

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BONNYVILLE IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021 COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.**

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**PRESENT**

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

**STAFF**

Virtually: Bill Rogers – Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Renee Stoyles – General Manager of Corporate Services, Jeannine Chornohos – Director of Finance and Tracy Ghostkeeper – Executive Assistant

**GUESTS**

Virtually: Rachelle Allen, Brenna Heffernan, Shala Heffernan and Daryl Heffernan

**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 – MAY 25, 2021**

- 149 **Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost** that the agenda for the May 25, 2021 Regular Council meeting be adopted with the following addition:

4a) Delegation – Restore Jesse Lake – Brenna Heffernan

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – MAY 11, 2021**

- 150 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that the minutes of the May 11, 2021 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**DELEGATION**

**Walk -On – Restore Jesse Lake – Brenna Heffernan**

Brenna Heffernan presented the school presentation she had done to Council, with all her ideas on how to restore Jesse Lake.

Mayor Sobolewski and CAO Bill Rogers explained some of the upcoming budget items for trail upgrades, studies and future ideas such as a boardwalk.

Councillor Brosseau also mentioned the 2021-22 Project which connects the Jesse Lake trail to the M.D. of Bonnyville trail.

Extensive discussion ensued.



Brenna Heffernan, Shala Heffernan, Daryl Heffernan and Rachelle Allen signed out of the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

## Finance

- April 2021 Financials – Capital** 151 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council approve the April Financial Report Capital as presented.

**CARRIED**

- April 2021 Financials – Operating** 152 **Moved by Councillor Lorna Storoschuk** that Council approve the April Financial Report Operating as presented.

**CARRIED**

- April 2021 Bank Reconciliation** 153 **Moved by Councillor Ray Prevost** that Council approve the April Bank Reconciliation as presented.

**CARRIED**

## BUSINESS

### **2020 Bonnyville Municipal Library Financial Statements**

Renee Stoyles, General Manager of Corporate Service presented the 2020 Bonnyville Municipal Library Financial Statements as prepared by Tay & Company Professional Corporation.

The Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the year ending December 31, 2020, shows that the library closed the year with an excess of revenue over expenditure of \$47,404.00. This does include amortization of \$8,683.00 but does not include capital expenditures of \$3,779.00 resulting in an overall excess of revenue over expenditures of \$43,625.00.

As reported in previous years, the library is required to do their Financial Reporting in accordance with Section 9 of the Libraries Act.

Their Year End Financials are presented to the Town for information purposes and to aid in reviewing the Annual Library contribution from the Town and Municipal District for Operating and Capital Budget purposes.

- 154 **Moved by Councillor Elisa Brosseau** that Council approve accept the Bonnyville Municipal Library Board's Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2020 as presented.

**CARRIED**

## Holiday Signing Authority

Approval is required to identify which members of Administration have authority to sign cheques, agreements etc. during absence of the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager of Corporate Services while on annual holidays.

Bill Rogers and Renee Stoyles are on annual leave for periods during July and August. Should there be a need for an alternate signing authority; the practice has been to appoint two alternates during this time. For 2021 Administration is recommending that Council appoint Jeannine Chornohos and Katherine Currie as alternate administration signing authorities during this time.

- 155 **Moved by Councillor Rene Van Brabant** that Council appoint Jeannine Chornohos and Katherine Currie as alternates for administrative signing authority for the Town of Bonnyville for the period July 2021 to August 2021.

### CARRIED

## Town of High River – Support for Proposed Coal Restriction Policy

Administration received a letter from Mayor Craig Snodgrass from the Town of High River, requesting Council input on the future of the Eastern Slopes and Rockies ability to provide clean drinking water to all communities in the province. He is requesting support for the Town of High River's proposed Alberta Coal Restriction Policy which would be effective November 15th, 2021.

High River is requesting all Alberta Municipalities to support the position of the Town of High River with regards to the proposed policy wording and that if we do, that we send a signed letter detailing our support to Mayor Snodgrass or acknowledgment utilizing the endorsement included in the letter.

Mayor Snodgrass will be presenting this policy along with any feedback received to the Coal Policy Committee.

Discussion ensued.

- 156 **Moved by Councillor Brian McEvoy** that Council authorize Administration to send a letter of support to the Town of High River for their proposed Alberta Coal Restriction Policy.

### CARRIED

## Gift Cards for Graduates

The 2021 Graduation Ceremonies are fast approaching. Annually the Town of Bonnyville gives each graduate a card signed by the Mayor at the graduation ceremony. Mayor Sobolewski had an idea that for the 2021 graduating class, the Town could purchase a \$20.00 gift card from local restaurants



## **Gift Cards for Graduates**

to include in each of the Graduation Cards to present to each student. This would be beneficial to both the graduate and our local restaurants who have seen a decline in sales due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

In 2021 there are 190 graduates. Although this has not been a past practice for the Town, due to the many restrictions that have affected our local restaurant industry this past year purchasing gift cards for the graduating students would be a boost to one of the hardest hit services within the Town.

The cost of this program for 2021 would be \$3,800.00 which has not been included within our 2021 Operating Budget. Should Council wish to approve this expenditure, the funding could come from the Council Receptions and Public Relations Budget.

It was discussed that for future years, Administration investigate the creation of a program similar to "Bonnyville Buck"s that graduates can use at multiple businesses in Bonnyville.

Extensive discussion ensued.

- 157 **Moved by Councillor Chad Colbourne** that Council authorize the purchase gift cards in the amount of \$20.00 each from local restaurants to include in each of the graduation cards presented to the 2021 Graduates with the funding to come from Council Receptions and Public Relations Budget.

**CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Councillor Brian McEvoy**

Councillor McEvoy attended a Covid-19 Town Hall, an Alberta Counsel Webinar and the BLOOM CME Elected Officials Training.

### **Councillor Lorna Storoschuk**

Councillor Storoschuk attended a Covid-19 Town Hall, an Alberta Counsel Webinar– 5 Ways to Increase Member Engagement, an Alberta Seniors & Community Housing Association Webinar and another Alberta Counsel Webinar. She also attended the FCSS (Family & Community Support Services) Regional Spring meeting, the Bonnyville & District Historical Society meeting, a LICA (Lakeland Industry & Community Association) Meeting and the BLOOM CME Elected Officials Training.

### **Councillor Chad Colbourne**

Councillor Colbourne attended the Alberta Counsel Webinar, a Canada Day Committee meeting and a meeting with the Assistant Administrative Officer at the Bonnyville & District Centennial Centre.



**Mayor Gene Sobolewski**

Mayor Sobolewski attended the Covid-19 Town Hall, the Alberta Counsel Webinar, another Covid-19 Town Hall, the BRFA (Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority) meeting and attended a tour of the Centennial Centre with a Manager Candidate. He also attended another Covid-19 meeting, a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Allee Scoop ice cream shack and a meeting at the M.D. of Bonnyville with the Reeve and new CAO.

**Councillor Ray Prevost**

Councillor Prevost attended the Covid-19 Town Hall, the Alberta Counsel Webinar, a Bonnyville Chamber of commerce meeting, a Lakeland Lodge and Housing Foundation meeting, the BRFA Meeting and the BLOOM CME Elected Officials Training.

**Councillor Elisa Brosseau**

Councillor Brosseau attended the Alberta Counsel Webinar, the FCSS Regional Spring meeting, the Alberta Fire Chiefs Conference, the Canada Day Committee meeting and the BRFA meeting.

**Councillor Rene Van Brabant**

Councillor Van Brabant attended the Covid-19 Town Hall, the Alberta Counsel Webinar and the Lakeland Lodge & Housing Foundation meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**

**Letter – Alberta Municipal Affairs – 2021 MSI Funding Allocation**

A letter was received confirming the amounts allocated for the Town of Bonnyville are \$1,806,133.00 for the 2021 MSI Capital allocation and \$58,370.00 for the 2021 MSI Operating allocation.

Council accepted this letter for information.

**Proclamation – Recreation and Parks Month – June 2021**

Mayor Sobolewski declared June 2021 Recreation and Parks Month in the Town of Bonnyville.

**Online Information Session – Moose Lake Weir Site Naturalization**

A notice was received to inform the Town of two upcoming online information sessions on the Moose Lake Weir Site Naturalization.

Council accepted this notice for information.

**QUESTIONS**

Councillor Prevost asked if the Town had received a response from the province for the letter that was sent regarding Provincial Policing.

CAO Bill Rogers stated that the Town received a response acknowledging receipt of the Town's letter, the process is ongoing and once they have further information they will forward to the Town.

## QUESTIONS

Councillor Prevost asked about any updates on the Fisheries Cormorant issue on Moose Lake.

Bill Rogers, CAO, stated the Cormorant plan is going ahead this year by Fisheries Officials and once they are up and running, they will let the Town know.

Councillor Prevost asked about the dead-end alley at the St. Anne Chapel site, and if it was possible to close it off and dedicate that land to the Lodge.

Bill Rogers, CAO, stated that Administration will prepare the necessary paperwork to bring back to Council at a future meeting.


## ADJOURNMENT

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

Time: 7:05 p.m.

## CARRIED

Minutes read and adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

  
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Mayor

  
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Chief Administrative Officer