution 434-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the meeting return to open meeting at 3:21 p.m.

CARRIED

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Adopt Legal
Advice as
Information

Resolution 435-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that Council receive the legal advice presented during the in camera session as information.

CARRIED

Council Members'
Reports

Kevin Grumetza,
Councillor,
Division 2

Councillor Kevin Grumetza attended and reported on the following:

- September 15 – Electoral Boundaries Meeting
- September 17 – Interagency Meeting
- September 21 – Waskatenau Tap Turning Ceremony and Lodge Meeting
- September 22 – Council Meeting
- September 29 – Correction Line Meeting
- September 30 – Signing Cheques
- October 9 – Lamont County Joint Meeting
- October 13 – Council Meeting

Wayne Crosswell,
Councillor –
Division 5

Councillor Wayne Crosswell attended and reported on the following:

- September 12 – Northern Lights Library Board Meeting
 - Reviewed draft 2010 budget
 - The report of the MLA Committee on the future of Public Library Service in Alberta was made public in April.
 - The Northern Lights Administrative Building in Elk Point is undergoing an expansion and renovations (about \$2 million). Should be complete by spring on 2010.
 - Decided to go to three meetings per year rather than the four currently held.
- September 15 – Meeting with Sierra Systems Group Inc.
- September 3 – Attended MLA Jeff Johnson public meeting with the Concerned Citizens of Thorhild County
- September 22 – Council Meeting
- October 9 – Meeting with Lamont Council and CAO

Shelly Hanasyk,
Councillor,
Division 6

Councillor Shelly Hanasyk stated that the meetings she attended had been mentioned by the first two Councillors.

Reeve Charles
Newell,
Councillor –
Division 1

Reeve Charles Newell reported on the following:

- September 30 – Sturgeon County Business Breakfast
- October 9 – Meeting with Lamont Council

Cori Kuzyk,
Councillor –
Division 4

Councillor Cori Kuzyk was absent from this meeting. A report was not made available.

Resolution 436-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that the Councillors' reports be received as information.

CARRIED

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Adjournment

Being that the agenda matters were concluded, the meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.