

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Council
Of the Town Of Castor
Held Monday, July 27, 2015
Council Chambers, Castor Town Hall
Castor, Alberta**

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m. by Mayor Garry DeVloo.

Councillors in Attendance:

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

Also in Attendance:

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.
Arjan Van Heinen – Public Works Foreman
Jenna Witherow – Q-14 Radio
Moush John - Castor Advance

Agenda:

164/15 MOTION: Councillor Ryan that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Delegations/Interviews:

Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes of the June 22, 2015 regular Meeting of Council.

165/15 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the Minutes of the June 22, 2015 Regular meeting of Council be approved.

CARRIED

Accounts:

The Lists of Accounts were presented to Council for payment.

Councillor Nelner declared an interest in Account number 18928 payable to That's My Specialty.

166/15 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that Account numbers 18846 to 18875; 18886 to 18932 excluding account 18928 payable to That's My Specialty be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be marked Schedule "A" and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED

167/15 MOTION: Councillor Elhard that Account number 18928 be approved for payment.

CARRIED

Councillor Nelner did not participate in any discussion concerning this account.

Cash Statement:

Council was presented with the Cash Statement for the month ending June 30, 2015. We are maintaining a reasonable cash flow, however, the GIC's have not been re-invested. We have received the March 2015 extra MSI allotment the beginning of July and since this statement the tax revenue has picked up

168/15 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the Cash Statement for the month ending June 30, 2015 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**Water and Gas
Reconciliation:**

The water and gas reconciliations to June 30, 2015 were presented to Council. The gas system is consistently holding its own. The water system still consistently sees losses, however, to date we have only half the losses of this time last year.

169/15 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the water and gas comparisons be accepted as information.

CARRIED

Budget Comparison: Council received the budget comparison to June 30, 2015. The budget appears to be on track. We should have a better idea of where we stand by the end of July once taxes have come in.

170/15 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that the budget comparison be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Correspondence:

Minister of Health: A letter was received in response to the Town's congratulatory letter to the Minister of Health. Submitted for Council's information.

**Minister of Health
Grant in Place of Taxes:** Confirmation that the Province is still looking at the Grant in Place of Taxes for Senior housing. Submitted for Council's information.

Bertin – letter of Complaint: Council received a letter from a local resident voicing her concerns with the Town's current practice of weed control.

The Town only sprays Municipal lands and take care that spraying is done on days where there is virtually no chance of drift.

A letter will be sent to Mrs. Bertin explaining the Town's position.

Old Business:

Fire Radios: Communications group is proceeding with the radio repairs. Councillor Nichols, the C.A.O. , and the fire chief met with members along highway 12 that use the Nose Hills tower. The analog repeater is not functioning properly and will need to be replaced. Options are being

investigated and there will soon be another meeting to discuss the options.

The C.A.O. received a call from Lakeland Communications requesting payment for the changeover from digital to analogue. The technician feels he has performed the job he quoted.

Council discussed the issue. Letter will be sent to Lakeland Communications informing them of the Town's position.

ATCO Release:

The C.A.O. forwarded the release and discharge regarding the former Castor Power plant site to our lawyer. Their legal department's opinion is not to sign the release.

171/15 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor not sign the Release and Discharge regarding the former ATCO site.

CARRIED

New Business:

ATCO tree removal:

The C.A.O. met with an ATCO representative to look at trees they are asking to remove. They will trim them if the Council prefers but would rather take them out as some are in poor shape. If they take them out they would be prepared to inject a herbicide into the stump to keep it from suckering and give the Town a credit for new trees.

Council discussed the issue at length. It was felt that the Town should negotiate for the inclusion of the stump removal. The C.A.O. will contact ATCO and voice Council's concerns. Council will take a look at the trees that are slated for removal before the next meeting.

Sign at Fish Pond:

Alberta Conservation will be placing signs at all the fish ponds they stock free of charge. Council received a sample of the sign that will be placed at the Castor Fish Pond.

**Clearview Meeting
Highlights:**

Council was presented with Clearview Public Schools Board meeting highlights for their information.

**Super Net Service to
ATCO Electric:**

Valard Construction Ltd. Requested permission to install a new fiber optic cable to the ATCO Electric Building.

172/15 MOTION: Councillor Elhard that permission be given to install a new fiber optic cable to the ATCO Electric Building.

CARRIED

Committee Report

Councillor Wismer:

- FCSS – blinds in the two offices that they occupy need to be replaced. They have also offered to help replace the blinds in the coffee room.

- There is an issue with the heat in the FCSS office. The C.A.O. will have the gas supervisor take a look at that part of the system.
- Councillor Nichols:
- Victims Services BBQ at the park was well attended (approximately 125 attended).
- Councillor Zinger:
- Street signs – directing to museum, pool, arena, etc., when will they go up? The Foreman has the signs and they will go up this summer.
 - Asked if crack filling is finished. Foreman has completed the crack filling.
 - Asked about the sidewalk on 52nd street. The entire sidewalk will need replacement. There is no room in the budget this year.
- Councillor Elhard:
- Asked Councillor Nichols about the sponsorship for the Victim’s Services Trailer. Councillor Nichols explained that the sponsorship was spurred by the Hutterite colony that did the work on the trailer.
 - Painting the Doctor’s House will go forward.
- Foreman:
- Airport lights are functioning again.
 - Crack filling is now complete - 4 totes were used.
 - The crew has been busy with utility line locates.
 - Worked on rerouting gas lines on private property.
 - Exposed gas valves.
 - Worked on curb stops.
 - Students are painting curbs.
 - Will start work on sidewalk repairs.
 - Will start repairing pot holes towards the end of August.
- C.A.O.:
- Attended a BRAED meeting in Bruce in June. They had a speaker that talked about Ports to Plains from Texas.
 - In September we will be taking out the tanks from the old Home Hardware site. Would like permission to not charge the \$500.00 rent for that month since the yard will not be available for his use. Council felt that rent should not be charged for the month the work was being done.
 - Brad Wiebe has resigned from Palliser. Until they find a suitable replacement, there will be some reshuffling.
 - Leo’s retirement is September 12 at the Golf Course. Town will give a gift of cash based on years of service.
 - Have contacted DF Technical Consulting Services Ltd. to do a hazardous assessment on the old Pump House.
 - Beaver Statue unveiling. Thursday at 2:00pm. Enhancement committee has asked the Town to provide light refreshments after. Cost would be \$300.00. Would need help from the summer students to set up and clean up. Deputy Mayor will say a few words on behalf of the Town.

173/MOTION: Councillor Nelner to spend up to \$300.00 for light refreshments during the unveiling of the Beaver Statue.

CARRIED

Adjournment:

174/15 MOTION: Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:24pm

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER