

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Council
Of the Town Of Castor
Held Monday, March 14, 2016
Council Chambers, Castor Town Hall
Castor, Alberta**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Richard Elhard.

Councillors in Attendance:

Lonny Nelner, Brenda Wismer, Travis Ryan, Tony Nichols, Rod Zinger,

Absent:

Garry DeVloo

Also in Attendance:

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.
Arjan Van Hienen – Foreman
Stacy Lavallie – Castor Advance
Dena Clarke – ECA Review

Agenda:

064/16 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that the agenda be approved with the addition.

CARRIED

Delegations/Interviews:

Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes of the February 22, 2016 regular Meeting of Council.

065/16 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Minutes of the February 22, 2016 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 19848 payable to That's My Specialty.

066/16 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that Account numbers 19807 to 19852 with the exception of account number 19848 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

067/16 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that Account number 19848 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 of February, 2015. Cash Flow is holding its own but we are being very careful. The investments have all been re-invested.

068/16 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that the cash statement ending February 29, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Budget 2016: The C.A.O. brought the first draft of the preliminary budget to Council. Currently looking at shaving \$400,000.00 but there are still many unknowns at this point.

Presented for Councils information only.

Correspondence:

Clearview – Shared
Conversation:

Council received an invitation to discuss education issues and collaborate on the work being done in communities by municipalities. The meeting date has been set for May 24 in Stettler from 11:00am – 3:00pm.

RPAP:

Correspondence was received from the Rural Physician Action Plan requesting Council's input as to the valuable contribution RPAP has made and will hopefully continue to make in our community.

The CAO will draft a letter to the Minister of Health.

Communities in Bloom:

Council received a letter promoting participation in Communities in Bloom.

069/16 MOTION: Councillor Ryan that the Town of Castor not participate in Communities in Bloom.

CARRIED

Old Business:

Farmland Minimum Tax:

The CAO brought back the issue of a minimum tax for four small parcels of farmland within the Town boundary. It was suggested that a \$250.00 minimum tax be placed on farmland.

070/16 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that a \$250.00 minimum tax be placed on farmland within the Town of Castor.

CARRIED

2016 Grant Applications:

The C.A.O. informed Council that new options are being looked at for the GTF (one being a block of sidewalk). Three separate applications are being made by Castor Minor Sports for Arena and Pool projects.

Coal Generation:

Members of Council attended presentation put on by the ACT initiative. Municipalities and the General Public are being urged to write their MLA's and encourage the government to consult with Albertans and provide details,

potential costs, and how they will address community impacts and unintended consequences.

The CAO prepared a letter for Council's perusal. Council made a few changes to the draft.

071/16 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that the letter drafted to the Province concerning the new Climate Leadership Plan be sent to our Local MLA and other MLA's.

CARRIED

Joint Meeting Date: Council was presented with two joint meeting dates to pick from. It was decided to go with April 13th at 6:00pm.

Imperial Oil Contract: Word was received from Imperial Oil that they will not be submitting future gas supply proposals to the Town of Castor. The CAO will look at other suppliers. Must be in place before November 2016.

Infrastructure Plan: The Foreman and the C.A.O. met with the Engineer today to discuss the Water/Wastewater plan for the SCF grant and to continue the project to provide water pressure to the Paintearth Lodge, Hospital, and Theresetta School.

Council will consider the options.

New Business:

Castor Recreation Board: Deputy Mayor Elhard delivered the Recreation Report.

- The Minor Sports committee is considering a hazardous assessment report for the arena. They would like the Town to pay 50% (\$2,875.00). Council discussed this at length. Would it be best to leave the Assessment at this point in time? The C.A.O. will contact the Assessment Company and bring the information back to Council.

072/16 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town not pay for any portion of a Hazardous assessment.

CARRIED

- Grants have been applied for Arena and pool projects. Concrete fence should stay as a wind break.
- Interviews for the position of Arena/Greens Keeper will be March 31.
- Grad class may want to use the arena for Prom.

Bagshaw – Water
And Sewer Lines:

L. Bagshaw would like to hook up to the Town water and sewer systems via directional drill under 48 St. to the corner of 54 Ave. It may be beneficial to both Bagshaws and the Town if we partnered and increased the size of the lines.

New information came to light during the meeting with the engineer. The C.A.O. will take that information to Bagshaws.

Coronation Fire: On February 29th the Fire Department was called to a house fire in Coronation. There is no means to collect from the victims of the fire. The cost would be \$2,350.00. The Town of Coronation has offered to pay the costs if Castor feels this bill needs to be covered.

Council discussed the issue and felt that the victims of the fire suffered a great loss and is prepared to not charge for this incident.

073/16 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor not charge the Town of Coronation for the costs of the fire our department attended on February 29.

CARRIED

Albert Prevents Cancer: Alberta Health, FCSS (Castor & Coronation) and volunteers from the communities have formed a committee to promote cancer prevention. They have received grant funding for this initiative in the amount of \$50,000.00. The Town of Castor will be looking after the funding.

074/16 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that the Town of Castor approve the restricted funding agreement with Alberta Health Services.

CARRIED

PEPS – Presentation: Bruno Wiskel made a presentation to the PEPS Board to assess the communities of Coronation, Castor, Halkirk, and the County of Paintearth. He would then bring forward suggestions as to what the communities could do to attract businesses and residents. An indication as to whether the Town of Castor is interested in participating in this endeavor is needed by the PEPS Board.

Council felt it would be wise to proceed with caution.

IDP Meeting: The Inter municipal Development Board met on March 8 to approve an additional residence within the fringe area.

Presented for Council's information.

Survey Equipment
Purchase:

The Town has the opportunity to purchase survey equipment at a much reduced rate. It will be needed during the major infrastructure project.

075/16 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the purchase of survey equipment be approved at a cost of \$5,956.00.

CARRIED

Interactions HR Solutions: A quote was received from Interactions HR Solutions Inc. to provide safe work practices and procedures, policies, handbook, etc. for the Town's safety program. Cost is

\$10,500.00. A summer student could be used to help with the massive input of information.

076/16 MOTION: Councillor Wismer that the Town of Castor accept the proposal from Interactions HR Solutions Inc. as presented.

CARRIED

East Central Destination
Marketing – Agreement:

The 2016 campground agreement with East Central Destination Marketing is due for renewal. Each year the municipalities help fund the East Central Destination Marketing by giving a portion of our revenue to them. \$0.475 is fee, it has not been increased.

077/16 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor approve the renewal of the Destination Marketing Agreement for 2016.

CARRIED

Committee Report

Councillor Nichols:

- Attended an Ag. Society meeting. Will be covering the hall rent for the Fire Department fundraiser.
- Ag. Society Files – looking for a storage place.
- Debenture fundraising – they are struggling to meet their debenture payment.

Councillor Zinger:

- Personal vehicle vehicles at the Town shop. What liability is the Town responsible for? The CAO will contact the insurance company to find out.

Foreman:

- Working at the water plant to find out what exactly is in the ground as far as infrastructure.
- Clearing culverts – keep the water running.
- Wes is currently taking his gas operator's training.
- Brett is working on his water/wastewater training.

C.A.O.

- Will be away for 10 days for holidays.

Stacy Lavallie and Dena Clarke left the meeting at 8:59pm.

In Cameral Discussion:

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

078/16 MOTION: Councillor Ryan hat Council move to an in camera session to discuss the Weseen Subdivision.

CARRIED

Council moved to an in camera session at 9:00pm

079/16 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that Council come out of the in camera session and resume the regular meeting of Council.

CARRIED

Council came out of the in camera session at 9:03

Adjournment:

080/16 MOTION: Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:04pm

DEPUTY MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER