

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Council
Of the Town Of Castor
Held Monday, July 22, 2013
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:

Rod Zinger, Mike Bain, Brenda Wismer, and Dennis Filipenko.

Also in Attendance:

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.
Stan Boettcher – Public Works Foreman
Landin Chambers – Q-14 Radio

Agenda:

146/13 MOTION: Councillor Filipenko that the agenda be approved with the addition of the Paintearth Lodge Financial Maintenance Agreement.

CARRIED

Interviews:

Helen Christiansen – Came to Council with a concern over a utility bill. The office staff, under the direction of the C.A.O., moved a utility bill from a renter to Mrs. Christiansen as owner of the property. The renter was not paying utilities and was scheduled to be shut off; a call was received from Mrs. Christiansen asking for a change in the garbage pickup giving the office reason to believe the renter had moved out. Once the office believes a delinquent customer has moved the responsibility for paying utilities from that point on lies with the owner of the house. Mrs. Christiansen felt that the bill belongs to the renter.

Mrs. Christiansen left the meeting at 7:04pm.

Castor Gun Club – Don Checkel and Rhonda Fuller, representing the Castor Gun Club approached Council concerning the local gun club. Mr. Checkel updated Council on the recent activities of their club. They are consistently growing in number. They would like to request that when they renew their lease they keep the same conditions except that they would like to change the term to 10 years from 5 years. They would be willing to increase the yearly lease amount from \$400.00/yr. to \$500.00/yr. The current lease is good until Dec. 31, 2016.

A concerns voiced by Council was future development, we would not want to commit to a 10 year lease if there is a growth spurt, however that would be covered by the clause allowing either party opt out of the lease with one years notice.

Mr. Checkel and Mrs. Fuller left the meeting at 7:22pm.

Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes of the July 8, 2013 regular Meeting of Council.

147/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that the Minutes of the July 8, 2013 Regular meeting of Council be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Accounts:

The List of Accounts was presented to Council for payment.

Councillor Filipenko declared an interest in account number 16072.

148/13 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that Account Numbers 16051 to 16103 with the exception of Account Number 16072 to Filipenko Bros. in the amount of \$9,031.05 be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be marked Schedule "A" and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED .

149/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that account number 16072 in the amount of \$9,031.05 be approved for payment.

CARRIED

Councillor Zinger did not participate in any discussion on account number 16072.

Correspondence:

Covenant Health:

A letter was received from Covenant Health thanking Council for supporting their proposal for an FCC for Castor/Coronation/Consort.

Castor & Dist. Housing
Authority:

An invitation for Council and Staff to attend the 50th Anniversary of the Paintearth Lodge was received.

Any member interested in attending will RSVP.

150/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that \$100.00 be allocated for a 50th Anniversary gift for the lodge. Administration is authorized to purchase an appropriate gift.

CARRIED

Pool Inspection Report:

Council was presented with a copy of the Swimming Pool Health Inspection Report for their information.

Old Business:

Cemetery Maintenance:

R & C Property Services expressed interest in picking up the cemetery maintenance for the remainder of the summer. A contract was presented to Council.

151/13 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor approve the maintenance contract with R & C Property services for cemetery maintenance.

CARRIED

Update on Water License:

The C.A.O. has been working with Alberta Environment on the Town's water license that would include the irrigation for the Golf Club. Once a drawing has been made of the Golf Club's system and elevations taken at the reservoir and the pump intake, the license should be completed. Rod Willis will do this. An amendment will be made reducing the gross diversion from 200 acre-feet to 62 acre-feet – showing that we no longer use the reservoir for our drinking water supply. The application can be finalized without the right of way at this point. Our lawyer will draw up the right of way for the land owners signature once the Golf Club drawings are completed.

Update on Power Contract:

The C.A.O. has received more information from 8760 Ltd. They would sign us up until Dec. 31, 2015 – after that we could sign for three years. They are negotiating prices. They currently have 363 members. Prices could be as low as .05/kw/hr. The C.A.O. will continue to look at comparison between 8760 and AMSC and report back to Council.

New Business:

Cemetery ByLaw:

ByLaw Number 1026 to regulate and control the cemetery was presented to Council as a first draft.

Gas Contract:

A Gas agreement was received from Gas Alberta Inc. to supply natural gas. The Town would become a shareholder/customer which comes with some benefits to our operations. We would be paying a variable rate of \$.17/GJ for operation benefits and transportation costs. The Town would need to do some upgrading to the RMO station.

The C.A.O. also contacted Imperial Oil Resources, as the contract with them runs out December 31, 2013. They have not returned any calls.

Financial Maintenance Agreement – Paintearth Lodge:

A copy of a draft Financial Maintenance Agreement between the Town of Castor and the Paintearth Lodge was presented to Council to consider.

Utility Bill – Christiansen:

Council discussed the issue at length. The general consensus of council was that utilities on all rental houses should be paid by the owner. This will be reflected in the Bylaw.

152/13 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town charge the June bill for account number 50576.002 to the owner of the property.

CARRIED

Landin Chambers left the meeting at 8:31pm.

Summer Staff:

Summer staff issues were brought to Council for discussion.

153/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that Council go to an in camera session.

CARRIED

Council went to an in camera session at 8:32pm.

154/13 MOTION: Councillor that Council return to an out of camera session.

CARRIED

Council came out of an in camera session at 9:33pm

155/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that the direction of Council, after reviewing staff issues, is that we strongly support the decisions of our administration staff and recognize that the current procedures and policies are being fairly represented.

CARRIED

Committee Report:

Councillor Filipenko:

- Hall meeting coming up on Thursday, hall board has a sign being erected, Town has been asked to update it as necessary.

Shawna James left Council Chambers at 9:34pm.

Foreman:

- Filled old community hall site with gravel.
- Completed cold mix along the arena.
- Dug out old rail grade material from 861 past the hall. Worked on area east of the community hall as well.
- Put walls up at new storage shop. Hired a picker truck that was the proper size. The outside tin will be in soon.
- Dust cleaners are at the museum elevator cleaning.
- Picked up the remainder of Allen Block.
- Started Post Office Project.
- Pulled the starter off the ford tandem and had it repaired.
- Filled holes on the streets.
- Students have been catching up on the mowing.
- We have split wood and donated it to the Rodeo.
- Installed culvert at the airport for Hills. Are looking at filling the ditch in.
- Golf Course sewer job is completed. Staff and equipment have spent a lot of time on this job. It was the suggestion of Council that our entire cost be calculated and the amount, in bill format, be sent to

the Golf Club informing them that this cost has been absorbed by the Town for their facility. We will strongly suggest they address these issues in the future to avoid any similar situations.

- Sent a pump from the high school lift station away for repairs.
- Summer staff have been spraying weeds.
- Problems at the RMO Station, Robert is working on that.
- Tree inventory has been started.

C.A.O.

- Continue to send out letters to clean up lots.
- Received a request from a resident that the alley south of 49th Avenue be made into a through alley or that work be stopped and the gate put up. The foreman reported that some landscaping has been done to address drainage issues.
- ATCO plans to start work on the street light project on either the week of August 19 or August 26.

Adjournment:

156/13 MOTION: Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:08a.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER