

MINUTES

Yellowhead County Council held a meeting on February 10, 2009 at 9:32 a.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Yellowhead County Administration Building in Edson, Alberta.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Gerald Soroka, Mayor
Larry Richter, Deputy Mayor & Councillor, Division No. 4
George Webster, Councillor, Division No. 1
Ewald Kwirant, Councillor, Division No. 2
Jay Lowe, Councillor, Division No. 3
William Velichko, Councillor, Division No. 6
Roxanne Scherger, Councillor, Division No. 7
Lavone Olson, Councillor, Division No. 8

COUNCILLORS ABSENT:

Cheryl Bissell, Councillor, Division No. 5

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Jack Ramme, Chief Administrative Officer
Linde Proskow, Council Secretary/Recording Secretary
Catherine Adair, Communications Coordinator
Barb Lyons, Director of Corporate and Planning Services
Michael Steffler, Project Engineer
Debbie Charest, Director of Community and Protective Services

Mayor Soroka called the council meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

1.1 ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2009 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

RES 045-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Scherger that Council adopts the February 10, 2009 regular council meeting agenda as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2.1 ADOPTION OF THE JANUARY 27, 2009 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

RES 046-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Webster that Council adopts the January 27, 2009 regular council meeting minutes as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.1 J.V. GOEBEL- SCHEDULED PUBLIC PRESENTATION

J.V. Goebel made a verbal presentation to Council with regard to the proposed subdivision of his existing lot into two parcels. Mr. Goebel proposed:

- that the new lot created by the proposed subdivision should have its own separate access,
- did not want to cut down his trees in order to have a dual approach,
- felt that it would be a safety issue if he had to build a dual approach,
- his driveway was 144 metres from the proposed driveway – he could if necessary move his driveway to 150 metres apart,
- there should be no restrictions regarding the number of driveways on a parcel, everyone should have their own driveway.

4.1 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL ORIENTATION POLICY 1100.13

Administration advised that during the governance refresher session held in October 2008, discussion had taken place with the facilitator with respect to the importance of Council Orientation. Yellowhead County was very proactive and had provided orientation sessions both for Yellowhead County and municipal neighbors but the initiative was not policy driven.

To ensure that this important initiative occurred not only after an election cycle, but annually, a policy had been drafted that formalized the process and budget parameters.

RES 047-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Olson that Council approves Council Orientation Policy 1100.13 as presented;

AND THAT sufficient funds were allocated in the annual budget with respect to Council Orientation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL PROCLAMATION POLICY 1100.14

Administration had reviewed and redrafted Council Proclamation Policy CP 11.09. The intent of the revised policy was to ensure that the Proclamation process was not abused by being used for every cause submitted to Council. The policy focused on Council proclamations to significant Municipal issues, as opposed to all issues from any and all groups/entities.

Policy 1100.14 also allowed for the acknowledgement of events that might not be appropriate for proclamation but might be deemed suitable to be advertised for ratepayer awareness on the Yellowhead County page of the local newspaper.

RES 048-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Kwirant that Council approves Council Proclamation Policy 1100.14 as presented;

AND THAT Council Policy CP 11.09 Council Proclamations was rescinded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROACH – MR. J.V. GOEBEL, NE 3-53-14-W5M

Administration advised that Mr. Goebel had enquired about subdividing an existing lot into two separate lots with a separate access for the newly created lot. There were currently three subdivided lots off of the quarter section and each lot had its own separate access off of Range Road 142. A separate approach for the proposed lot would be the fourth access off a local road and that did not comply with Yellowhead County Access Management Policy 3200.08 which allowed for a maximum of three approaches for each one half mile of County local road adjacent to a subdivided quarter section. The proposed location of the new access also did not comply with the Access Management Policy which allowed for a minimum of 150 metre separation distance between approaches.

Mr. Goebel was notified by the Planning and Development Department that in order to comply with Yellowhead County Access Management Policy 3200.08 for this proposed subdivision, the existing approach had to be relocated and reconstructed as a dual approach for both lots.

RES 049-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Richter that Council denies Mr. Goebel's request for Council to relax Access Management Policy 3200.08;

AND THAT one dual approach would be allowed on the proposed subdivision on NE 3-53-14-W5M.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.1 ARTS AND HERITAGE STRATEGIC PLAN

Administration advised that the Committee of the Whole for Yellowhead County had participated in a facilitated discussion on the role of the municipality in arts, culture and heritage. The process provided an opportunity to move toward common understandings on the definition of arts, culture and heritage, consider the value to the community and review what support Yellowhead County currently provided.

Two documents were attached to the agenda package as provided by the consultant, Carol Watson:

- 1) Summary of committee discussions and agreement on:
 - a) Definitions of culture which was the umbrella for arts and heritage programs.
 - b) Definition of art as including dance, theatre, music, visual arts, writing & publishing.
 - c) Definition of heritage as including both natural (natural environment) and human (built environment) heritage.
 - d) Agreed statements regarding the value of arts, culture and heritage:
 - i) Arts and culture contribute to the quality of life,
 - ii) Arts and culture contribute to bringing the community together,
 - iii) The municipality had a responsibility to protect and nourish the history of Yellowhead County,
 - iv) Arts and culture played a positive role in bringing together a diversity of artists,
 - v) Arts positively contributed to Yellowhead County's image,
 - vi) Arts and culture could be an economic engine,
 - vii) Arts and culture could attract and retain residents.
- 2) Strategic work plan for implementation of an arts and heritage program which included:
 - a) Heritage sites project:
 - i) Inventory analysis by private consultant – 2009,
 - ii) Heritage signage policy – 2009,
 - iii) Implementation of signage program – 2010.

- b) Historical non-profit group grant program:
 - i) Historical funding policy – 2009,
 - ii) Development of a budget package – 2009.
- c) Historical cemeteries project:
 - i) Terms of reference for Mountain Park project,
 - ii) Development of project budget – 2009.
- d) Arts funding project:
 - i) Arts funding policy – 2009,
 - ii) Possible committee/board development,
 - iii) Development of budget package – 2009.
- e) Public Art Policy – Develop in 2010.

Implementation of the work plan involved a 2009 final budget revision that allowed for a consultant to be hired to do the historical sites inventory. Considerable staff time would be required in 2009 to complete provincial funding application for this inventory, to develop the policies for signage, historical group funding and arts funding and to develop the 2010 budget for arts and heritage support.

RES 050-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Scherger that Council approves the strategic plan for the implementation of an arts and heritage program in Yellowhead County;

AND THAT the Heritage sites project inventory analysis by a private consultant was limited to public historic sites within Yellowhead County only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Soroka recessed the regular council meeting at 10:14 a.m.
Mayor Soroka reconvened the regular council meeting at 10:27 a.m.

8.1 COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES SCHEDULE

Council reviewed the Council and Council Committees Schedule.

RES 051-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Kwirant that Council accepts for information the Council and Council Committees Schedule with the following amendments:

- Add "February 19, 2009 Media Relations Seminar, Edson"; and
- Cancel "February 26, 2009 ASB Meeting"; and
- Add "March 6, 2009 RMRF Law Seminar"; and
- Change "April 22, 23 and 24, 2009" to "April 21, 22 and 23, 2009".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE DATED FEBRUARY 2, 2009

Council reviewed the Council Information Package dated February 2, 2009.

RES 052-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Webster that Council accepts for information the Council Information Package dated February, 2009 as previously circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3 ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES UPDATE - JANUARY 2009

Council reviewed the January 2009 Organizational Issues update.

RES 053-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Kwirant that Council accepts for information the January 2009 Organizational Issues update from the Chief Administrative Officer.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.0 MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

RES 054-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Olson that Council accepts for information the reports submitted by Councillors Bissell, Lowe and Webster and Mayor Soroka.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.0 MEDIA ENQUIRIES

The media had no questions.

Mayor Soroka recessed the regular council meeting at 10:38 a.m.
Mayor Soroka reconvened the regular council meeting at 10:40 a.m.

12.0 IN-CAMERA SESSION

RES 055-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Richter that Council enters into an In-Camera Session at 10:40 a.m. to discuss land and legal issues.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- RES 056-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Webster that Council ends the In-Camera Session at 11:02 a.m.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- RES 057-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Richter that Council advises the Province that it wished to acquire the parcel of land situated on part of NE 34-54-14-W5M for a nominal value as the parcel served a public good.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- RES 058-02-10-09 MOVED BY Councillor Lowe that Council adjourns the regular council meeting at 11:04 a.m.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYOR, Gerald Soroka

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, Jack Ramme