

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHIPMAN
March 14, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular council meeting for the month of March was called to order by Mayor Jim Palmer at 8:00 p.m. Mayor Palmer chaired the meeting.

PRESENT:

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

One member of the public was present at the meeting.

Prior to the Council meeting Village LEAP representative Angela Kostiuk supplied information from the March 3rd 2005 Leap Board meeting. The major topic involved the development of a business directory project. A Board decision was reached not to create a book-type business directory, but to create 5 legal size sheets on a thin card.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M#16-2005 Stead: that the agenda be adopted as printed and circulated together with the addition of the following items:

- a) Sturgeon Rewind invoicing for on going servicing relating to the Reservoir upgrade project,
- b) March 9, 2005 letter from Health Minister Iris Evans regarding ground ambulance compensation.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

M#17-2005 Stribling: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held February 7, 2005 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

a) Streets Improvement Program

Council agreed to meet as a committee on March 18th at 9:30 am. to finalize a project for curbs / gutter and sidewalks under the SIP and ICAP Program.

b) Lagoon Berm Repairs and Culvert Drainage

A review of the file information indicates that the two projects require further updating relative to costs and scope of work. Mayor Palmer suggested the village obtain permission from CN to dig a swale as this could save substantial dollars over the proposed culvert installation.

c) Reservoir Upgrade Servicing – Sturgeon Rewind

The village is in receipt of an invoice for \$4,500 pertaining to servicing work undertaken by Sturgeon Rewind for the on the new reservoir control equipment installed in 2003. Mayor Palmer outlined ongoing problems with the new system indicating that the automatic controls can not always be relied up and as a result

there has to be some one on call at all times should there be a failure. Sturgeon has been instructed to take out the computer panel and install a relay.

Town foreman Larry Derksen will compile a history of call outs and repair invoices for both the Lift Station and the Water Reservoir. Sturgeon has been advised that the invoice will not be paid until the control system is operating in a satisfactory manner.

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Lamont County

Village letter of February 9th confirming the appointment of Ms. Angela Kostiuk as the village representative to the LEAP Board.

b) Alberta Environment

January 11, 2005 correspondence regarding implementation of the Alternate Program Laboratory Data Quality Assurance Policy. This is an extension of current policy under an approval or Code of Practice to assure that all analyses required are performed by an accredited laboratory. As part of the process, Alberta Environment developed an alternate program to validate the accuracy of tests conducted by municipalities using in-house portable test kits.

This will involve site evaluation visits and/or proficiency testing for all facilities using portable test kit methods. Maxxam Analytics has been contracted by Alberta Environment to carry out this program.

c) Alberta Health and Wellness

March 3, 2005 letter from Health Minister Iris Evans regarding provincial government decision to delay the transfer of ground ambulance services. Municipalities will continue to be responsible to delivering ambulance services. A pilot project will be undertaken in Palliser and Peace Country with a one-year implementation and evaluation period. The evaluation will guide decisions on further transfer elsewhere in the province.

d) AUMA

Information bulletin and news announcing ambulance transfer funding and compensation for municipalities to offset costs incurred as a result of suspending the transfer of ground ambulance service.

d(i) Alberta Health and Wellness – Office of the Minister

Follow-up letter confirming that the village will receive a one-time payment of \$4,319.00 as compensation for the delay of the transfer of ground ambulance governance and funding.

e) AUMA

February 25, 2005 update regarding the AUMA's proposed 5-year distribution for new infrastructure funds (\$3 Billion) and the New Deal for Communities to transfer a portion of the federal fuel tax to municipalities. AUMA proposes that the monies be allocated within Alberta by providing a base allocation to every municipality, followed by a per capita distribution of the remaining funds.

Mayor Palmer raised the issue of competing for contractors when municipalities are pitted against the communities receiving larger sums.

f) Chipman Agricultural Society

February 2005 newsletter from Ag Society Secretary Lauren Ryan summarizing the events of 2004.

M#19-2005 Stribling that the foregoing correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Council had received with the agenda, a summary and detailed Statement of Operating Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending February 28, 2005. It was noted by administration that the statement indicates a deficit of \$4,543.65. Until receipt of tax revenues in mid year, most months will show a deficit until June of the current year.

M#20-2005 Palmer: that the Financial Reports for the period ending February 28, 2005 be received for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

M#21-2005 Stead: that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 20050035 to 200500084 inclusive, for the total sum of \$30,705.63 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

a) 2005 LEAP(Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership) Budget

Participating municipalities are asked to approve the 2005 LEAP Budget. The \$27,000 budget has received County approval and the division of costs is split on an assessment basis. The Village of Chipman contribution is \$243.00.

M#21-2005 Stribling: That village council approve the budget allocation of \$243.00 towards the Lamont County LEAP budget.

Carried Unanimously

b) Alberta Municipal Affairs-Amendment to Mile Net Master Agreement

With the introduction of the Alberta Emergency Resource Inventory Program, to the Mile net gateway, municipalities are being requested to sign an amendment to the original agreement. The Emergency Resource Inventory is an application that was developed to capture the response capacity of the municipal fire services within Alberta.

c) Celebrate Canada – Funding Application

Federal government grant program offering financial assistance to 'Celebrate Canada' activities. Application Deadline March 31, 2005.

Discussion followed noting that previous applications had never received funding approval. No further action taken.

d) Risk Management Seminars

Jubilee Insurance is offering municipal risk management seminars. Occupational Health and Safety changes to legislation are also being presented. Councillor Stead indicated that Jubilee is also offering Driver Emergency Training for fire trucks

Following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Stead would attend a workshop.

e) Census

Notice received from Municipal Affairs that municipalities wishing to undertake a census must do so between April 1st and June 30th.

M# 24-2005 Palmer: that this item be tabled.

Carried Unanimously

REPORTS:

a) Administrator's

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

- Request from Lamont County Economic Development for promotional items and door prize for the Sherwood Park Trade Show.
- Personna Communications Community Development Program and April 4th deadline.
- Zurich Insurance premium increase on Seniors Van for next year.
- Inquiry from Elk Island Facility Manager Dale Lechault as to whether or not the village had been successfully in securing provincial funding to redevelop Chipman School into a community facility. In the ensuing discussion Council indicated the village is the last resort and Elk Island is waiting to see what we will do.
- Kalyna County meeting to take Place March 22nd at the Parkland Conservation Farm.
- STEP 2005 program funding allocation \$2,800 available to Chipman and the appropriate documents have been signed.
- Alberta Public Safety Services Officer Douwe Aardema conducted a review of all permit files February 15, 2005. Internal reviews are conducted to ensure agency is doing the job they were contracted to do. Process involves checking for completed reports and if any are incomplete or missing the municipality is required to check back with the agency. A report on Accredited Municipality QMP monitoring has been received and follow-up is required.
- The village received a semi-annual franchise fee payment of \$3,318 from ATCO Gas for the period ending December 31, 2004.
- Final payment of \$12,062 was made March 1, 2005 on the sewer debenture. The final payment of \$4,576 on the sidewalk debenture is due Sept 15, 2005 leaving the village debt free.
- A meeting to review the Lamont Shared Regional Partnership Plan has been scheduled for March 22nd in Mundare.
- There has not been any further word on the offer for the CN lands.
- On the Super Net project it was reported that the east area is the segment being pushed for completion. There is a process for putting in an order for service and AXIA has referred Chipman to their municipal account manager.
- Applications for PFRA funding closed February 1st. PFRA advised that there could be another application uptake if there is any funding left and that the Village may submit an application for the truck fill infrastructure.

M#26-2005 Palmer: that the administrator's report be accepted for information.

Carried Unanimously

b) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i) Ambulance Board

Lamont County Ambulance Board Chairman, Gary Stead, informed the meeting that the Ambulance contract expires this year and will be put out for tender.

ii) Lamont County Fire Advisory Committee

Administration provided a progress report on the proposed fire agreement. The administrator was asked to set up a meeting with County Reeve Wayne Woldanski and County Manager Harvey Pockiw regarding the fire agreement and possible cost-share for a truck fill.

iii) County of Lamont Regional Landfill Commission

No Items.

iv) County of Lamont Senior's Foundation

No Items

iv) C.R. Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission

Mayor Palmer, Commission Chairman, that pump installation has not as yet taken place at the On-Line Facility.

v) LEAP (Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership)

LEAP report provided an Angela Kostiuk prior to the meeting.

vi) Chipman Agricultural Society

Councillor Stribling indicated that he will arrange for a meeting with the Ag Society.

viii) FCSS (Family and Community Support Services)

No Items.

M#27-2005 Palmer: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

a) Disaster Services Workshop – Pandemic Influenza

A reminder from Mayor Palmer that a workshop would be held Wednesday March 23rd in Smoky Lake. It was suggested that office assistant Toni Nygren and Councillor Stead attend.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 9:46 p.m.

Mayor, Jim Palmer

Administrator, Pat Tomkow