

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUNDRE
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2014, IN THE TOWN OF SUNDRE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT

Mayor Terry Leslie, Councillors Paul Isaac, Verna McFadden, Jodi Orr, and Myron Thompson

ABSENT

Councillors Tony Jordan and Chris Vardas

STAFF

Dave Dubauskas, Chief Administrative Officer
Wanda Watson-Neufeld, Director of Corporate Services
Erin O'Neill, Manager of Planning and Development
Jacci Hager, Manager of Community Services

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Terry Leslie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a moment of reflection.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5/14 Councillor McFadden moved that the Town of Sundre Council adopt the agenda as amended to move Presentation of Service Awards ahead of adoption of minutes. **CARRIED**

PRESENTATIONS

Years of Service Awards Presentations

Mayor Leslie presented the Years of Service Awards to former Mayor Annette Clews and former Councillor Michael Baird.

6/14 Councillor Thompson moved to amend the agenda to discuss 4-Year Strategic Plan under Unfinished Business 8.1 and to add an In Camera Session. **CARRIED**

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

January 20, 2014 Regular Council Minutes

7/14 Councillor Thompson moved that the Town of Sundre Council approve the minutes of the January 20, 2014 Regular Council Meeting as presented. **CARRIED**

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Mayor Leslie thanked those members of the audience for attending.

Mayor Leslie invited Mr. Mortimer and Rufus (service dog) to talk to Council. Jack Mortimer explained that he wanted to speak to Council regarding the 'dog' problem. Mr. Mortimer explained that he applied to live in Mountain View Senior's Lodge and he was informed that he could not as he had a service dog. Rufus has been living with him in his current senior's lodge for 10 years. It was explained that he was a highly trained service dog with all his certifications; however he was

not acceptable to be admitted into the MVSH lodge. Mayor Leslie explained that he had read the Round-Up article regarding service dogs in Foothills Lodge and understood that until a policy was created Mr. Mortimer would not be accepted. Mayor Leslie further explained that he sits on MVSH Board and he will take Mr. Mortimer's concern forward and will advocate having service dogs in the lodge, as he understands that may be the law. Mayor Leslie confirmed that Mr. Mortimer would no longer like to be in the lodge given the way he was treated, however, he wanted to ensure that service dogs were not restricted in the future. Councillor Thompson confirmed how long Mr. Mortimer lived in Pioneer Place, as policy for the service dog has already been set. Mr. Mortimer confirmed he has lived there for over 10 years. Mayor Leslie indicated he would express those concerns with MVSH. A copy of the letter and the Service Dog Act was provided to Mayor Leslie to bring with him to the Board meeting. It was questioned how they can restrict a service dog as it is in the Act, and one can be fined \$3,000 for not allowing a service dog. Mayor Leslie requested that contact information be given to CAO Dubauskas, so Mayor Leslie can follow up with Mr. Mortimer following his discussion with MVSH.

Ruth Zimmerman presented to Council some ideas about how to bring people to Sundre. Copies of her presentation were provided to Councillors. Ms. Zimmerman stated that her and her husband moved here a year ago and would like to make some proposals. She explained how individuals she knew had to move/sell their homes as they could not afford the taxes. Ms. Zimmerman suggested that once a homeowner (not a renter) turns 65 the taxes freeze and do not increase or it could be at any age and the taxes would go back to current value once the home was sold. With this, senior's would be able to relax and plan for their future. Ms. Zimmerman feels that if this was approved it would make national news and would bring move individuals to Sundre. Sundre could become a boomtown, a place to bring your family with a plan for down the road. More businesses would come due to the prospects. She feels that the Town could grow if the Town would like to. Ms. Zimmerman requested that Council take this tax freeze idea into serious consideration. Taxes would not be exempt if joint ownership with someone under 65 years of age. Money dictates a lot and the tax freeze would eliminate much concern. Mayor Leslie indicated that Council searches for economic development opportunities and will take it seriously. Indicated that items are referred to Administration to review and provide advantages and disadvantages

Mayor Leslie indicated that he had apologies to make. Apologies were made over the change of meeting times without proper notification to the public. He indicated that he felt overwhelmed with the length of agenda packages and being able to absorb the information and make informed decisions. It was suggested that alternate meetings could be held so more information could be available to him. Apologized to the press for not providing adequate notice, and apologized to Council that the process would not continue this way. Indicated that Council does not want to be seen as hiding anything from the public. Councillor Thompson indicated that he understood the intent, however we are a Council that operates in an open and public manner other than those items that have to be discussed In Camera.

Elizabeth Bell, formerly from Council of Cremona. Indicated she sat on MVSH Board and became concerned with what was happening. When Mayor Leslie speaks to MVSH, Ms. Bell requested that MVSH go around to the residents of the lodges, as the residents would like to have someone to talk to about some of their concerns.

FINANCE

December 31, 2013 Capital Projects Listing

2013 Capital and Operating Project Summary

Wanda Watson-Neufeld presented the Capital Projects Listing and the Project Summary Listing. Councillor Thompson expressed his concerns with the requirement to spend money on fish mitigation when the money could be spent to protect a possible major flood. Councillor Thompson indicated that the spurs have actually created fish habitat. Mayor Leslie indicated that discussions needed to be held with the Federal Government. Councillor Thompson questioned the cost of the engineering and wanted to confirm that the money to pay for engineering studies came from the money that was being held. Wanda Watson-Neufeld indicated that the approximate cost of the engineering is \$18,000. Councillor Thompson stated that if any employees were involved, employees whose salaries were paid for by Sundre taxpayers; the Federal Government should be paying for this.

Councillor Isaac indicated that while the Council would like to spend the money on flood protection, there is a mandate that Administration has to follow even if Council does not like it. Recommend that Mr. Blake be invited to the next meeting. Mayor Leslie indicated that he would make an invitation immediately.

8/14 Councillor Thompson moved to accept these reports as information. **CARRIED**

BYLAWS

Bylaw 01.14 – Amendment to Connection Fee Bylaw – First Reading

9/14 Councillor Thompson moved that Bylaw 01.14, being the Connection Fee Bylaw be read a first time. **CARRIED**

Councillor Thompson asked if there was any reason why this could not be moved forward with second reading. CAO Dubauskas indicated there was not.

10/14 Councillor McFadden moved that Bylaw 01.14, being the Connection Fee Bylaw be read a second time. **CARRIED**

Council discussed the idea of allowing time for public input. It was explained to Council by Administration that a public hearing could not be held if a second reading of the Bylaw had already been given.

11/14 Councillor McFadden moved to rescind motion 10/14 in order to hold a public hearing. **CARRIED**

Bylaw 02.14 – Land Use Bylaw – Part of Block 1 Plan 941 1097 – First Reading

12/14 Councillor McFadden moved that Bylaw No. 02.14, being a Land Use Bylaw amendment for part of Block 1, Plan 941 1097, be read a first time. **CARRIED**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councillor Thompson confirmed the dates of the Strategic Session on February 26 and February 27th and asked who would be presenting and the cost as it seems that Council has continually been doing strategic planning. CAO Dubauskas indicated that Dr. Gordon MacIntosh would be presenting for approximately \$3,500. CAO Dubauskas further indicated that this strategic planning document would be a one-page document that is workable and provides marching orders for the next one to two years. Councillor Thompson indicated that he wanted to ensure this was important and money was well spent. CAO Dubauskas indicated that we **need** to spend this money

so we can confirm what the residents want from what Council has been hearing on the streets. Councillor Isaac indicated that he wished Council was more involved in setting the time for the session, as all of Council cannot make all the sessions.

NEW BUSINESS

Sundre Regional Recreation Advisory Committee

Jacci Hager, Manager, Parks and Recreation spoke to the Regional Recreational Advisory Committee as a result of the Master Recreation Plan.

13/14 Councillor Thompson moved that the Town of Sundre appoint Town of Sundre Councillor Orr to the Sundre Regional Recreation Advisory Committee until the 2014 Organizational Meeting of Council; and Town of Sundre Mayor Leslie, as alternate, to the Sundre Regional Recreation Advisory Committee until the 2014 Organizational Meeting of Council. **CARRIED**

14/14 Councillor Orr moved that the Town of Sundre Council appoint Cheri Funke and Adam Hogarth to the Sundre Regional Recreation Advisory Committee as the Urban Representatives until the 2014 Organizational Meeting of Council. **CARRIED**

Councillor Isaac indicated that he did not like the way the volunteers are found for committees without explanation from the individual why they want to participate on the Committee. Councillor Isaac suggested that Committees might not succeed due to the process of appointing members. CAO Dubauskas indicated that other municipalities have an interview process.

Mayor Leslie questioned if Councillors would like to move to an interview process as he has heard that individuals will not entertain joining a committee if they have to apply. Councillor Isaac indicated that good committees should be formed and should leave it up to Administration how to appoint good members to make successful committees.

15/14 Councillor Orr moved that the Town of Sundre Council appoint Dallas Rosevear, President of Sundre Minor Hockey, to the Sundre Regional Recreation Advisory Committee as the Youth Sport Executive Representative until the 2014 Organizational Meeting of Council. **CARRIED**

16/14 Councillor Orr moved that the Town of Sundre Council appoint Paul Shippy, Greenwood Neighbourhood Place Board Member, to the Sundre Regional Recreation Advisory Committee as the Greenwood Neighbourhood Place Representative until the 2014 Organizational Meeting of Council. **CARRIED**

CAO Dubauskas requested a motion be made at looking at alternate appointment processes. Councillor Thompson indicated that there are more important items where Administration can focus and wishes to move forward without pursuing this motion

SEDIF Terms of Reference Update

17/14 Councillor Isaac moved that the Town of Sundre Council approve the updated Sundre Economic Development Initiative Fund (SEDIF) Committee Terms of Reference as presented, and that current members remain active until the annual Council organizational meeting. **CARRIED**

18/14

Business Retention and Expansion Program Regional Collaboration Grant

Councillor McFadden moved that the Town of Sundre Council authorize the following resolution: “Be it resolved that we authorize the Town of Sundre to participate in an application for the Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction Program, submitted by the Town of Sundre under the Regional Collaboration component of the Regional Collaboration Program, further that the Town of Sundre, the applicant, agrees to enter into a Conditional Grant Agreement, governing the purpose and use of the grant funds.” **CARRIED**

Flood Mitigation Efforts

Mayor Leslie noted that on January 23rd, 2014 a meeting was held with Arthur Anderson to understand who all the players of the flood mitigation effort are. He indicated that a subsequent meeting was held with Associate Minister Fawcett in Drumheller where they met with water operators and then met with Minister Hughes regarding the 3.7 km berm and gas-line looping grant. Mayor Leslie indicated that based on the article in the Sundre Roundup grant money was promising to prevent future overland flooding. CAO Dubauskas indicated that the Government has heard Sundre’s concerns over lack of public engagement and the Province have contacted him with options for public meetings. CAO Dubauskas further indicated that it would be prudent to have Mountain View County administer the grant for the berm and Sundre administer to grant for the gas looping if successful.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

CAO Dubauskas presented his CAO report to Council.

Mayor Leslie indicated that he met with school trustee Ron Fisher on January 29, 2014 regarding the road and the concerns of the school division. It was stated that the school division is not in the business of roads and the Town is in the business of roads. Mayor Leslie asked to understand what the issues were previously to better understand. CAO Dubauskas had previously suggested to Mayor Leslie that all stakeholders be involved in the discussion regarding the road (Trustee Ron Fisher, school principals, County Council, Race and Rodeo, Aquaplex, and Agricultural Society). Mayor Leslie requested Council support to direct Administration to set up the meeting with all parties. CAO Dubauskas indicated that there are many players involved in a central and important area of Town and it needs to be determined what wants to happen in that area of Town, and maybe the discussion should focus on more than the road. There are a number of options to achieve this, one being a design charette where political agendas are put aside and ideas are presented and alternatives are discussed to pursue a plan on what can be done with that area.

Mayor Leslie requested a motion be made to set up the meeting with this group. Councillor Isaac indicated that having not seen this in his agenda package he would like additional time to digest. CAO Dubauskas indicated that this could come forward to a future Council meeting.

Mayor Leslie asked about what past meetings were held and what was achieved between School Boards and Council. Councillor Isaac indicated there were not meetings between Council and the School Boards, meetings were held with Administration and suggested that there may not be enough room for a proper road and the liability may be high if the Town took over the road and it was not wide enough – the Town does not need to solve an issue that cannot be fixed. Councillor Isaac stated that liability issues need to be investigated before further discussion takes place. Mayor Leslie indicated that from the opinion of the school division there would be a \$750,000 upgrade charge if the Town took over the road and that the upgrades would be required immediately and why immediate upgrades would be required. Mayor Leslie further suggested that development needs to take place in a rationale process and all the players need to be involved in

the meeting. Councillor Thompson suggested that the road is not the most important issue at this time and overall direction needs to be discussed. It was stated that a Notice of Motion would be made at a subsequent council meeting for further discussion on this topic.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mountain View County Amendments

Erin O’Neill, Manager, Planning and Development, discussed with Council the reason and purpose behind the Mountain View County amendments.

Alberta Health Minister Correspondence

Mayor Leslie spoke to the correspondence and he will undertake to look further into the helipad priorities.

Alberta Human Services Correspondence

Mayor Leslie indicated that the deadline already passed for this.

Mountain View Senior’s Housing

Mayor Leslie spoke to the correspondence from Sundre Seniors Housing and Care Committee so the MVSH can administer all of the properties.

Councillor Thompson questioned what happens with these letters when received for information and how responses should take place and requested that responding with letter received is not enough. Councillor Thompson further indicated that concerns require addressing. Mayor Leslie indicated that he would be happy to respond in letter format, however, would like direction from Council on the response that will be provided

19/14 Councillor Thompson moved to go In Camera at 8:43pm. **CARRIED**

20/14 Councillor Thompson moved to come over to come out of Camera at 9:28 pm. **CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT

21/14 Councillor Isaac moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 p.m. **CARRIED**



Mayor

I hereby certify these minutes are correct.



Chief Administrative Officer