STARLAND COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 11TH, 2012

A regular meeting of the Council of Starland County was held in the Administration Office, Morrin, Alberta, on Tuesday, December 11th, 2012, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Present:

Reeve:

Barrie Hoover

Deputy Reeve: Councillors:

Allen Avramenko Murray Marshall, Norman Stanger and

Bob Sargent

Staff:

CAO R. Rawlusyk

Special Projects Manager M. Kreke Recording Secretary S. Bremer

C12-215 Approval of Minutes

[C12-215] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the minutes of the November 27th, 2012 regular meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Accounts Checked Councillors Marshall and Sargent checked accounts with Administrative Assistant Laya Montgomery.

C12-216 Approval of Accounts

[C12-216] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that accounts (cheque no. 35750 to 35831 inclusive) totalling \$346,129.97, be approved for payment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Statement Council reviewed the monthly financial statement for the month ending November 30th, 2012.

C12-217 Approval of Financial Statement

[C12-217] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that Council approve the Monthly Financial Statement for the month ending November 30thth, 2012 as reviewed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Attendance of Tim Ell, Auditor, Endeavor Chartered Accountants At 10:10 a.m., Tim Ell, Auditor from Endeavor Chartered Accountants, attended the meeting to review various information items with Starland County's Audit Committee, the Council of Starland County. He reviewed his responsibilities as Auditor for Starland County as well as Council's responsibilities as the County's Audit Committee. In addition, the Audit Committee is required to complete a questionnaire assessing the risk of error due to fraud. Management also completed a fraud questionnaire, assessing the risk of fraud from management's opinion. Mr. Ell departed from the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Attendance of PWS Pratt & PW Report At 11:00 a.m., Public Works Supervisor Pratt attended the meeting and reviewed his Public Works Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- Crews are plowing snow, helping with inventory, fixing and installing bridge railings and signs, cutting wood, etc.
- Grader men are plowing in the new grader beat areas. The last snow fall took approximately 2 days to get through.
- Stantec is surveying the County's gravel stockpiles for auditor / inventory purposes.

BF 9564 Assessment Report Stantec Consulting Ltd. forwarded the bridge assessment report that they prepared for Bridge File No. 9564. This bridge structure is located on a section of roadway that was widened in 2011 to an 8.6 metre top with the exception of the section over BF 9564 which allows a 7.2 metre clear roadway due to the current length of the culvert barrel. This assessment determined that the existing 2 cell concrete box culvert is hydraulically adequate, however they recommend to extend the existing culvert 2 metres on each end to provide a 9 metre clear roadway, and that this extension should be completed within the next 2 to 4 years. The opinion of probable cost for this work is \$200,000.

C12-218
BF 9564
Assessment
Report to be
forwarded to AT

[C12-218] MOVED BY REEVE HOOVER

that the Bridge Culvert Assessment prepared by Stantec Consulting Ltd. for BF 9564, be forwarded to Alberta Transportation for their consideration of funding.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Highway Maintenance Issues Council discussed the many concerns raised with regards to highway maintenance in this area. A copy of the letter prepared by Rick Strankman, MLA, Drumheller-Stettler and forwarded to Hon. Ric McIver, Minister of Transportation, was reviewed, as well as the guidelines for submitting petitions to the legislative assembly. CAO Rawlusyk also prepared a draft letter to the Hon. Ric McIver, Minister of Alberta Transportation, addressing the lack or standard of maintenance on our local highways. In addition, a petition will be prepared and circulated.

C12-219
Motion to forward letter re: Highway Maintenance Issues

[C12-219] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR SARGENT

that Starland County Council forward a letter of concern to the Hon. Ric McIver, Minister of Alberta Transportation, with regards to the lack or standard of road maintenance on our local highways.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Departure of PWS Pratt Public Works Supervisor Al Pratt departed from the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

CAO Report

Chief Administrative Officer Ross Rawlusyk reviewed his CAO Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- Endeavor Accounting completed their interim audit at the end of November, in preparation of Starland County's 2012 Financial Audit. The inventory count is still ongoing and Stantec has been contracted to survey all the main gravel stockpiles. In addition, the Auditor has asked that we calculate our reclamation liability in order to establish a liability expense for these gravel operations.
- Another new item required for our Audit this year is the completion of a survey / information gathering on fraud and the steps the County is taking to prevent fraud. Council, as the Audit Committee, will also be required to complete a survey on fraud exposure.
- Another issue relating to our Audit is the issue of related entities.
 Alberta Municipal Affairs has not yet released their guidelines on how they want the financial liability of related entities reported. Our Auditor has asked us to put together a list of entities we feel are related and then to gather the last years financial transactions and copies of all agreements for each entity.
- The Annual Starland County Christmas party was a great success. The 100th Anniversary of the Municipal District of Star Land No. 307 was also celebrated and past staff and council members were recognized. In addition, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medals were presented to the five Reeve's of Starland County that are still alive. He extended thanks to the organizing

committee as well as to all the staff and council that attended the party.

- Bill 6, the Property Rights Advocate Act, received Royal Assent this past March. The Act calls for the creation of a Property Rights Advocate who would report to the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General. This appointee is Lee Cutforth, a Lethbridge based lawyer. The Advocate will work out of Lethbridge, where the Property Rights Advocate Office will be located. The office will open in January and Albertans can access information on their individual property rights.
- The Fire Committee met on November 29th and reviewed and ratified the last of the changes for the new Fire Master Agreement. The agreement is now being circulated for signatures.
- Reviewing a summary of solar production sites installed by Goosecreek, Ross noted that Delia and Morrin have consistently ranked in the top 10 solar producers in Alberta, with Delia being number one most of the time.

Attendance of O. Sheddy & S/Sgt. A. Hopkins

Community Liaison Officer Proposal

General Discussion

Attendance of Manager Riep & Municipal Services Report At 11:50 a.m., Ozzie Sheddy from the Drumheller Mail and S/Sgt. Art Hopkins, from the Drumheller RCMP Detachment, attended the meeting.

S/Sgt. Hopkins reviewed his proposal to implement a new Community Liaison Officer into his personnel to better serve the needs of all communities within the Drumheller Detachment area. This position would be an additional resource, not funded within the current contract. To offset the cost for this resource, funding is being sought from other clients within this area.

Mr. Sheddy discussed some general topics with Council and then treated Council to lunch. Mr. Sheddy and S/Sgt. Hopkins departed from the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

At 1:05 p.m., Manager Riep attended the meeting and reviewed his Municipal Services Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:

- Regular daily/weekly duties are ongoing;
- They experienced a large water break on the Starland Regional System, losing 360 gallons/minute (1600 litres/minute). It took some time to locate the break which was finally located south of Don Adams farm in the field. The line was repaired Friday morning and returned to service later that evening. Flushing was necessary and appropriate testing and sampling was completed before the water line could be returned to normal service.
- John Cranton's service line has now been repaired. Upon opening up the connection for inspection, it was found that the line feeding the meter vault was completely blocked with debris in the line, which indicated that it had not been flushed out properly by the contractor during installation.
- The Fire Protection Agreement is now ready for adoption by the participating municipalities.
- He provided Council with a copy of his Annual Fire Marshall's Report. The summary of this report noted the increase in fire calls from previous years; the types of calls are also changing as there have been many more hazardous or dangerous goods incidents within the County this past year.
- Suncor development applications have been reviewed and conditionally approved by the MPC for the construction of the 31 power turbine tower sites in the Hand Hills.
- He attended the Rural Utility and Safety Association Conference last week in Red Deer. He was presented with the "Charlie Davies" Outstanding Achievement Award" for excellence in the field of Municipal Utilities and Leadership in Safety development. It is awarded in recognition of dedicated and exemplary service within Local Government and with the Rural Utilities Association

in the professional development of those programs.

Fire Protection Agreement CAO Rawlusyk and Manager Riep reviewed the changes and amendments to the Fire Protection Agreement. This Agreement was reviewed by the Starland Fire Protection Committee and they recommended approval of same.

C12-220 Approval of Fire Protection Agreement

[C12-220] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that Starland County approve and renew the Regional Fire Protection Agreement between Starland County and the Villages of Delia, Morrin and Munson; that this agreement be valid from 2012 to 2021; and that the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to endorse this Agreement on behalf of Starland County.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

HKRWC re: Increase in water rates CAO Rawlusyk advised Council that the Henry Kroeger Regional Water Commission will be increasing their water rates to \$1.82 per cubic metre. Council discussed this issue and noted that the County's rate charged will need to increase as a result of this increase.

C12-221 Motion to increase water rates (HKRWC)

[C12-221] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the water rates be increased for all Starland County water facilities and lines operating with water received from the Henry Kroeger Regional Water Commission from \$1.50 per cubic metre to \$1.82 per cubic meter, effective January 1st, 2013.

MOTION CARRIED.

Departure of Manager Riep

At 1:40 p.m., Manager Riep departed from the meeting.

Fall 2012 AAMDC Convention Highlights A copy of the Fall 2012 Convention Highlights from the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties were distributed to Council for their review.

Approval of 2011 MSI Capital SFE

Correspondence was received from Alberta Municipal Affairs, confirming that Starland County's certified 2011 Capital Statement of Funding and Expenditures (SFE) has been submitted as required and that they have reviewed our report and are satisfied that the reporting requirements of the MSI Memorandum of Agreement have been met and all reported projects have been accepted by the Minister.

Climate Change Workshop Summary of Proceedings

CAO Rawlusyk provided Council with a summary of proceedings from the Community Action on Climate Change Workshop which was held in Edmonton on November 6th, 2012.

CFSA Board Members Required Correspondence was received from Alberta Human Services, noting that they are currently accepting applications for board members to the 10 Child and Family Services Authorities (CFSAs). The CFSAs are responsible for planning and overseeing the programs and services for children, youth and families in the regions. The deadline for applications is December 14, 2012.

C12-222 Cancellation of December 25th, 2012 Meeting

[C12-222] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE AVRAMENKO

that the regular meeting of the Council of Starland County scheduled for Tuesday, December 25th, 2012, be cancelled.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C12-223 Cancellation of January 22nd, 2013 Meeting

[C12-223] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the regular meeting of the Council of Starland County scheduled for Tuesday, January 22nd, 2013, be cancelled due to the conflict with the A.S.B. Convention.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Committee Reports

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

Council Communications

Council Communications:

- i) FCM President Karen Leibovici re: President's Corner
- ii) Drumheller's Centennial Celebration Committee re: Drumheller has 100 Years to Roar About in 2013
- iii) Red Deer River Watershed Alliance re: "Reach Out"
- iv) Drumheller Area Health Foundation re: Year End Report 2012
- v) Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties
 - Member Bulletin re: President Barss Talks Bridges on Alberta Primetime
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities Highlights (November 20 - 23, 2012 in Ottawa)

CK# 35750 \$

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Contact Newsletter (2 issues)

Accounts

Accounts - see prior motion.

ENMAX

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TOTAL:

\$ 346,129.97

C12-224 Adjournment

[C12-224] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR SARGENT

that the meeting be adjourned at 2:45 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, January 8th, 2013, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

J. Barrie Hoover

Chief Administrative Officer:

Ross D. Rawlusyk

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