

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHIPMAN
January 9, 2006**

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.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M#1-2006 Stribling: that the agenda be adopted as printed and distributed together with the deletion Item 8(c) Amendments to Water Rate Schedule.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M#2-2006 Palmer: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held December 12, 2005 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

a) ATCO Gas Franchise Agreement

Copies of an amending agreement were included with the agenda. In addition to the cancellation of franchise fees, the term of the agreement was reduced to 5 years.

Mayor Palmer provided rationale for the changes. It was noted that franchise fees are passed on as a charge on utility bills and become revenue of the municipality representing a hidden tax.

The process for the agreement renewal was outlined and including the required documentation.

M#3-2006 Stead: that the Village of Chipman accept the terms of the franchise renewal as proposed and that Bylaw No 513-2006 authorizing the execution of a Franchise Agreement between ATCO Gas and the Village of Chipman be given first reading.

Carried Unanimously

b) Kalyna Country Membership

Administration reported on a meeting with Kevin Kisilevich of Kalyna Country and advised that \$200 membership retains the community page, header and basic editorial. The ad is additional.

M#4-2006 Stribling: that for 2006 the Village retain membership at \$200 and dispense with the ad.

Carried Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE for Information:

a) Alberta Environment

Compliance personnel conducted an inspection of the Waterworks system on December 14, 2005 to confirm compliance with the Alberta Environment operating approval. The inspection includes a review of operating procedures and checking of the water facility.

It was noted that the facilities are well maintained and the only discrepancy noted was the matter of operating under an Approval or Code of Practice. Certification requirements differ for each type of system. This discrepancy has been brought to the attention of Alberta Environment Officials.

b) Lamont County Regional Solid Waste Commission

Official notice that the 2006 requisition rate will increase by 20% as set out in the requisition calculation sheet. The rate for Chipman will increase from \$3,225 to \$3,760 a difference of \$535.

c) Vegreville Water Services Commission

Notice that effective January 1, 2006 the rate charged by the Commission will increase from \$0.8100 /m³ to \$0.8500 /m³.

Administration provided calculations on the effect of the rate increase and it was determined that it would not be necessary to increase the water rate to Chipman residents.

d) Lamont Elementary School

Thank you letter to Councillor Stead from Principal Gwen Castle for inviting Lamont students to participate in the Remembrance Day Contest.

e) Canadian Red Cross

Listing of available services the Red Cross response team can provide to local fire departments during the first 72 hours after a disaster.

f) Lamont County – Doors Open Initiative

Memorandum from County Economic Development/Tourism Coordinator seeking assistance through the Doors Open Initiative to promote and encourage visitation to local churches. Through the Heritage Foundation we are being asked to have the doors of the Chipman Churches open to the public on Saturday and Sunday June 24th and 25th between the hours of 9:00 and 5:00 p.m. A community registration form and information package was provided.

It was noted that Chipman Council had planned this for the week-end of the car crafters show. If people want to participate their names should be forwarded to the Coordinator.

M#5-2005 Palmer: that the foregoing correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A preliminary statement of Operating Revenues and Expenditures together with a Capital summary for the period ending December 31, 2005 had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted by administration the report was printed prior to year-end closing entries. A Summary of grants received and claimed were noted during the presentation.

M#6-2006 Stead: that the Revenue/Expense report and Capital Summary for the period ending December 31, 2005 be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

M#8-2006 Stribling: that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 20050448 to 20050492 inclusive and numbers 20060001 to 2006007 inclusive for the total sum of \$36,782.56 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Ambulance Agreement

A 5-year contract was approved by the Ambulance Board December 19th and the Board is recommending that the member municipalities of the Lamont County Ambulance Board enter into the agreement with Prairie EMS. The yearly contract \$240,580 amount will result in a per capita cost of \$30.82.

Mayor Palmer questioned the sum of a quarter million dollars for a stand by service stating that the ambulance service should have been set up as a Commission and run out of Lamont Hospital. He also indicated that \$8,000 is a considerable sum to pay for the few calls made to Chipman. A meeting with all Mayors on this issue should be pursued.

M#8-2006 Stribling: that in the interim Council accept the contract and that the Mayor and Administrator be authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village of Chipman.

Carried Unanimously

b) Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership (LEAP)

A request was put forward from Lamont County Economic Development to approve the LEAP Terms of Reference as amended and to approve the 2006 LEAP budget. Minutes of the December 6th LEAP meeting were also included.

Mayor Palmer indicated that the terms of reference are not clear and should be revised. The \$27,000 annual LEAP Budget is split on an assessment basis with Chipman being responsible for \$270 -1% of the cost.

M#9-2005 Palmer: that the LEAP Terms of Reference not be accepted, but; that the 2006 LEAP budget be approved by Council and the County advised accordingly.

Carried Unanimously

REPORTS:

a) Administrator's

A report from administration addressed the following topics:

- Examination of Affidavit unsightly property of Roy Pentyluk scheduled at offices of solicitors Reynolds Mirth January 17th at 10:00 a.m.
- Application for Order (Colin Baker) adjourned to February 13, 2006. and Order will proceed if property not cleaned up and brought into conformance by January 30, 2006. Village will be applying for costs.

Administrator's Report (cont'd)

- Utilities transferred to taxes and current outstanding taxes
- Annual water monitoring test results from Norwest Labs
- County request for final financial information for fire departments.
- Advisory from Fire Commissioner's that Occupational Health and Safety Code of Practice for Firefighters is now available for download.
- Field staff from the Fire Commissioner's Office will be conducting a province wide survey of fire service and will be contacting every fire chief over the next few months.
- EPWS (Emergency Public Warning System Training) has been re-scheduled for March 23rd in the County Office.
- Interim rate increase on transmission costs by Fortis approved by EUB. Examples of bill impacts on municipal accounts provided.
- January 5th break-in at Chipman Curling rink reported by Ag Society.

M#10-2006 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

No Items

iii) County of Lamont Regional Landfill Commission

Councillor Stribling reported plans for the purchase of a new cat for the landfill site and engineering for the new cell.

iv) County of Lamont Senior's Foundation

No Items.

v) Capital Region Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission

Board Chairman Palmer reported on the December 8th Commission meeting held in Chipman. Copies of the October 13th approved Minutes were provided for the information of Council.

vi) LEAP (Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership)

Covered earlier in the meeting.

vii) Chipman Agricultural Society

Directors meeting scheduled for February 1st in the Village Office.

viii) FCSS (Family and Community Support Services)

December meeting cancelled.

M#11-2006 Stead: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT:

M#12-2006 Stead: that the meeting be adjourned.

Time: 10:23 p.m.

Mayor, Jim Palmer

Administrator, Pat Tomkow