

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BONNYVILLE IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021 COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

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 - General Manager of Corporate Services and Tracy Ghostkeeper (virtually)– Executive Assistant

GUESTS

Mark Laver – Economic Development Officer, Town & M.D.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Mayor Gene Sobolewski called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2021

- 019 **Moved by Councillor Elisa Brosseau** that the agenda for the January 26, 2021 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 8, 2020

- 020 **Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost** that the minutes of the December 8, 2020 Special Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 12, 2021

- 021 **Moved by Councillor Rene Van Brabant** that the minutes of the January 12, 2021 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

DELEGATION

Bonnyville Regional Economic Development Survey Results – Mark Laver, Economic Development Officer

Mark Laver, Economic Development Officer, stated that this presentation was the feedback gathered from Residents in the M.D. and Town of Bonnyville for the Bonnyville Regional Economic Development Survey. There were 126 people who answered the survey. He stated that the Lakes and natural assets ranked high among the strengths and Tourism and Oil & Gas ranked highest for the greatest Opportunities for the Bonnyville Region. A more diversified/balanced economy, thriving community and more amenities were among the top answers of what residents would like the Region to look like in the future. He also noted that residents are doing a large amount shopping online and out of our community.

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RE

**Survey Results – Mark Laver,
Economic Development
Officer**

Extensive discussion ensued.

BYLAW

**Amending Bylaw No. 1508-21
– a Bylaw to Amend Utility
Bylaw No. 1393-12**

Renee Stoyles, General Manager of Corporate Services stated that in 2020, a review of the utility rates charged to the MD of Bonnyville for development areas adjacent to the Town under the 2015 Water and Wastewater Agreement, was reviewed. The consultant, R. Jenkins Consulting Ltd., has calculated the 2020 Water rate to be \$3.84 per m3 and the 2020 Wastewater rate to be \$3.04 per m3.

For 2021, the Water rate was estimated to be \$3.56 per m3 due to the Water Treatment Plant dropping out of service. As this is not anticipated to happen until sometime in 2021, Administration is recommending the 2021 rate remain consistent with the 2020 rate of \$3.84 per m3.

For 2021, the Wastewater rate is estimated to be \$2.91 per m3. The decrease in rate is due to continued depreciation of wastewater capital assets with no new capital investment in wastewater services. Administration is recommending the 2021 rate be \$2.91 per m3.

The rate charged to the MD will be reviewed yearly and any recommended changes provided to Council for approval.

- 022 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council provide first reading for Bylaw No. 1508-21 – a Bylaw to Amend Utility Bylaw No. 1393-12.

CARRIED

- 023 **Moved by Councillor Lorna Storoschuk** that Council provide second reading for Bylaw No. 1508-21 – a Bylaw to Amend Utility Bylaw No. 1393-12.

CARRIED

- 024 **Moved by Councillor Chad Colbourne** that Council proceed to third and final reading for Bylaw No. 1508-21 – a Bylaw to Amend Utility Bylaw No. 1393-12.

CARRIED

**Amending Bylaw No. 1508-21
– a Bylaw to Amend Utility
Bylaw No. 1393-12**

- 025 **Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost** that Council provide third reading for Bylaw No. 1508-21 – a Bylaw to Amend Utility Bylaw No. 1393-12.

CARRIED

FINANCE

November Bank Reconciliation

- 026 Moved by Councillor Chad Colbourne that Council approve the November Bank Reconciliation as presented.

CARRIED

Accounts Receivable Write Offs

- 027 Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy that Council direct Administration to write off \$1,616.15 to bad debts for Accounts Receivable Write Offs.

CARRIED

2020 Utility Write Offs

- 028 Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost that Council direct Administration to write off \$191.70 to bad debts for 2020 Utility Write Offs.

CARRIED

BUSINESS

Bonnyville Regional Economic Development Plan

Bill Rogers, CAO, stated that the Bonnyville Regional Economic Development Plan was presented on January 22, 2021 by the Consultant to members of the Bonnyville Regional Economic Development Committee and Town and M.D. Councils.

This plan provides a detailed economic background review of our current situation, identifies potential economic opportunities for the future, includes input from residents and stakeholders, and provides action plans to help achieve the Plan's goals.

In order for the Regional Plan to become public and actionable by the Committee and Administration, it needs to be accepted by both the Town and MD Councils.

- 029 Moved by Councillor Elisa Brosseau that Council approve the Bonnyville Regional Economic Development Plan as presented.

CARRIED

FCM Membership Review

Bill Rogers, CAO, stated that it has been requested that Council consider membership in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) which is being discussed by neighboring municipalities. The of the County of St. Paul withdrew from membership in the FCM.

In 2020, Council discussed whether to continue membership in the FCM while also wrestling with how to deal with an anticipated Budget deficit of over \$500,000.00 in the absence at that time of any ID 349 funding. The Annual FCM

FCM Membership Review

Membership and attendance at the annual Conference was one of the items identified at the Interim Budget for possible cancellation (Membership fee of approximately \$1,600.00 and a total savings \$21,199.00 by not attending the conference).

At that time, Council passed a motion to continue membership in the FCM and also to participate in the 2020 conference, which was later cancelled due to the pandemic. The Town has budgeted for and paid our \$1,600.00 2021 FCM membership fee.

- 030 **Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost** that Council approve the membership for FCM for 2021, as it has already been paid, and that Council does not attend the Conference in 2021.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councillor Brian McEvoy

Councillor McEvoy attended the Adolescent & Mental Health Collaborative meeting, the Economic Development Strategy Presentation, an AB HUB meeting and the BRWSC (Bonnyville Regional Water Services Commission) Agreement signing with CLRUSC (Cold Lake Regional Utility Services Commission).

Councillor Lorna Storoschuk

Councillor Storoschuk attended a Portage College 2030 Building Skills Town Hall, a Bonnyville Municipal Library Webinar, a LICA (Lakeland Industry & Community Association) meeting, the Economic Development Strategy Presentation and a Bonnyville & District Daycare Board meeting.

Councillor Chad Colbourne

Councillor Colbourne attended a Winterland Invitational meeting, the Economic Development Strategy Presentation, a Bonnyville & District Leisure Facility Corp Board meeting and an Economic Development Committee meeting.

Mayor Gene Sobolewski

Mayor Sobolewski attended a meeting with M.D. Reeve and Mayor of Lac la Biche regarding ID349, a meeting with M.D. Reeve and MLA David Hanson regarding salons and restaurants opening and a Rural Municipalities Association session with Minister McIver. He also attended a BRFA (Bonnyville Regional Fire Association) meeting, the Economic Development Strategy Presentation, another meeting with MLA David Hanson regarding restaurants, a Bonnyville & District Leisure Facility Corp Board meeting and meetings with restaurant owners.



Councillor Ray Prevost

Councillor Prevost attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting, a Lakeland Lodge & Housing Foundation meeting, the BRFA meeting, the Economic Development Strategy Presentation and the BRWSC Agreement signing with CLRUSC.

Councillor Elisa Brosseau

Councillor Brosseau attended an ABMA (Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association) presentation, and an ABMA presentation to Brooks, Alberta, a BRWMC (Beaver River Waste Management Commission) meeting, the BRFA Meeting, the Economic Development Strategy Presentation, a meeting with Portage College and Mark Laver, Economic Development Officer.

Councillor Rene Van Brabant

Councillor Van Brabant attended a Bonnyville SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) meeting, a Lakeland Lodge & Housing Foundation meeting and the Economic Development Strategy Presentation.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

**Letter – M.D. of Bonnyville –
Letter to MLA David Hanson –
re: Business Community
Pandemic Restrictions**

A letter was received from the M.D. of Bonnyville that they sent to MLA David Hanson regarding restrictions on the business community during the Pandemic.

Council accepted this letter for information.

QUESTIONS

Councillor Colbourne asked to have discussion with the next steps for a new pool on the next Agenda.

Bill Rogers, CAO, stated that during initial discussions with the M.D. of Bonnyville it was decided that both Councils would work on completing the ICF (Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework) and under that framework a Committee will be formed with members from both the M.D. and Town Council that will meet to discuss Capitol Projects, of which the pool would be one project that would benefit both. The next step is a joint meeting to have the Consultants present the Aquatic Study. He also stated that the aquatic study has not been presented due to Covid-19 and the lack of Capital funding position that the Town of Bonnyville was in during 2020.

IN CAMERA

031 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council close the meeting to the public for Agenda items 11a) Legal as per Section 27, FOIP.

Time: 7:43 p.m.

CARRIED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AR' followed by a stylized flourish.

OUT OF CAMERA

- 032 **Moved by Councillor Rene Van Brabant** that Council adjourn In Camera and return to the Regular Meeting of Council.

Time: 8:29 p.m.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

- 033 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned.


Time: 8:29 p.m.

CARRIED

Minutes read and adopted this 9th day of February, 2021.



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer