

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHIPMAN
DECEMBER 12, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Jim Palmer called the regular monthly meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

In attendance were Mayor Palmer, Councillors Stead and Stribling, and administrator Pat Tomkow.

One member of the public attended the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M#161-2005 Stead: that the agenda be adopted as printed and distributed together with the addition of fire department payroll approval and holiday hours.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M#162-2005 Stead: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held November 14, 2005 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

M#163-2005 Stribling: that the Minutes of Special Meeting held November 28, 2005 be adopted as printed and circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Stead, the County Ambulance Board Chairman, indicated that the Board was faced with a limited time frame to obtain an alternate service provider. Mayor Palmer responded with concerns over past business decisions resulting in enormous costs to borne by this community. Usage indicates that only two trips were made from Chipman the past year.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

a) ACRA (Alberta Capital Region Association) Membership

This matter had been tabled at the last meeting. Lamont County bulletin seeking interest of local councils in becoming members of ACRA following County Council decision to join the economic alliance was included with the agenda. Benefits and time commitments were outlined in the memo. Per capita cost of membership - \$0.40.

M#164-2005 Palmer: that the Village of Chipman become a member for a one-year term.

Carried Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE for Information:

a) Alberta Municipal Affairs

Copy of Minister's letter to Reeve Woldanski approving a Regional Partnership Initiative Implementation Grant of \$100,000 to assist local municipalities in implementing regional agreements and processes for bylaw enforcement, safety/training coordination, waste transfer station design, utilities and public works, fire services, recreation and economic development.

b) Federation of Canadian Municipalities

November 17, 2005 members' advisory regarding impact of an early election on federal transfers for municipalities.

c) Angela Kostiuk

November 15th, 2005 letter advising that upon termination of hall tenancy, the appointment as the Village LEAP Board is no longer appropriate.

d) Leon Benoit, M.P.

November 16, 2005 follow up letter to Hon Brian Pettigrew regarding concerns with the passport renewal process.

M#165-2005 Stribling: that the foregoing correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A summary statement of Operating Revenues and Expenditures together with a Capital summary for the period ending November 30, 2005 had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that other the truck fill expenditures, there had been little change in the capital summary from the previous month.

M#166-2005 Stead: that the Revenue Expense report for the period ending November 30, 2005 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

M#167-2005 Stribling: that the statement of Capital Funding and Capital Project Expenditures be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

M#168-2005 Stribling: that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 20050414 to 20050447 inclusive, for the total sum of \$19,609.47 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation-Converting to Direct Deposit

Correspondence from Infrastructure Manager Brian Reid regarding streamlining of Alberta Transportation financial transaction processes, all municipalities will be receiving grant payments in the future by electronic transfer. Acknowledgement letter and void blank cheque requested by department for processing of future grant payments.

M#169-2005 Palmer: that Council approve the direct deposit conversion for future grant payments from Alberta Transportation.

Carried Unanimously

b) Kalyna County 2006 Membership and Community Ad

Kalyna marketing program renewal indicates that membership will remain at \$200 however the community ad cost will increase from \$275 to \$400 because ads are now colored.

Council raised issue with cost concerns and in the ensuing discussion it was agreed that Council would seek support of the Ag Society and Car Crafters to minimize the impact of the rate increase.

c) Franchise Agreement ATCO Gas

Mayor Palmer elaborated on recent discussions with ATCO representatives concerning elimination of the franchise fees from the current agreement. It was felt that the franchise tax was an unfair burden as the rate is passed on to residents in the gas billings. An information package, proposed agreement and required bylaw were circulated with the agenda.

It was noted that ATCO proposed a 15-year term whereas the Village is looking to a 5-year agreement trial period.

M#170-2005 Palmer: that this matter be tabled to the next meeting pending clarification of a 5-year agreement with ATCO Gas.

Carried Unanimously

d) 2006 Municipal Software Support Agreement

Notice from Muniware that the municipal software agreement will increase in 2006. The annual amount after calculating cost split with Commission including GST \$2,437.23, an increase of \$29.86.

M#171-2005 Palmer: that the arrangements be maintained for the 2006 year.

Carried Unanimously

e) Emergency Public Warning Training Sessions (EPWS)

It was noted by District Officer Bill Boswick of Emergency Management Alberta that there are no persons certified in Lamont County municipalities for EPWS. Training sessions to access the Alberta Emergency Public Warning System will be offered January 18, 2006 in Lamont.

M#172-2005 Stribling: that Mayor Palmer, Councillor Stead, the Administrator attend the January 18th EPWS, training session in Lamont.

Carried Unanimously

f) Jubilee Insurance –Renewal of Volunteer and Fire Department Coverage

Current Plan 'A' premium for firefighters remains unchanged at \$400. Premium for community volunteer coverage increased from \$150 to \$200. Cost comparisons revealed that Jubilee Insurance was the best option.

M#173-2005 Palmer: that the premium renewal for Jubilee Insurance be approved.

Carried Unanimously

g) Alberta Transportation Highway Signage Program

Notice of program revision. Effective November 2005 the Government of Alberta will provide additional funding to now cover the majority of costs associated with the new Community Attraction and facility signs. These include name panel, structure posts, a service panel displaying a maximum of 6 symbols. Maintenance, repair, cleaning and replacement costs will be borne by the province.

M#174-2005 Palmer: that the Village take the basic package offered through the revised program.

Carried Unanimously

i) Christmas Holiday Hours

M#175-2005 Palmer: that holiday hours be set as noted:

-Monday, December 26, 2005: Closed

-Tuesday, December 27, 2005: Closed

Garbage collection will take place Tuesday, December 27th
at the regular time of 8:00 a.m.

-Monday, January 2, 2006: Closed

Carried Unanimously

REPORTS:

a) Administrator's

The administrator provided a report, which made reference to the following:

- Food Permit issued by East Central Health for the National Hall.
- \$10,733 advanced by County under fire services agreement
- WCB premium reduction 13.4%. 2006 premium \$1.23, 2005 @\$1.42
- \$10,000 full enhanced grant for insulating National Hall received under Municipal Sponsorship Program
- Mayor's and CAO's meeting originally scheduled for December has been cancelled until some time in the next year.
- 2006 Census scheduled for May 16, 2006. Free promotional materials offered by federal government.
- Kalyna Country Meeting December 13, 2005 - 7:30 p.m. Village of Andrew.
- Sturgeon Rewind resubmitted invoice for warranty work.
- Receipt of annual rental from Chipman Ag Society.

M#176-2005 Palmer: that the administrator's report be accepted for information.

Carried Unanimously

b) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i) Ambulance Board

Covered earlier in the meeting.

ii) Fire Department

Burning of ditches suggested for fire practice.

iii) County of Lamont Regional Landfill Commission

Councillor Stribling reported on the recent Commission meeting noting that a 5-year budget was adopted and that the landfill requisition will increase by 20% in 2006.

iv) County of Lamont Senior's Foundation

No Items.

Committee Reports (Cont'd)

iv) Capital Region Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission

Board Chairman Mayor Palmer reported that the Commission in setting its budget for 2006 approved a water rate increase of \$0.04 per cubic metre.

v) LEAP (Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership)

Handout of meeting notes circulated to Council.

vi) Chipman Agricultural Society

Councillor Stribling reported that Fred Olson will replace Bruce McGregor as president of the Ag Society.

viii) FCSS (Family and Community Support Services)

Councillor Stribling reported that a meeting of FCSS will be held the following day in Chipman.

M#177-2005 Stead: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

ADJOURNMENT:

M#178-2005 Stead: that the meeting be adjourned.

Time: 9:03 p.m.

Mayor, Jim Palmer

Administrator, Pat Tomkow