

**Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of the Council  
Of the Town Of Castor  
Held Monday, February 24, 2014  
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.

**Also in Attendance:**

Sandi Jackson –C.A.O.  
Arjan Van Heinen – Public Works Foreman  
Landin Chambers – Q-14 Radio  
Stacey Lavallie - Castor Advance  
Sargent Fitzpatrick - RCMP

**Delegations/ Interviews:**

Mayor DeVloo called upon Sargent Fitzpatrick to give the RCMP report.

- Soon be retiring and the new Sargent will be here in April, possibly. Darcy Mcgunigal is the new Sargent.
- Biggest thing in Castor is “crime of opportunity” in the form of break and entries. The RCMP plan to increase patrols. They have limited man power and will need to determine when the most effective time to patrol will be.
- Will be partnering with Alberta Transportation for enforcement of overweight vehicles.
- Ongoing investigation on the Dec. 8 fire and will continue for some time.
- Annual Performance Plan time. They are focusing on what the communities deem important (B & E’s, speeding, drugs, etc.) They would like to be proactive and work with the business community. This plan would be assigned to a senior officer.
- DARE – we now have two instructors. (Carl & Cory)

*The Castor Advance Reporter entered the Council meeting at 7:12pm.*

- Council asked if there was anything they could do, could we look at an auxiliary constable? Sargent Fitzpatrick informed Council that he has had some interest in auxiliary constable volunteers.
- Traffic blitz is coming up in an attempt to curb a lack of respect for the traffic laws.
- Council talked about an officer living in Castor. The Town should consider a capital purchase of a home to lease to RCMP Property Management.

*Sargent Fitzpatrick left Council Chambers at 7:31pm*

**Agenda:**

**034/14 MOTION:** Councillor Ryan that the agenda be approved with additions.

CARRIED

**Minutes:** Council reviewed the minutes of the February 10, 2014 regular Meeting of Council.

**035/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nichols that the Minutes of the February 10, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**Accounts:** The List of Accounts was presented to Council for payment.

**036/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that Account numbers 16914 to 16949 be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be marked Schedule "A" and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED

**Cash Statement:** The Cash Statement for the period ending January 31, 2014 was presented to Council. Cash flow continues to stay on par.

**037/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nelner that the Cash Statement for the month ending January 31, 2014 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**Water & Gas Comparison Reports:**

The C.A.O. presented Council with the Water and Gas comparison reports. Water losses were lower, however, there was a leak in February that has been repaired and we still have a small leak that we are trying to isolate. The C.A.O. informed Council that the projected volume given to SMRWSC for 2014 is 112,000 M3. The gas system is holding its own. New relief valves are being placed at the Nova station.

**038/14 MOTION:** Councillor Elhard to accept the water and gas comparisons as information.

CARRIED

**Correspondence:**

**Valley Ski Club:** A request was received from the Valley Ski Club for a donation to help with two projects currently underway at the hill. The first project is the purchase of the rental equipment. The second project is the phase 1 fix of the ski hill.

Council discussed the possibility of a donation at length. Council would like to see more information as far as in kind equipment and what their financial plan is. The C.A.O. will contact the Ski Club.

Interprovincial

Transportation Summit:

An invitation was received to participate in the Interprovincial Transportation Summit Meeting on March 1 at the Compeer Community Centre at 10:00am. If a Councillor is interested or can make it, they will contact the C.A.O.

**Old Business:**

Street Lights:

Since the February 10, 2014 meeting of Council, the C.A.O. has tried to contact the salesman for the LED street lights without any luck.

Tree Program Update:

Suggestions brought forward from the last Council meeting for discussion were:

1. Cutting down trees on both sides of 49<sup>th</sup> Ave. to eliminate the “fuzz” problem and to achieve uniformity.
2. Put focus on trimming trees on corners for traffic safety.
3. Revisit our boulevard policy.
4. Signage along 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue for no parking.

**039/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger to move forward with the removal of trees as presented at the February 10, 2014 meeting of Council.

CARRIED

Council discussed the stump grinding part of the tree removal project. The C.A.O. will call stump grinding companies to obtain the best price.

**040/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nichols that the Town Proceed with stump removal once prices have been received.

CARRIED

**New Business:**

Mayor’s Caucus:

The Spring Mayor’s Caucus will be held in Edmonton on March 5 & 6.

**041/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that Mayor DeVloo and the C.A.O. attend the Mayor’s Caucus on March 5 & 6 in Edmonton.

CARRIED

TRAVIS Permitting  
System:

Council received a draft agreement of the Multi-jurisdiction permitting system for oversize and overweight vehicles. We currently permit these vehicles to drive through the Town limits through a company called RoadData who in turn collects fees from the Province. With this new contract, RoadData has suggested some recommendations such as Fixed Municipal Fees, renewal terms, termination period, and payment of fees directly to RoadData.

Transportation Grant  
Update:

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities introduced their New grant programs. The Federal Gas Tax Fund is a grant that we have been receiving and last year we were told could be the last year. The Federal Government has now announced that the program will continue at a rate of \$59.74/capita. Another grant opportunity for the Town may be the Small Communities Fund. There is more information to come.

Pool Mechanical Room:

Upgrades necessary for the swimming pool mechanical room have been costed. The total amount for the project is \$74,250.00. Funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 has been approved by the County to help with the project. MSI operating funding will also need to be contributed to the project. The Foreman suggested that the flooring will need some work done

**042/14 MOTION:** Councillor Elhard to approve the Swimming Pool Mechanical Room Renovation project at a cost of \$74,250.00.

CARRIED

**Committee Reports:**

Councillor Nelner:

- Fire department has received their radios. There have been a few problems. The digital system is not working well, the analog is working. The manual siren has had to be used twice.

Councillor Wismer:

- Ambulance meeting was cancelled. The ambulance residence needs more heat. We cannot add another furnace.

Councillor Nichols:

- Victims Services meeting has been cancelled.

Councillor Elhard:

- Asked the Castor Advance about reporting of sporting events. It has not happened in the last while. The reporter assured Council that the coverage would pick up since they have increased staff.

Foreman:

- Feels we may still have a possible water leak
- Crew has been taking confined spaces and ground disturbance courses.

C.A.O.

- Covenant Health's Lawyer has contacted the hospital and feels that it would be in the best interest of all parties if the Doctor's house stays in the Town's name and a caveat for each the County and Covenant Health be placed on the title for the 1/3 ownership.
- The office staff did a fabulous job of running the office while I was on holidays.
- Staff will meet on Thursday for a budget meeting. A draft of the budget should be ready for the next meeting.

Mayor DeVloo:

- The Paintearth Lodge Manager has retired and a new Manager has been chosen. Their requisition has increased slightly from 2013.

Adjournment:

**043/14 MOTION:** Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER