

COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7
COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Call to Order

Deputy Reeve Charles Newell called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. with Joyce Pierce, Director of Gas and Utilities, and Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, in attendance.

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	X	X
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.

County Manager Dan Small announced that with the passing of Reeve Henry Zolkewski on Friday, September 4, 2009, there were three items Administration requested to be added to the agenda.

Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 363-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the Agenda for the Council Meeting of September 8, 2009, be adopted with the following amendments:

Add: Reeve and Deputy Reeve Appointments to follow Section C. Adoption of Agenda

Add: L. New Business e) Proposed Office Closure, September 11, 2009
L. New Business f) Setting of Date for 2009 Organizational Meeting

CARRIED

Selection of Reeve

County Manager Dan Small stated with Reeve Zolkewski's passing, the office of Reeve is vacant. Mr. Small advised that under Section 164 of the Municipal Government Act, a new reeve is required to be chosen by Council at this meeting. Section 152 also stipulates the same process if the Deputy Reeve's office becomes vacant. Also, according to the act, quorum is now three councillors rather than four. He recommended that Council appoint one of its members to the office of Reeve until the next organizational meeting.

Nomination of Reeve

County Manager Dan Small called for nominations for the position of Reeve.

Councillor Shelly Hanasyk nominated Councillor Charles Newell.

County Manager Dan Small called for nominations one more time.

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Nomination of
Reeve

Councillor Cori Kuzyk nominated Councillor Wayne Crowell.

County Manager Dan Small called for nominations two more times.

Resolution 364-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that nominations cease.

CARRIED

County Manager Dan Small stated that he had heard no request from a councillor to hold a secret ballot so a vote with a show of hands would be held.

Appointment of
Reeve - Charles
Newell

A vote was held and the County Manager declared Charles Newell Reeve of the County of Thorhild No. 7 until the next organizational meeting.

County Manager Dan Small then administered the Oath of Office to Reeve Charles Newell, after which time he signed his oath.

Nomination of
Deputy Reeve

The Reeve called for nominations for the office of Deputy Reeve.

Reeve Charles Newell nominated Councillor Kevin Grumetza.

The Reeve called for nominations two more times.

Resolution 365-2009

Moved by Councillor Shelly Hanasyk that nominations cease.

CARRIED

Appointment of
Deputy Reeve,
Kevin Grumetza

Reeve Charles Newell declared Kevin Grumetza as Deputy Reeve of the County of Thorhild No. 7 until the next organizational meeting.

County Manager Dan Small administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Reeve Kevin Grumetza, after which time he signed his oath.

Adoption of Minutes
August 25, 2009
Regular Council
Meetings

Resolution 366-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 25, 2009, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Administrative
Reports
County Manager's
Report

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

- Passing of Reeve Henry Zolkewski
- Thorhild Swimming Pool Update
- Long Lake Cabin Owners' Association Meeting
- Council Agendas on Internet
- Trans Canada Pipeline Resolutions to Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Alberta Transportation Highway 28/63 Functional Study

Adoption of County
Manager's Report

Resolution 367-2009

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

CARRIED

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Delegation – Sierra Systems Group Inc. re: Electoral Boundary Review
Sierra Systems Group Inc. representatives Michael Langstone and Lazina Mckenzie joined the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Michael Langstone, Principal and Lazina Mckenzie, Consultant, with Sierra Systems Group Inc. introduced themselves and provided Council with their respective backgrounds. Mr. Langstone and Ms. Mckenzie presented an overview of the proposed project approach (phases/options) for the Electoral Boundary Review in order to receive comments and direction from Council.

Michael Langstone advised Council that the Municipal Government Act promotes an odd number of Councillors and recommends a divisional approach.

Reeve Charles Newell thanked Michael Langstone and Lazina Mckenzie with Sierra Systems Group Inc. for their presentation.

Recess
Reeve Charles Newell called for a recess at 10:28 a.m.

Reconvene
Reeve Charles Newell reconvened the meeting at 10:39 a.m. with Joyce Pierce, Director of Gas and Utilities, and Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, in attendance.

Administrative Reports

Planning and Development Report

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

- Unregistered sand and gravel pits
- Growth Alberta Meeting minutes of August 19, 2009 and with respect to an upcoming meeting to be in the County of Barrhead's Council Chambers on September 16, 2009

Adoption of Planning and Development Report

Resolution 368-2009

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

CARRIED

Cheryl Pasay, Manager of Land Use and Taxes, left the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Gas and Utilities Director's Report

Joyce Pierce, Director of Gas and Utilities, reported on the various activities of the Gas, Water and Sewer Divisions, regional water, and key meetings for the months of August and September.

Adoption of Gas and Utilities Director's Report

Resolution 369-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the Gas and Utilities Director's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Unfinished Business

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

Correspondence

Related to Proposed Waste Management Landfill

County Manager Dan Small spoke to the matter of two letters that were received via email regarding the proposed Waste Management Landfill.

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Draft Response
Letters to
Correspondence
Related to Proposed
Waste Management
Landfill

Resolution 370-2009

Moved by Wayne Croswell that Council directs Administration to draft response letters to be brought forward for Council's consideration at the September 22, 2009 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

Committee
Reports, Bylaws &
Notice of Motion

There was no information presented with respect to the Committee Reports, Bylaw and Notice of Motion sections for this meeting.

New Business

Provincial Electoral
Boundary Review
Consultation
Sessions

Reeve Charles Newell then spoke to the matter of the AAMDC (Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties) encouraging municipalities to speak on the importance of not increasing the size of rural constituencies at the upcoming Electoral Boundary Review Commission hearings. The Electoral Boundary Review Commission will decide where four new constituencies will be formed, bringing the total to 87 election areas.

The Electoral Boundary Review of 2003 weighed rural population scarcity and distance between communities against population density in urban areas and the AAMDC maintains that the same principles apply to the current review.

Resolution 371-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council supports the AAMDC's call to action by emphasizing the importance of not increasing the size of rural municipalities to the Electoral Boundary Review Commission.

CARRIED

Thorhild Exhibition
Grounds Fence

The Manager of Land Use and Taxes provided the status of the Thorhild Exhibition Grounds fence. The Thorhild Community Association, in their August 10, 2009, letter stated that a fence would be built before the first flat track race in 2010.

Resolution 372-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council accepts the Thorhild Community Association's letter as information and directs the Planning Department to send responding correspondence outlining the following:

- a) No further unscheduled events or practices will occur in 2009 until the fence is complete with final inspection by the building inspector;
- b) No scheduling, advertising or holding of practices and races in 2010 until the fence is complete with final inspection by the building inspector.

CARRIED

Salary Review and
Analysis Plan –
List of Proposed
Municipalities

Director of Corporate Services Janelle Cornelius reiterated that Council approved the salary review and analysis plan outline that was presented at the August 25, 2009 Council Meeting. A list of the proposed municipalities to be surveyed was sent to Council for their consideration.

Councillor Wayne Croswell provided a list of eight municipalities that were of a similar tax base to the County of Thorhild.

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- Approval of Salary Review and Analysis Plan Resolution 373-2009
 Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Council approves the proposed list of municipalities in addition to the list of eight municipalities provided by Councillor Croswell, and that Administration provide Council with a trend analysis referencing staff turnover, and salary ranges and benefit packages received by County staff from 2006-2009.
 CARRIED
- New Business
 Amendment to Policy 720, Sewer Line Maintenance Joyce Pierce, Director of Gas and Utilities, outlined the amendment to Policy 720, Sewer Line Maintenance. In essence, once the county's service personnel have determined that the mains on either side of the service are flowing, the homeowner needs to take steps to have the blockage detected and repaired to a serviceable state. Costs for repair and damages that may have resulted from the disruption of service are to be borne by the homeowner or their insurer.
Resolution 374-2009
 Moved by Cori Kuzyk that the proposed amendment to Policy 720, Sewer Line Maintenance, be accepted as amended.
 CARRIED
- Proposed Office Closure, September 11, 2009 Resolution 375-2009
 Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the County Administration Office and the Public Works Office be closed to public access for the entire day on September 11, 2009 in respect of the memory of the late Reeve and Councillor Henry Zolkewski.
 CARRIED
- Draft Funeral Office Closure Policy Resolution 376-2009
 Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Administration draft a funeral office closure policy which is to be brought forward to the December 22, 2009 Council Meeting.
 CARRIED
- By-Election Councillor Cori Kuzyk questioned whether a by-election would need to be held. County Manager Dan Small replied that the specifications related to this case fall under section 162 b (1) of the Municipal Government Act. A by-election is not required in this instance and whether one is held depends upon Council's decision.
- Setting of Date for 2009 Organizational Meeting Resolution 377-2009
 Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council sets the date of the 2009 Organizational Meeting for Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers at the County Administration Building, and changes the start time of the regular meeting of that day to 10:30 a.m. and that notice of the organizational meeting and the change in time of the regular Council Meeting be advertised as required by the Municipal Government Act.
 CARRIED
- Recess Reeve Charles Newell called for a recess at 11:58 a.m.
- Reconvene Reeve Charles Newell reconvened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7 SEPTEMBER 8, 2009Council Members'Reports

Reeve Charles
Newell,
Councillor –
Division 1

Reeve Charles Newell attended and reported on the following:

- August 17 – Newbrook Tap Turning Ceremony
- August 18 – Gas Federation Golf Classic at Goose Hummock
- August 20 – Assessment Review Board

Kevin Grumetza,
Councillor,
Division 2

Councillor Kevin Grumetza attended and reported on the following:

- August 14 – Lodge Board Meeting
- August 15 – Redwater Discovery Days Parade
- August 18 – Gas Federation Golf Classic at Goose Hummock
- August 19 – GROWTH Meeting
- August 20 – Assessment Review Board
- August 25 - Council Meeting
- September 2 - Community Futures Tawatinaw Region Meeting

Cori Kuzyk,
Councillor –
Division 4

Councillor Cori Kuzyk attended and reported on the following:

- August 14 – Long Lake Emergency Access Road Meeting
- August 14 – Lodge Board Meeting
- August 25 – Council Meeting

Wayne Crosswell,
Councillor –
Division 5

Councillor Wayne Crosswell attended and reported on the following:

- August 14 – Library Board Meeting
- August 17 – Newbrook Tap Turning Ceremony
- August 20 – Assessment Review Board
- August 25 – Council Meeting
- September 5 – Long Lake Cabin Owners' Association Meeting
- Been a busier month than usual – phone calls – request for road access, boundary line disputes, noxious weeds. Like to thank county staff who I directed concerns to, for the prompt manner in which they were dealt.

Shelly Hanasyk,
Councillor,
Division 6

Councillor Shelly Hanasyk attended and reported on the following:

- August 14 – Lodge Board Meeting
- August 15 – Redwater Discovery Days Parade
- August 17 – Newbrook Tap Turning Ceremony
- August 18 – Gas Federation Golf Classic at Goose Hummock
- August 29 – Sunflower Memorial Park Opening
- August 30 – Sunflower Festival

Resolution 378-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the Councillors' reports be received as information.

CARRIED

Requisitions

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

Confidential Items:

County Owned and
Former Village
Owned Properties
– Rental
Agreements and
Telus – Request
for Telus Tower on
SE 31-59-21-W4

Resolution 379-2009

Moved by Cori Kuzyk that Council go in camera to discuss and review county owned and former village owned property rental agreements and a request from Telus for the erection of a tower on the SE 31-59-21-W4 at 12:35 p.m.

CARRIED

Resolution 380-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that the meeting return to open meeting at 1:12 p.m.

CARRIED

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County Owned
Properties, Rental
Agreements

Resolution 381-2009

Moved by Shelly Hanasyk that Council authorizes the following rental agreements be renewed for a three year period with the current renters (expiring December 31, 2012) and that Administration negotiate prices per acre:

- i. Pt. SW 6-58-21-W4 – 9.35 acres
- ii. Pt. NW 2-63-20-W4 – 12.36 acres

CARRIED

County Owned
Properties, Rental
Agreements
(Undeveloped
Road Allowances)

Resolution 382-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Administration be directed to research the matter of undeveloped road allowances and report back to Council at the September 22, 2009 Council Meeting in order that a decision may be made with respect to the following rental agreements:

- i. Pt. SW 15-62-21-W4 – 4 acres (undeveloped road allowance)
- ii. Pt. NW 12-63-21-W4 – 4 acres (undeveloped road allowance)

CARRIED

Former Village
Owned Properties,
Rental
Agreements

Resolution 383-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Administration advertise the following land lease properties and report back to Council with a rental agreement recommendation:

- i. SE 31-59-21-W4 (140 acres)
- ii. Pt. NW 6-60-21-W4 – (79 and 80 acres), Plan 822 1381, Block 11, Lot 3 (19.55 acres) and Lot 4 (20.31 acres)

CARRIED

Telus – Request
for Tower on SE
31-59-21-W4

Resolution 384-2009

Moved by Kevin Grumetza that Council authorizes the Planning Department to proceed with the Telus tower lease agreement on the SE 31-59-21-W4.

CARRIED

Adjournment

Being that the agenda matters were concluded, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.