

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Council
Of the Town Of Castor
Held Monday, March 11, 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:

Troy Slempp, Rod Zinger, Mike Bain, Jeff Ensign, Brenda Wismer, and Dennis Filipenko.

Also in Attendance:

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.
Stan Boettcher – Public Works Foreman

Delegations/Interviews:

Clearview School Division – Karen Holloway

Mrs. Holloway brought Council up to date on what has been happening in Clearview. She gave a brief history of Clearview's financial position dating back to 2009.

- Student funding has been frozen at last year's levels.
- A few envelopes of funding have been cut.
- Will see about \$671,000.00 in cuts throughout Clearview.
- Some staffing contracts have been signed, some have not.
- Informed Council on the Community meetings, Castor's is April 3 at 7:00pm.
- New Outreach building is nearly ready to open, it is located on main street.
- Informed Council that Gus Wetter's High School completion rate is very good.

Mrs. Holloway left the meeting at 7:25pm.

Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes of the February 25, 2013 regular Meeting of Council.

044/13 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Minutes of the February 25, 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 15536.

045/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that Account Numbers 15522 to 15558 with the exception of account number 15536 payable to Filipenko Bros. Construction in the amount of \$1,312.50 be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be

marked Schedule "A" and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED .

046/13 MOTION: Councillor Slemph that cheque number 15536 to Filipenko Bros. Construction be approved for payment.

CARRIED

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

Cash Statement:

The Cash Statement for the period ending February 28, 2013 was presented to Council. The C.A.O. informed Council that we are still having some cash flow problems but are maintaining our bank account without borrowing on our operating loan. The financial statement reflects receipt of the short term loan for the hall demolition.

047/13 MOTION: Councillor Ensign that the Cash Statement for the month ending February 28, 2013 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Correspondence

2013 Education Property
Tax Requisition:

The 2013 Education Property Tax Requisition was received for the Town of Castor. Both schools will see an increase of nearly 20% each this year.

It was suggested that we contact our MLA expressing our concern over the increase. It was also suggested that a notice be sent with the tax notices spelling out exactly how the mill rates work.

048/13 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that a letter be sent to our MLA voicing our concern with the increases over the past couple of years in the Education Requisitions.

CARRIED

MSI:

Council received the 2013 MSI program funding report that is subject to the Alberta Legislature approval of the Provincial Budget and Ministerial authorization for their information.

Old Business:

Policy Handbook:

The Final version of the Personnel Policy Handbook was presented to Council for approval.

It was noted that, under safety, the point concerning the number of call outs in a 24 hour period be reworded.

049/13 MOTION: Councillor that the Personnel Policy Handbook be approved with the one correction under "Safety".

CARRIED

First Impressions
Survey:

Council had the opportunity to go through the First Impressions Survey and have the following suggestions for improvements this year.

- Looked at doing something at the post office.
- Some signage has already been put up, Town crew will look at other areas that may need signage.
- Some small jobs can be looked after by the summer staff.
- Community Hall is looking at placing a sign in front of the building.
- Students can clean up trees and shrubs around signs on the highways. They can also paint the sign.

BMTG Application:

The Street Light Project is not an acceptable project for the BMTG. We have \$55,860.00 to spend this year or we can hold it over for a year and combine it with next years allocation of the same amount for a larger project.

050/13 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town apply to place a slurry coat of pavement on a few of the streets and gravel for alleys.

CARRIED

New Business:

Recreation Report:

Mayor DeVloo called upon Councillor Slemph to give the Recreation report.

- Discontinued the family skate for the remainder of the year.
- All referees will receive gift certificates as a thank you.
- Minor Hockey Fees will be raised.
- Pool and arena handbooks have been revised.
- Ball registration is underway. There will be a late fee charged this year.
- Grant application has been submitted for a DIP grant.
- STEP funding is no longer available.
- Will apply to receive a new AED for the arena.
- An introduction to female pee wee hockey is being held.
- Pool flooring has been ordered.

051/13 MOTION: Councillor Slemph that the Minor Hockey fees be increased as presented.

CARRIED

County Brochure:

Council was presented with two page options for the County Brochure. A few suggestions were made for improvement.

Public Works Staff:

052/13 MOTION: Councillor Bain that Council move to an in camera session.

CARRIED

Council went into camera at 8:35pm

053/13 MOTION: Councillor that Council come out of the in camera session.

CARRIED

Council came out of the in camera session at 8:47pm

054/13 MOTION: Councillor Ensign that once the references and drivers abstract checks out, Brett Pendleton be hired as a Public Works Maintenance Worker I.

CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Councillor Slemph:

- Fire inspection was completed at the arena. Quite a few deficiencies were found.

Councillor Zinger:

- Asked the foreman if he could start moving some of the slush and ice. The foreman is planning to go over the streets soon.

Councillor Bain:

- East Central Destination Marketing is looking at tourism based projects. One suggestion was to do a video of local campsites and golf courses. County of Paintearth is planning to develop a website for DMF.
- Attended a meeting with the County to discuss recreation funding. The Town requested that the County increase their recreation grant. One suggestion that came out of the meeting was that the Town needs to raise the rental rates for minor hockey ice rent.

Councillor Ensign:

- Asked if the campground fees will be raised this year. The C.A.O. informed Council that the fees will go from \$20.00 to \$25.00 this year.
- The Castor Rocks fundraiser will be looking for chairs to use for the concert.

Councillor Wismer:

- Has a health advisory council meeting in Red Deer on Thursday.
- Has checked out the trees that have been removed and was very impressed.

Councillor Filipenko:

- Had an Ag. Society meeting – the heifer raffle did reasonably well.

Foreman:

- Crew has been busy cleaning up streets.
- Utility meters have been read.
- Opened up drainage on most streets.
- Checked out the smell at the lift station – it is hydrogen sulfide, a high level. Signs have been placed on the sidewalk and on the walking paths.
- Authorized trees have been removed, the Foreman is looking for direction from Council as to what to do next. It was suggested that we gather pictures

and video's and meet with Jim Hole for further advice. A few trees that are clearly dead should still be removed and some will need to be trimmed very close to salvage a few more years out of them.

- Arjan has worked on plans for the pump house. We will work with an engineer for the electrical.
- Filipenko's started moving rip rap at the lagoon.
- Grave to be dug for Friday.
- Stan is away at Banff – Arjan is in charge.
- Robert is working at the Nova Station – he has encountered a few problems.
- Leo will be using the bob cat tomorrow.
- Brad Nichols is now finished.

C.A.O.:

- Duane Nichols will not be doing the cemetery caretaking this summer. An ad has been put in the Castor Advance.
- Attended a fire agreement meeting at the County. We are still working out details. Next meeting is March 15.
- Auditors have completed their work here, we have not received a final report yet.
- The Environmental Management Plan was sent to Environmental Services – we have not heard back yet.
- Pool Flooring has been ordered and should go in this month. Shawna is working on the stairs.
- Our 50 year plaque has been received from the Federation of Gas Co-ops.
- SMRWSC – It is currently looking as though we will be paying \$14,005.97 in debenture payments. We also will be receiving an invoice for \$5,507.72 for 2012 debenture interest.

Mayor DeVloo:

- Reported that there was a golf club meeting tonight.

Adjournment:

055/13 MOTION: Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 9:50p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER