

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BONNYVILLE IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.**

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**PRESENT**

Mayor Gene Sobolewski: Councillors Ray Prevost, Rene Van Brabant, Lorna Storoschuk, Brian McEvoy, Elisa Brosseau and Chad Colbourne

**STAFF**

Bill Rogers – Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Renee Stoyles – Director of Finance, Katherine Currie, Director of Planning and Development, Joe Kopala – Building Safety Codes Manager, Brad Trimble – Director of Public Works and Tracy Ghostkeeper – Executive Assistant

**PRESS**

Michael Menzies, Lakeland Connect

**GUESTS**

Tyler Lornenz, Devin Dudley and Scott Donald – Residents in Recovery  
Residents: Debbie Dull, Curtis Bordeleau, Helene Severyn, Dr. Ndovi, Richard Portelance, Michelle Portelance, Peggy Dow, Erin Vadasz, Jesse Vadasz, Luke Miko, Gloria King, Chris Sutherland and Tyler Hlewka

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

Mayor Gene Sobolewski called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 6:02 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – September 8, 2020**

- 269 **Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost** that the agenda for the September 8, 2020 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 25, 2020**

- 270 **Moved by Councillor Rene Van Brabant** that the minutes of the August 25, 2020 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**See Separate Minutes**

- 271 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council adjourn the Regular Council Meeting and go into the Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

Time: 6:02 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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**MUNICIPAL PLANNING  
COMMISSION**

- 272 **Moved by Councillor Chad Colbourne** that Council adjourn the Municipal Planning Commission meeting and return to the Regular Meeting of Council.

Time 6:41 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Joe Kopala - Building Safety Codes Manager and Katherine Currie – Director of Planning and Development left the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Councillor Chad Colbourne asked for a 5 Minute Recess at 6:42 p.m.

Mayor Sobolewski called the meeting back to order at 6:47 p.m.

**BYLAW**

**Bylaw No. 1503-20 2021  
Residential Assessment and  
Supplementary Assessment  
Sub-Class Bylaw**

In 2019, Council passed Bylaw No. 1490-19, the 2020 Residential and Supplementary Assessment Sub-Class Bylaw. This was the first year such a bylaw was passed. The rationale behind creating a residential sub-class for Multi-Family properties is based on the fluctuation of the assessments year over year as the economy fluctuates. Multi-Family Assessments are based on the valuation of Income Approach and with fluctuations in the economy as has happened in the Lakeland Area in the past few years, the tax dollars for these properties have also seen some major increases and decreases. By creating a residential sub-class for Multi-Family properties, Council has the option of adjusting the Mill Rate to lessen these fluctuations.

This Bylaw would have to be passed before February 28th in the year it is to take effect.

- 273 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council provide first reading for Bylaw No. 1503-20 – 2021 Residential Assessment and Supplementary Assessment Sub-Class Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS**

**ALTAGAS Distribution  
Revenue Forecast**

A letter was received from Irv Richelhoff, AltaGas Utilities Supervisor, Business Development, advising of our forecasted 2021 franchise fee based on estimated delivery revenues for the Town of Bonnyville.



## **ALTAGAS Distribution Revenue Forecast**

The letter also outlines the procedure that must be undertaken to amend the distribution percentage franchise fee, which is currently at 20% of delivery revenue.

The franchise fee for 2021 is forecasted to be \$22,963 greater than what was budgeted for in 2020. In 2019 the Town received \$677,090 for the franchise fee and the 2020 franchise fee is expected to increase to \$681,688. In previous years, distribution revenue has steadily increased which attributes to the increase in the annual franchise revenue and this year we will again realize increased revenues from the gas franchise without a raise in the percentage rate being required.

- 274 **Moved by Councillor Lorna Storoschuk** that Council advise AltaGas Utilities that we do not wish to amend the annual franchise fee percentage for 2021.

### **CARRIED**

## **Community Organization Budget Requests**

Due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions, it was requested that Community Organizations who are requesting funding from the Town of Bonnyville submit this year's requests electronically to be added to a future Council Agenda for Council consideration. For the 2021 Operating year the following requests have been submitted:

Bonnyville & District SPCA	\$50,000.00
Bonnyville & District Historical Society	\$30,000.00
Bonnyville Curling Club	\$15,000.00
Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce Grant	\$22,000.00
Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce Golf	\$ 400.00
Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce BOYA	\$ 1,500.00
Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce O&G Oil & Gas Show moved to 2022	\$ 0.00
Bonnyville & District Chamber of Commerce Tradeshow	\$ 3,000.00

Draft I of the Operating Budget will be submitted to Council for review on October 27th, 2020 and Administration would like Council's direction with regards to the above funding requests. Future requests will be added to upcoming Council Meeting dates.

Extensive discussion ensued.

Council agreed to have Administration ask the Community Organizations to present as Delegations at the next two Council meetings.



**SPCA Annual General Meeting  
and Board Participation  
Request**

A letter was received from the SPCA inviting Council to attend their upcoming Annual General meeting, to be held September 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Inn.

Also included in the letter is an invitation and request for Council to appoint a Councillor to sit on the SPCA Board of Directors.

Discussion ensued.

Council agreed to wait until the Organizational meeting to appoint a Council member to the SPCA Board of Directors.

**Airport Lights**

Over the past 7 years our Airport has been experiencing intermittent electrical failures of the Airport Landing light system. This problem has become much worse since the electrical service was upgraded last year to accommodate powered parking. Lights that should be replaced every 2 years are now being replaced every week, and staff are finding melted and burnt cabling throughout the system. Over the past month, ATCO has performed investigations to help us determine the root cause of the problem. Administration has been in contact with our Engineers and Airport Designer throughout this process.

The runway lights have been shut down while staff work through the troubleshooting process, which could take some time to resolve. An insurance claim has been opened by the Town regarding this matter.

With fall and shorter daylight hours upon us, it is necessary to maintain a level of service to allow for nighttime and early morning usage of the Airport.

At least one major Oilfield Air Carrier has advised that they need reassurances in the next week that they will be able to conduct nighttime activities at the Airport, or they will need to look at other landing site alternatives.

Administration has prepared several options for Council's consideration which include:

1. Rent or purchase a Temporary Solar Lighting system. Although not a permanent solution, this option would allow us to get the Airport back up and running as soon as possible. Estimates from our lighting provider are for a minimum rental agreement consisting of \$9,300/ month for 6 months. Given the cost of renting the lights at \$55,800, purchasing them for approx. \$69,000 would be a preferred option.

2. Purchase and install a new permanent lighting system. Depending on what happens from the investigations currently



## **Airport Lights**

ongoing, this may end up being the best long-term solution regardless. This option has an approximate cost of \$210,000

3. Continue to focus on the investigation and do not purchase solar powered lighting. This option is not recommended as it is anticipated that repairs will take longer than the time allotted by our carriers to be able to provide nighttime operations.

Extensive discussion ensued.

- 275 **Moved by Councillor Rene Van Brabant** that Council approve the purchase of a temporary solar lighting system for maximum cost of \$69,000, with funding to come from: the Airport Capital Reserve in the amount of \$28,268 and the remainder from General Operating Reserve and to have Administration send a request to the M.D. of Bonnyville for half of the funds.

**CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Councillor Lorna Storoschuk**

Councillor Storoschuk attended the Bonnyville & District Daycare Centre Board meeting, Mark Power and Omer Robert's Joint Retirement Party and the Sign Unveiling at Slawuta Pond. She also attended and brought greetings at the Coffee & Cake Community Lunch Program Volunteer Tea, a teleconference with Ric McIver, Minister of Transportation and a Farewell Lunch for Mark Power.

### **Councillor Brian McEvoy**

Councillor McEvoy attended Mark Power and Omer Robert's Joint Retirement Party, a Bonnyville Regional Water Services Commission meeting and a Farewell Lunch for Mark Power.

### **Councillor Chad Colbourne**

Councillor Colbourne attended a Downtown Revitalization Committee meeting, an Economic Development Committee meeting, a meeting with the General Manager at the Centennial Centre, an Open House for Economic Development with Community business owners and a Farewell Lunch for Mark Power.

### **Mayor Gene Sobolewski**

Mayor Sobolewski attended the Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority (BRFA) meeting, a meeting with the Doctors, a teleconference with the M.D. of Bonnyville Reeve and an interview with the Economic Development Consultant. He also attended and brought greetings at Dr. van der Watt's Farewell, attended the teleconference with Ric McIver, Minister of Transportation and a Farewell Lunch for Mark Power. Mayor Sobolewski also attended the Justice 4 Jake and Morris Rally and had conversations with Imperial Oil.



**Councillor Elisa Brosseau**

Councillor Brosseau attended a Strategic Planning Session with the ABMA (Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association), the Downtown Revitalization Committee meeting and an Economic Development Committee meeting. She also attended the Economic Development Open House with Community business owners, the Coffee & Cake Community Lunch Program Volunteer Tea and the teleconference with Ric McIver, Minister of Transportation.

**Councillor Ray Prevost**

Councillor Prevost attended the BRFA meeting, the Sign Unveiling at Slawuta Pond, the Bonnyville Regional Water Services Commission meeting, the teleconference with Ric McIver, Minister of Transportation and a Farewell Lunch with Mark Power.

**Councillor Rene Van Brabant**

Councillor Van Brabant attended the BRFA meeting, Mark Power and Omer Robert's Joint Retirement Party, the sign unveiling at Slawuta Pond and a Farewell Lunch for Mark Power.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**

**N.E. Muni-Cor Annual Golf Tournament – September 14, 2020**

An invite was received for the N.E. Muni-Corr Annual Golf Tournament on September 14, 2020.

Councillors Storoschuk, Brosseau, Prevost and Van Brabant agreed to attend.

**Proclamation – International Day of Older Persons.**

Mayor Sobolewski proclaimed October 1, 2020 International Day of Older Persons in the Town of Bonnyville.

**QUESTIONS**

There were no questions asked.

- 276 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council close the meeting to the public for Agenda items 10a) Land as per Section 27, FOIP.

Time: 7:25 p.m.

**CARRIED**

- 277 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council adjourn In Camera and return to the Regular Meeting of Council.

Time: 7:54 p.m.

**CARRIED**

BR 8


**ADJOURNMENT**

278 **Moved by Councillor Rene Van Brabant** that the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned.

Time: 7:55 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Minutes read and adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2020.

  
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Mayor

  
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Chief Administrative Officer