

STARLAND COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 15TH, 2008

A regular meeting of the Council of Starland County was held in the Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, on Wednesday, October 15th, 2008, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present:	Reeve:	Barrie Hoover
	Deputy Reeve:	Allen Avramenko
	Councillors:	Murray Marshall, Norman Stanger and Terri Hebert
	Staff:	CAO R. Rawlusyk
		Recording Secretary S. Bremer

Moved that the minutes of the October 1st, 2008 regular meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council reviewed the monthly financial statement for the month ending September 30th, 2008.

Moved that Council approve the Monthly Financial Statement for the month ending September 30th, 2008 as reviewed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A comparison of outstanding taxes as of October 1st, 2008 as compared to October 1st, 2007 was reviewed by Council. The County successfully collected 94.94% of all outstanding taxes, showing a very good collection rate once again.

Assistant CAO Bremer reviewed a detailed financial report for the County as of September 30th, 2008 with Council. This review outlined the County's status on the revenues and expenditures incurred to date.

At 10:10 a.m., Manager Riep attended the meeting and reviewed his Municipal Services Report with Council.

CAO Rawlusyk provided an update on the Solar Power Projects for Morrin and Munson. Atco Electric advised that the inspections are now complete at these two sites and Atco is presently reviewing the Interconnection and Operating Agreements. It was also noted that we will not receive any compensation for energy until the cumulative meter is installed, which will not be before January 1, 2009. Chief Administrative Officer Rawlusyk also reviewed a summary of the Delia Power Generation Report with Council.

A Red Deer River Watershed Alliance Open House is to be held in the Drumheller Inn on October 27th, 2008 between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

At 10:50 a.m., Manager Riep departed from the meeting.

At 10:50 a.m., Public Works Supervisor Alksne attended the meeting and reviewed his Public Works Report with Council.

CAO Rawlusyk reviewed the 2009 capital equipment purchase estimates and delivery dates received from Finning Ltd. These quotes were for a new motor grader for the road crew, a new back-hoe and a new D7R tractor dozer. Finning noted that the quotes provided will increase by approximately 7% in 2009.

The Fall Road Tour date was re-scheduled for Monday, November 3rd, 2008, commencing at 8:00 a.m. from the Starland County Administration Office.

At 12:05 p.m., Public Works Supervisor Alksne departed from the meeting.

Chief Administrative Officer Ross Rawlusyk reviewed his CAO Report with Council.

CAO Rawlusk provided Council with written *"Notice of the Organizational Meeting of Council"* which is to be held on Tuesday, October 28th, 2008, in the Starland County Administrative Office, Morrin, Alberta, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

CN Rail has published a *"Notice of Discontinuance of Railway Line"* for the Dinosaur Spur, Headblock Mile 40.4 Drumheller Subdivision, from a point near Morrin to Dinosaur Junction (north of Munson), approximately 7.4 miles in total length. It will first be offered to parties interested in acquiring the railway line for the purpose of continuing railway operations. If no one is interested, it will then be offered to the provincial and municipal governments through whose territory the railway line passes. To date, one written expression of interest has been submitted by Banff Rail Co. Inc., looking at this line as a storage site for a future commuter service they are looking at from Drumheller to Banff. Council discussed the possibility of Starland County making an offer to purchase this railway line. CAO Rawlusk recommended that an offer be submitted to secure this section of line with the proviso that we could offer a donation for the value of the line. The offer would secure additional time to put together a package that could possibly include the Villages, the East Central Alberta Heritage Society and the Provincial Government.

Moved that Starland County submit an offer to purchase to CN Rail in the amount of \$10,000.00 for a portion of their railway line, specifically the Dinosaur Spur, Headblock Mile 40.4 Drumheller Subdivision, from a point near Morrin to Dinosaur Junction (north of Munson), approximately 7.4 miles in total length; and a cash donation taxable receipt in an amount equal to the balance of the appraised value of the line including any land and buildings that might be included.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

An Inter-Municipal Meeting was held on October 9th, 2008 between Starland County and the Villages of Morrin, Munson and Delia. The agenda items discussed included the following:

- FCSS Program - Regional program delivery options
- Town of Drumheller - Boil order insurance claim legal options
- Regional Fire Initiatives - Fire truck upgrades
- Rail Closures - Action approach (Morrin to Munson line)
- Regional Bylaw Services - Appointment of Bylaw Officer
- Village of Munson - Land expropriation (Munson Lagoon)
- Road / Public Works Issues
 - Village of Munson - Landfill road construction update
 - Morrin East Area Access Road - Transportation
 - County assistance in public works projects
- Regional Recreation / Development
 - Morrin Sod House
 - Munson Community Centre
 - Delia & District Ag Society - Solar
 - Aging of infrastructure - options

CAO Rawlusk advised Council that Mr. Ron Ranger had inquired once again with regards to Council's interest in purchasing his property for a viewpoint in the Handhills. To clarify Council's current status on this issue, CAO Rawlusk prepared a letter to Mr. Ranger, outlining the negotiations that have taken place to date and the current status of these negotiations.

Correspondence was received from Alberta Sustainable Resource Development with regards to the land-use framework goals, regional land-use plans, and a question and answer sheet on the Draft Land-use Framework. In addition, a map of the proposed Land-use Framework Planning Regions based on Municipal Districts and Watersheds was reviewed by Council.

Alberta Children's Services forwarded the January 1 - December 31, 2009 Family and Community Support Services Funding Agreement for Council's endorsement.

Moved that Starland County Council enter into an Agreement with Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Alberta as presented by the Minister of Children's Services for the 2009 Family and Community Support Services Funding Agreement (FCSS); and that the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to endorse this Agreement on behalf of Starland County.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Correspondence was received from Trident Exploration Corporation advising that Starland County's Surface Lease agreement on 12-29-33-20-W4M (File No. S00718-00) is due for renewal and that we have the right to have the rate of annual compensation reviewed. Council discussed this matter and advised CAO Rawlusyk to request a review of this annual rental agreement.

Council reviewed a letter requesting Council's consideration of cancelling the penalties applied to tax accounts for amounts outstanding as of October 1st, 2008. Council discussed this request, however, they didn't feel that these penalties should be cancelled.

Each of the Councillors present briefly reported on the various committees to which they are appointed.

Council Communications:

- i) Lac La Biche County re: AUMA Position Paper (One Association)
- ii) Drumheller and District Seniors Foundation re: Thank-you
- iii) Summit Environmental Consultants Ltd. Re: Environmentally Significant Areas (ESA)
- iv) R.C.M.P. re: "Between the Lines"
- v) Gerald Pilger re: Canadian Wheat Board Director
- vi) Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties
 - Contact Newsletter (1 issue)

Moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next regular meeting of the Council of Starland County is to be held in the Starland County Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, on Tuesday, October 28th, 2008, immediately following the Organizational Meeting of Council which is to commence at 9:00 a.m.