

**Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of the Council  
Of the Town Of Castor  
Held Monday, September 22, 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, Rod Zinger, Richard Elhard.

**Also in Attendance:**

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.  
Arjan Van Heinen – Public Works Foreman  
Jenna Witherow – Q-14 Radio  
Joel van der Veen - Castor Advance

**Agenda:**

**192/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

**Delegations/Interviews:**

Clearview School Board Rep. - Karen Holloway

- Provided information to Council to take to AUMA in the event they have an opportunity to talk to any of the Ministers. Informed Council that the contingency grant has been taken away and they subsidize with education dollars. Funds end up coming out of small schools grant. Also, while at convention, ask the education minister what he knows about rural Alberta and small schools. Infrastructure - starter schools will be opening in Edmonton and Calgary. We are about 2.4 million dollars behind on infrastructure. There is a need for portables at Gus Wetter because the school was originally built for fewer students.
- Updated Council on what is happening at Clearview. Peter Baron is the new superintendent. The board is currently working through priorities. Official numbers that we get paid on will be available Sept. 30, they did their own count and believe they are up from where they thought they would be. Gus Wetter student count is up but they are not over capacity yet.

Mayor DeVloo thanked Mrs. Holloway for attending.

*Mrs. Holloway left the meeting at 7:08pm*

**Minutes:**

Council reviewed the minutes of the September 8, 2014 regular Meeting of Council.

**193/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nelner that the Minutes of the September 8, 2014 Regular meeting of Council be approved.

CARRIED

**Accounts:**

The List of Accounts was presented to Council for payment.

*Councillor Nelner declared an interest in Account number 17804 payable to That's My Specialty.*

**194/14 MOTION:** Councillor Elhard that Account numbers 17766 to 17808 excluding account 17804 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 .

**195/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that Account number 17804 be approved for payment.

CARRIED

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

*Councillor Ryan entered the meeting at 7:11pm.*

**Budget Comparison:**

A summary of the Budget comparison was presented to Council. The C.A.O. went through the revenues in detail. All revenue areas are on track. The expenditures appear to be on track, although we still have a few major purchases left.

**196/14 MOTION:** Councillor Ryan that the Budget Comparison Summary be accepted by Council as information.

CARRIED

**Delegation/Interview:**

RCMP – Darcy McGunigal, RCMP Sargent

- Arrived from Edmonton to the Coronation detachment in June of this year. 12 years in the RCMP, this is his fifth posting.
- Detachment annual performance plan, they are slightly out of sync. Will assess with the municipalities in the area to see where they succeeded and what they need to pay more attention to. Moving forward he would like to have more input from Council.
- Common priorities are traffic safety, property crime reduction, and focus on being visual in the community.
- Would like to put a child seat clinic on in the area.
- Increased enforcement, around school, highway 12 running through Town, and the entrances into Town.
- Property crimes - looking to solve more of them. They would like to make a few changes to the way they patrol.

- Enhanced visibility – they would like to be more involved in community events and activities.
- Scheduling proactive school patrols. Council suggested they patrol 11:30am – 1:00pm.
- Council indicated that they would like to meet with Sargent McGunigal on a quarterly basis.

Mayor DeVloo thanked Sargent McGunigal for attending.

*Sargent McGunigal left the meeting at 7:54pm.*

**Gas & Water  
Comparisons:**

The C.A.O. presented Council with the Gas and Water Comparisons to August 31, 2014. We are still below 1% losses in the gas system. The water system saw a slight decrease in losses in August. Meters have been changed, including the 1" water meter.

**197/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nelner  
that the Gas and Water Comparisons  
be accepted by Council as  
information.

CARRIED

**Correspondence:**

CUPW:

A request for support from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers was sent to Council. They are looking for Municipalities to pass a resolution opposing Canada Post for cuts, or calling for a halt to door-to-door delivery cuts until there is proper consultation.

**198/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nelner that the Town of  
Castor send a letter opposing the  
Canada Post plan for cuts.

CARRIED

Castor FCSS:

A letter was received from the Castor FCSS Coordinator, Mandy Fuller, asking permission to place Early Child Development Maps around Town that identify an activity to do in the area of the map.

Councillor Wismer will go to the FCSS board for more information. Specifically, Council was concerned with the appearance of these maps.

**Old Business:**

Beaver Mascot:

Council received a quote to erect a beaver mascot. The office staff will look at other options, apply for any available grants, and possibly send letters to service clubs that may be interested in donating to this project.

Council felt that the staff should continue to search for options.

Gas Tax Fund:

Council received the official amount of the 2014 Gas Tax Fund allocation - \$50,650.00. It would be prudent to

reserve the funds to 2015 to combine with a project at that time.

**199/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor reserve the \$50,650.00 from the 2014 GTF to 2015.

CARRIED

**New Business:**

**AUMA Resolutions:** The CAO presented Council with the list of resolutions that will be presented to the delegates at the AUMA Conference. Council accepted this as information.

**Parkland Regional Library Budget:** Council received Parkland Regional Library's 2015 budget for their approval. The Town will see an increase of \$221.86 from 2014 to 2015.

**200/14 MOTION:** Councillor Zinger that the Town of Castor approve the Parkland Regional Library's 2015 budget as presented.

CARRIED

**Spruce Trees on 53<sup>rd</sup> St.:** A request was made to top off about 15' from the spruce trees along 53<sup>rd</sup> Street as they are tall and one home owner is concerned that, if they blew down in a storm, they may hit their home.

The trees are not diseased and are in good shape so they should not be altered as per our policy.

**Christmas Party:** Mayor DeVloo informed Council that the Golf Club would be hosting the "Community Christmas Party" again this year and would the Town be interested in purchasing tickets for the Council, staff, Recreation Board, and Fire Department? The date of the party is November 21.

The issue was discussed at length.

**201/14 MOTION:** Councillor Nelner that the Town, including Mayor, Council, Staff, Fire Department, and the Recreation Board, participate in the Community Christmas Party this year.

CARRIED

**Gas Rate:** After attending the managers gas meeting, the gas supervisor informed the C.A.O. that the gas price is predicted to go down and stay relatively low for the next few years. Since it has been approximately 20 years since the Town last increased their fixed rate, now might be a good time to look at increasing it slightly to bring our reserve up.

Council considered the increase and suggested that the C.A.O. proceed with a Bylaw that would increase the fixed rate by \$.05/GJ and bring the Bylaw to Council for approval.

**Committee Reports:**

Councillor Elhard:

- Arena Concession will be run by Kayla and Van Reuangrith this season.
- Free training session for the AED will be held on September 25 at the Town office.
- Midget and Bantam “3 C’s” teams are a go.

Foreman:

- Gas line heater is up and working.
- Adam is adding chemical to the lagoon to prepare it for release at the beginning of October.
- Water meters have started to be changed. The large one inch meter has now been changed.
- Patching has been ongoing.
- The new employee is working out well.
- New water heater in the arena.
- Councillor Nelner thanked the Town crew for the good job they did helping Inter Pipeline with the duckweed removal.

C.A.O.

- Attended a Tourism Visioning meeting last Thursday. Surveys have been drawn up to send out to the public. There will also be Tourism Visioning Workshop on either Nov. 26 or Dec. 11. We need to provide our list of invitees to Darlis by October 3. Please give the office names of anyone you think might be interested and they will be sent an invitation.
- October 27, 2014 will be the Organizational Meeting. Meeting will start at 6:30pm.
- Choosewell committee had their 5k run on Sunday, there were about 25 participants.

Mayor DeVloo:

- Talked to Council about the committees. If anyone wants a change, contact the Mayor.
- Attended a Paintearth Lodge meeting. Gave the new manager a vote of confidence. She has been doing a great job.

**In-camera Discussions:**

Council proceeded to an in-camera session to discuss the Weseen subdivision.

*Jenna and Joel left the Council meeting at 8:36pm.*

**202/14 MOTION:** Councillor Ryan to move to an in-camera session to discuss the Weseen subdivision.

CARRIED

*Council went in-camera at 8:38pm*

**203/14 MOTION:** Councillor Elhard to come out of an in-camera session.

CARRIED

*Council returned to an open session of Council at 8:50pm.*

Adjournment:

**204/14 MOTION:** Councilor Ryan that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:53pm.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER