

STARLAND COUNTY

COUNCIL MEETING, MARCH 13, 2018

A regular meeting of the Council of Starland County was held in the Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, commencing at 9:07 a.m.

Attendance

Present: Reeve: Steve Wannstrom
Deputy Reeve: Bob Sargent
Councillors: Jackie Watts, John Rew and Murray Marshall
Staff: CAO Shirley Bremer
Financial Services Manager
Judy Fazekas

C18-046 Approval of Minutes

[C18-046] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the minutes of the February 28, 2018 regular meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved as read.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Accounts Checked

Councillor Marshall and Councillor Watts checked accounts with Administrative Assistant Laya Montgomery.

C18-047 Accounts

[C18-047] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that accounts (cheque numbers 46361 to 46420) totalling \$803,125.58 be approved for payment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Statements

The financial statements are pending the completion of the external audit.

CAO Report

Chief Administrative Officer Shirley Bremer reviewed her CAO Report with Council. Highlights of the report included the following:

- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities has provided an analysis of the Federal Budget highlighting areas of relevance for local governments. Items that may have an impact on our County include: an excise duty framework for cannabis with 75% of tax revenues flowing directly to the province/territories, with a portion to be allocated to local governments, to address their costs related to cannabis legalization; \$231.4M over 5 years to address the opioid crisis; \$180 billion investment over 12 years in infrastructure programs; \$100M over 5 years to support projects relating to low earth orbit satellites and next generation rural broadband; over \$300M over 5 years to reinforce RCMP and policing; \$75M dedicated to enhancing trade discussion with South American and Asian countries.
- The Speech from the Throne was delivered by Her Honour, Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta on March 8, 2018. The focus of her speech was aimed at ensuring Alberta's economic recovery was sustainable and built for regular Albertans. Some key initiatives included: the creation of new technology-focused spaces in our post-secondary institutions; renewable energy; stability in electricity prices; combatting crime through new initiatives; reforming Alberta's lobbyist laws to increase transparency; keeping taxes of people and businesses the lowest in Canada; expanding the \$25/day day-care pilot project; expanding the school lunch program; raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour; expanding crisis services for survivors of sexual violence; continuing work to reconcile legacy of Sixties Scoop; and

bringing clean drinking water to more First Nations communities.

- The province announced \$10M in new funding to fight rural crime. Funding will support the hiring of 39 new officers, 40 civilian positions as well as 10 Crown Prosecutors.
- Darcy Brown, OHS Officer from Red Deer, paid County Administration a visit on March 8, 2018. Although he wasn't conducting an official inspection, he was travelling around the region observing current work activities and meeting with various municipalities. Several areas of the OHS Toolkit for Small Businesses were reviewed including hazard assessment and control, emergency response plans, workplace violence procedures; working alone, worker training, as well as upcoming Bill 30 legislation changes to the OHS Act to be implemented June 1, 2018. Mr. Brown advised that he will be back in the spring to conduct an inspection on a portion of Starland County's operations.
- The National Safety Code training, held on March 9, 2018 at the Morrin Hall, was well attended by County staff and our volunteer firefighters. We were able to gather copies of driver's licenses and signatures for driver's abstracts so that the driver's files can be compliant with the National Safety Codes standards and the County can retain our Safety Fitness Certificate.
- At the recent Supervisor's Meeting, disposal of surplus assets was discussed. The Supervisors will be compiling a list of assets that will be sold through auction. There are some smaller items (i.e. slip tanks and filing cabinets) for which we may send out a request for sealed tenders.
- MPE Engineering conducted a free analysis to determine if a future Starland Fire Station/Truck Fill facility at Delia could be supplied with water from the existing Delia water distribution system or directly from the Henry Kroeger Regional Water System. Delia does not have capacity in their existing system, but water could easily be supplied from the HKRWS main which is located just along the south side of the two County lots.
- Employees have had an opportunity to select an award for the County's Safety Excellence recognition. Awards that were selected included the Lazy Bear Chair, Jumpstart car booster, and coveralls.

Assessment of
Bit Fury Bitcoin
Data Mine Facility

The 2018 assessment of the Bit Fury Data Mine facility has been received by the County. Based on legal opinions obtained by both Starland and Kneehill Counties, it has been determined that this facility will be assessed as commercial property. We will have to lobby our MLA and Municipal Affairs to have regulations and standards created for these types of properties.

Prairie Land
Regional Division
#25

CAO Bremer provided Council with background information regarding the informal agreement the County has with the Prairie Land Regional Division (PLRD) regarding the Family Resource Workers (FRW) in our area schools. As the FRWs fall under the FCSS program, they were once employed by the County. The school division took over the administration of these positions, and at that time a verbal agreement was made by County Administration to give PLRD \$40,000/annum in funding for the FRW program providing there were workers in both Morrin and Delia Schools. To date, we have not received any information regarding the status of this program in either school within our County. Council has requested that PLRD provide us with an update on the work that is being accomplished under the FRW program in Morrin and Delia Schools prior to paying the balance of funding for this school year.

PW Report

Public Works Supervisor, Al Pratt, attended the meeting at 10:13 a.m. and reviewed his report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- The PW crew has been brushing, but still need to finish the trees for firewood. Some of the PW crew have been operating the

spare graders, winging and ploughing snow. The PW crew has continued with: snow removal in hamlets with the backhoe, 1 tons and tandem; hauling concrete for erosion control; setting up the steamers and making more steam rods; making sure they have extra cam locks, culvert tips, etc.

- The majority of PW staff attended the National Safety Codes training on March 9, 2018.
- Most of the grader operators have changed over to V-ploughs as the wind has made hard drifts in the snow. The grader men have continued winging and ploughing snow on their roads, ploughing driveways, bins and yards as requested, and opening back roads so ratepayers can haul grain and to dry the roads quicker.
- Buck continues with the regular maintenance of the County's light duty fleet and CVIPs as required.
- Gary, Kevin and Thomas have been doing regular maintenance of the County's heavy-duty equipment and CVIPs as required. Gary will be completing the CVIPS on the fire trucks within the next couple of weeks.
- PW Supervisor Pratt took calls from Road Data re service rigs, fracking, heavy equipment hauling, etc.; took calls from rate payers re snow removal and water erosion; reviewed Road Use Agreement; met with the new contract grader operator; attended Safety Committee and Supervisors meetings; attended National Safety Codes training; and worked on bridge files.

Road Curfew	PW Supervisors advised Council that he will be contacting Road Data to put a curfew on road use during the day as the roads are getting soft, and frost and moisture are coming out of the roads during the day when the temperatures warm.
Contract Grader Operator	The new contract grader operator is set to commence work on Thursday, March 15, 2018 and is scheduled to receive his orientation on the same day. He will be operating a 2014 Volvo with 2200 hours.
Road Use Agreement	Marquee Energy Ltd moved their reels off the road the same day that PW Supervisor Pratt contacted them. However, it was noted that they have left two reels on the road at another location. The road use agreement was reviewed with Council and potential amendments were discussed addressing safety concerns that were previously raised by Council. PW Supervisor Pratt will revise paragraphs 5 and 6 of the current RUA for Council's review.
Transfer Station Bins	Tammi Nygaard from the Drumheller and District Solid Waste Management Association will be inspecting the County's transfer station bins. Frank will inspect the transfer station bins and advise PW which bins require welding and/or other maintenance. PW staff will complete any minor repairs.
Starland County Construction Projects	<i>Bridge Program</i> – PW Supervisor Pratt met with Stantec to establish plans and priorities for bridge repairs over the next few years. It was noted that several bridges will require major repairs or replacement in 2020. Other counties have started to do their own bridge repairs and Council was asked to consider this as an option for Starland County as significant savings could be realized by using our own crew and equipment. Some bridges could be replaced with hydraulically-fitted culverts and other bridges, on back roads with minimal traffic, could be replaced with low-level crossings. Administration will request that Stantec prepare a more concise report outlining which bridges could be repaired by County staff and which bridges will need to be tendered. <i>Road Program</i> – A summary and map of the 10-Year Road Construction Approved Program was circulated to Council for their review prior to the Road Trip and Road Meeting scheduled for April 26 th and 27 th , 2018 respectively.
Departure	Councillor Rew departed the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Departure	PW Supervisor Pratt departed the meeting at 11:18 a.m.
Return	Councillor Rew returned to the meeting at 11:19 a.m.
2018 AAMDC Spring Convention	CAO Bremer reviewed the convention schedule with Council as well as the following AAMDC Resolutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-18S Request for Implementation of the 2018 Assessment Year Modifier for Well and Pipeline Assessments• 2-18S Combatting Rural Crime• 3-18S Increase Crown Prosecutor Staffing Levels for Rural Municipalities• 4-18S Support for Continuation of Grant Funding for Agricultural Initiatives Program• 5-18S Provincial Government Consultation and Communication Protocol with Municipalities• 6-18S Wind Energy Regulations Required at Provincial Level• 7-18S Standards for Buildings Contaminated by Fentanyl and Carfentanil• 8-18S Amendments Required for Provincial Recycling Regulations• 9-18S Exemption of Seniors Housing from Requirement to Pay Carbon Levy• 10-18S Tenure Extension Requirements for Unconventional Development• 11-18S Recycling of Solar Panels• 12-18S Victim Services Units Funding
Ag in Motion Tour	Dara Kudras, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, attended the meeting at 11:20 a.m. Ms. Kudras was seeking support from Council for a County-sponsored two-day bus tour to the Ag in Motion farm expo which takes place north-west of Saskatoon, SK in July. Ag in Motion brings innovation to the field through interactive exhibits and live field and crop plot demonstrations. The primary objective of this tour is to showcase new technologies in agriculture to our area farmers. Sponsorship from local businesses is being sought to offset costs of the tour. The tour will be offered at a price of \$150 per person which will include transportation (bus), hotel (double occupancy), two breakfasts, and one supper. This tour will replace the traditional farm tour that takes place each summer.
<u>C18-048</u> Ag in Motion Tour	<u>[C18-048] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL</u> that the Council of Starland County support the Ag in Motion Tour to take place July 17-18, 2018, which will replace the 2018 Summer Farm Tour. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Departure	Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Kudras departed the meeting at 11:57 a.m.
Genesis – 2017 Insurance Review	Starland County's five-year insurance claim history was reviewed and very few claims were noted. CAO Bremer advised Council that Genesis is now giving a 2% rebate to their clients to be used towards their County safety program.
Regional Intermunicipal Collaborative Framework – AAMDC Training	CAO Bremer advised Council that the AAMDC is providing one-day training workshops on the Regional Intermunicipal Collaborative Framework. Starland County will send two Administration staff to one of the sessions.
BluEarth – Hand Hills Wind Project	Council was provided with an update on the Hand Hills Wind Project. Although BluEarth did not qualify on Round 1 of the Renewable Energy Program, they are working on enhancing the Hand Hills Wind Project to ensure that it is as competitive as possible in order to be successful in

Rounds 2 or 3. Enhancements include optimizing the size of the Project and amending their Alberta Utilities Commission permit to allow for newer turbines. Glen Riep did meet with BluEarth last week and will provide a further update at the next meeting.

Safety Codes Council Accreditation Award

Cynthia Cvik of Palliser Regional Municipal Services Ltd has asked that Starland County be a co-applicant nominating Palliser Regional Municipal Services for an Accreditation Award from the Safety Codes Council of Alberta.

C18-049
Safety Codes Council Accreditation Award

[C18-049] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that Starland County be a co-applicant nominating Palliser Regional Municipal Services for an Accreditation Award from the Safety Codes Council of Alberta.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Amateur Team Grant Request

An Amateur Team Grant Application was received from the Nova VBall Club. There are currently 40 registered team members. The grant funds each application at \$50.00 per participant to a maximum of \$2,000.00.

C18-050
Amateur Team Grant

[C18-050] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that Starland County approve a 2018 Amateur Team Grant payment to the Nova VBall Club in the amount of \$2,000.00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Committee Reports

Each of the councillors in attendance briefly reported on the various committees to which they are appointed.

Council Communications

Council Communications:

- i) Insight Into Government (2 issues)
- ii) Palliser Regional Municipal Services – Minutes of Board Meeting, December 13, 2017
- iii) Prairie Land Pride Newsletter
- iv) Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties – Contact Newsletter (2 issues)

Accounts

Accounts – see prior motion.

CHAMBERS, GARY N.	CK# 46361	240.69
OLMSTEAD & SONS BUILDING MOVERS	CK# 46362	241,500.00
Sub-Total:	\$	241,740.69
AAMDC	CK# 46363	22,633.26
Sub-Total:	\$	22,633.26
A.P.I. ALARM INC.	CK# 46364	220.50
A&D HARPER TIRE (1979) LTD.	CK# 46365	3,190.64
AAMDC	CK# 46366	22,466.16
ALBERTA GOVERNMENT SERVICES	CK# 46367	162.00
ALBERTA ONE-CALL CORPORATION	CK# 46368	63.00
ALLIED DISTRIBUTORS DRUM LTD.	CK# 46369	1,634.22
ATB FINANCIAL MASTERCARD	CK# 46370	13,509.10
BIG COUNTRY GAS CO-OP	CK# 46371	833.64
BIG SKY CALL CENTERS INC.	CK# 46372	323.81
BILLS FARM SUPPLIES	CK# 46373	410.94
BROWNEE LLP	CK# 46374	201.29

BRZ PARTNERSHIP ARCHITECTURE	CK# 46375	4,832.10
CANADA REVENUE AGENCY	CK# 46376	28.88
DRUMHELLER SOLID WASTE	CK# 46377	71.02
DRUMHELLER CHRYSLER LTD.	CK# 46378	105.00
DRUMHELLER CO-OP LTD.	CK# 46379	92.36
FRESON BROS DRUMHELLER	CK# 46380	391.52
GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA	CK# 46381	61.90
HACH SALES & SERVICE CANADA LP	CK# 46382	2,846.87
HENRY KROEGER REGIONAL WATER	CK# 46383	6,275.28
HI-WAY 9 EXPRESS LTD.	CK# 46384	276.66
KUDRAS, DARA	CK# 46385	201.86
KUHL TUF WEAR LTD.	CK# 46386	157.50
LEAR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT	CK# 46387	310,338.04
LAPP	CK# 46388	26,100.73
MARSHALL, MURRAY	CK# 46389	285.48
MORRIN FOODS	CK# 46390	311.15
MPE ENGINEERING LTD.	CK# 46391	2,694.55
OLMSTEAD & SONS BUILDING MOVERS	CK# 46392	560.83
PETTY CASH	CK# 46393	61.25
PITNEYWORKS	CK# 46394	6,000.00
PRINTER WORLD INTERNATIONAL	CK# 46395	506.10
RECEIVER GENERAL OF CANADA	CK# 46396	46,323.08
REW, JOHN	CK# 46397	284.56
RIEP, GLEN	CK# 46398	403.30
ROADATA SERVICES LTD.	CK# 46399	551.25
SARGENT, ROBERT	CK# 46400	266.39
SEED CHECK TECHNOLOGIES INC.	CK# 46401	63.00
SLGM	CK# 46402	1,837.00
SPARTAN CONTROLS LTD.	CK# 46403	4,781.70
STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.	CK# 46404	28,806.40
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY	CK# 46405	18,635.60
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY	CK# 46406	160.65
TELUS COMMUNICATIONS INC.	CK# 46407	1,521.11
THE DRUMHELLER MAIL	CK# 46408	5,578.76
TOWN OF DRUMHELLER	CK# 46409	1,645.26
TRINUS TECHNOLOGIES INC.	CK# 46410	1,102.71
TURRIS COMMUNICATIONS LTD.	CK# 46411	270.22
VILLAGE OF DELIA	CK# 46412	122.00
VILLAGE OF MORRIN	CK# 46413	240.10
WANNSTROM, STEVE	CK# 46414	5,099.41
WARWICK PRINTING CO. LTD	CK# 46415	101.85
WATER PURE & SIMPLE	CK# 46416	137.00
WATTS, JACKIE	CK# 46417	2,285.20
WESTCAN ADVANCED COMM	CK# 46418	1,118.51
WILD ROSE ASSESSMENT SERVICE	CK# 46419	9,135.00
WOLSELEY WATERWORKS	CK# 46420	3,067.19

Sub-Total: \$ 538,751.63

TOTAL: \$ 803,125.58

**C18-051
Adjournment**

[C18-051] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the meeting be adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Council of Starland County is to be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, in the Starland County Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

**Reeve:
Steven Wannstrom**

**Chief Administrative Officer:
Shirley Bremer**