

**Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of the Council  
Of the Town Of Castor  
Held Monday, February 22, 2016  
Council Chambers, Castor Town Hall  
Castor, Alberta**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Garry DeVloo.

**Councillors in Attendance:**

Lonny Nelner, Brenda Wismer, Travis Ryan, Tony Nichols, Rod Zinger, Richard Elhard.

**Absent:**

**Also in Attendance:**

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.  
Arjan Van Heinen – Public Works Foreman  
Moush John – Castor Advance

**Agenda:**

**053/16 MOTION:** Councillor Nelner that the agenda be approved with additions.

CARRIED

**Delegations/Interview:**

**Minutes:**

Council reviewed the minutes of the February 8, 2016 regular Meeting of Council.

**054/16 MOTION:** Councillor Nichols that the Minutes of the February 8, 2016 Regular meeting of Council be approved.

CARRIED

**Accounts:**

The Lists of Accounts were presented to Council for payment.

**055/16 MOTION:** Councillor Ryan that Account numbers 19759 to 19784 be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be marked Schedule “A” and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED

**Water and Gas Reconciliation:**

The water and gas reconciliations to January 31, 2016 were presented to Council. The water system seen a large loss in January, partly because of the water break on main street. The gas system also seen a loss this month, however, it was due to the meters being read late in January so the true loss is minimal.

**056/16 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that the water and gas comparisons be accepted as information.

CARRIED

**Correspondence:**

ECA – Destination  
Marketing Fund::

Council received information as to how our yearly campground remittances that are sent to the Destination Marketing Fund are spent. It was suggested that the campground remittances be discussed at the next PEPS meeting.

ECA Review:

The ECA Review puts out a Community & Tourist Magazine each year and is asking if the Town is interested in advertising in it. Council suggested that this move forward to PEPS.

**Old Business:**

Welcome Gift – New  
Castor Businesses:

The C.A.O. presented Council with a welcome gift for new Town Businesses.

*Councillor Nelner declared an interest as an owner in That's My Specialty.*

**057/16 MOTION:** Councillor Elhard that a welcome gift, as presented, be given to new businesses within the Town of Castor.

CARRIED

*Councillor Nelner did not participate in any discussion concerning this issue.*

Coal Generation:

Council was presented with a couple of invitations to Town Hall presentations concerning coal and the climate leadership plan. Councillor's will try to attend in Forestburg and in Hanna.

SCF Grant – Report:

The C.A.O. and the Foreman met with the Engineers this morning concerning the Water/Wastewater/Storm Revitalization Program. Issues discussed:

- Work will start at the water plant, as much of the inactive piping as possible will be cleaned up.
- Plan to horizontal bore from the '72 plant west to 50<sup>th</sup> Street with water line.
- They will include upgrading the flow meter to a 6" from the current 4" (about \$12,000.00).
- An additional hydrant or two may need to be added but we may also take an existing hydrant out.
- Our crew will survey on 50<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Temporary connections will need to be made during this phase. The engineers are working on a scenario that will keep the water shut down to a minimum. It may be necessary to perform the shutdown late at night.
- It was decided to put out two separate tenders for the job.

**New Business:**

Public Survey:

The assistant recreation director suggested that a survey be sent out to either every post office box or in the utility bills

to gather information to get an understanding of how the Municipality and surrounding area views different aspects of the town. Ideas for information collection were suggested.

A youth Council was also brought forward as a suggestion for discussion.

Minimum Tax amount  
For Farmland:

Currently all farmland falls under the same policy for the minimum taxation. This is land that will never have a residence on it as it is farmland with a low property value. Only four properties within the Town limits are affected by the minimum taxation. One of the owners of the property is requesting Council to take the minimum tax off that property. The C.A.O. will take a look at these properties as far as size, etc. and come up with some options for Council at the next meeting.

MSI 2015/2016 Projects:

The C.A.O. reported to Council that some adjustments to the 2015 MSI projects were necessary. It was further requested that the 2016 application be made utilizing all future MSI funding available (approximately \$751,000.00). Council would prefer to apply in yearly portions – the C.A.O. will look into the possibility of that. The Water and Wastewater Upgrades project from the 2015 MSI application was not used.

**058/16 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor withdraw the Water and Wastewater Upgrades project from the MSI funding program.

CARRIED

Swimming Pool Project: The Assistant Recreation Director has been working on plans to build a new fence around the pool that will encompass an extended grass area and replace the current brick wall that is structurally compromised.

The C.A.O. suggested this would be a good place to spend the Gas Tax Fund money for 2016.

Council discussed the suggestion. There are other areas the Gas Tax Fund money could be spent. This has not been presented to the recreation board yet.

**059/16 MOTION:** Councillor Nichols to send the project suggestion to the Recreation Board meeting for recommendation.

CARRIED

## Committee Reports

Councillor Wismer:

- FCSS will pick up the benefits for the FCSS Director.

Councillor Ryan:

- Attended the Municipal Users Group meeting for the Red Deer River. Councillor Ryan felt this

committee is geared towards counties. There really may not be any benefits toward the Town.

Councillor Nichols:

- Attended a Victims Services Meeting. They have a Casino coming up in March. They did the final wrap up on their fundraiser, it was not so successful this year.

Councillor Elhard

- Attended a meeting with the Bethany group. They are compiling a study as to what is needed in Coronation/Castor/County as far as Assisted living project or if anything else is needed. Going forward, Councillor Elhard would like to see this project County wide.

Foreman:

- Finishing up with water/wastewater year end reports.
- Wes and Robert will be taking courses in the next couple of months. RMO and Gas Utilities Operator courses.
- Brett is working on his Water/Wastewater courses.
- Tree trimming and chipping have started since the weather has been nice and the crew currently has time.
- The Town's gas audit will be performed in March so Robert and Wes are preparing for that.

C.A.O.:

- Working on finding a workable date for the Joint meeting.

Mayor DeVloo:

- Discussed the mine/power plant with County CAO. Castor will be included in any future meetings.
- Attended the Progressive Waste open house. Found the presentation interesting.

**In Camera Session:**

Council will move to an in camera session to discuss the Weseen Subdivision.

**060/16 MOTION:** Councillor Ryan that Council move to an in camera session to discuss the Weseen Subdivision.

CARRIED

*Council moved to an in camera session at 8:32*

**061/16 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that Council return to an open meeting of Council.

CARRIED

*Council returned to an open meeting at 9:39pm.*

**062/16 MOTION:** Councillor Ryan that, on the advice of our engineering firm, the Town of Castor will not accept the road plan put forward by DecAlta Consulting.

CARRIED

**Adjournment:**

**063/16 MOTION:** Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER