

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

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**PRESENT:**

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

Three members of the public were present at the meeting.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

M#96-2005 Stead: that the agenda be adopted as printed and distributed with the deletion of Item No 8(e) Sturgeon Rewind Reservoir upgrade invoice.

Carried Unanimously

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

M#97-2005 Stribling: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held June 13 2005 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

M#98-2005 Stead: that the Minutes of Special Meeting held July 8, 2005 be adopted as printed and circulated.

Carried Unanimously

M#99-2005 Palmer: that the report of meeting with RCMP Constable Munroe regarding Chipman Community Profile be accepted.

Carried Unanimously

M#100-2005 Stribling: that the Minutes of Special Meeting held July 27, 2005 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

**BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:**

a) 2005 Road Program & Debenture Borrowing:

A report was provided on the status of the roads project debenture borrowing and Council was advised that Alberta Capital Finance Authority had approved the application and would be forwarding the Debenture for signature the following day. Rather than defer borrowing because of project delays, it was decided to proceed with the Debentures.

Mayor Palmer noted that Allied Paving, the village contractors, are way behind schedule and that continuing rainy weather has also put the project on hold. It appears that the sidewalks and roads project may not be completed this year.

b) Revised Cost Estimate Hwy15 Storm water Drainage Project

This item had been tabled at the last meeting. Council reported on options considered noting that once a reasonable cost solution can be found, a decision will be made on how to proceed.

c) Lagoon Berm Repairs

Alberta Environment has indicated that a new cost estimate for the project could be submitted for consideration. Some emergency work had been done in the past to salvage the berms and it was noted that emergency repairs could be considered as part of the project.

To date, the village has estimated repair costs in the range of \$17,000 - \$20,000 however these are being reviewed and a final number will be provided to Alberta Environment.

d) Truck Fill Grant Application and Budget

A progress report was provided on the truck fill project and the PFRA grant approval process. An Environment assessment was also conducted as a requirement for funding approval. The Village will be eligible for PFRA funding of \$35,900 representing one third of the project costs.

The truck fill application under Agricultural Initiatives Program did not receive funding approval.

e) Elk Island Public Schools – Tendering of Chipman School and Road Closure

Copies of a report presented to the Elk Island School Board dated June 20, 2005 concerning the status of Chipman School included recommendations to dispose of the school property. Chipman School has been closed since June of 2003. Elk Island Schools Facility Services has maintained the building since that time so as to receive and consider expressions of interest from the community. While several calls and meetings have taken place no bona fide offers have come forward. It is the recommendation of Elk Island School Facility Services to proceed with a broader effort to dispose of the property. Subsequent correspondence from Elk Island Schools confirmed the School Board motion authorizing the disposal of the school property.

The Village of Chipman was requested to confirm its intent to acquire the subject property no later than August 25, 2005 and to formally close the undeveloped portion of 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue and transfer the property to EIPS.

Discussion followed on this item and Mayor Palmer placed a telephone call to School Trustee Mae Adamyk to arrange a meeting with EIPS officials.

M#101-2005 Palmer: that this item be tabled pending a meeting with EIPS officials.

Carried Unanimously

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

a) Alberta Environment - invitation to arrange a meeting time at the AUMA conference to discuss any issue related to environmental legislation, standards, or projects.

CORRESPONDENCE (Cont'd)

- b) Alberta Environment Drinking Water Branch - notice that Alberta Environment is updating the Standards and Guidelines for Municipal Waterworks, Wastewater and Drainage Systems. The revision will also necessitate a revision in the Code of Practice for waterworks systems. Comments regarding the updated Standards and Code of Practice are required by September 15, 2005.
- c) Alberta Transportation - reporting requirements for annual Streets Improvement Program grants.
- d) Heritage Motors – vehicle inspection for IHC truck deadline – September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- e) Lamont County Continuing Education - thank you note from Program Coordinator Debbie Holland for offering Chipman fire hall for fall courses.
- f) ATCO Energy Sense – available energy conservation incentives relative to government funded program for energy conservation.

M#102-2005 Stead: 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 August 31, 2005. It was noted by administration that the statement indicates a deficit of \$14,368.93 due to the computer delays in processing the August utility billing revenues.

M#103-2005 Stribling : that the Revenue Expense for the period ending August 31, 2005 be received for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

Council also received a Capital Summary outlining capital grants received and funds expended on capital projects.

M#104-2005 Palmer: that the Capital Revenue and Expenditure report be accepted as information.

Carried Unanimously

**PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:**

M#105-2005 Stead: that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 20050203 to 20050328 inclusive, for the total sum of \$139,489.87 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- a) Ambulance Contract and Requisition Increase  
Council received with the agenda a memorandum outlining the status of ambulance negotiations together with an information package submitted by Lamont County. Medicare is requesting a requisition increase of \$65,000. Tri Municipal (Lamont,

OTHER BUSINESS (Cont'd)

Smoky Lake and Thorhild Counties) meetings were held to negotiate as a joint team with MediCare Ambulance and were unsuccessful.

The current per capita rate of \$17.98 would have to be increased to \$26.32 to meet the requisition increase.

-Village of Chipman 2005 Requisition	\$4,453
- Requisition with Increase	\$6,501

Lamont County put forward a proposal to equalize the requisition resulting in a net per capita contribution of \$20.27.

A draft resolution requested of County Council and the participating municipalities to authorize the Ambulance Board to negotiate a new contract on behalf of Lamont was presented at the meeting.

In the ensuing discussion Mayor Palmer voiced his concerns with contracting to a private service and the lack of fiscal control.

M#106-2005 Palmer: that the Village of Chipman authorize the Lamont County Ambulance Board to negotiate a new ambulance contract on behalf of Lamont County with the final agreement to be ratified by County Council.

b) County Emergency Fire Services Agreement and Budget

It was noted that after discussing several changes to the proposed County Emergency Services Agreement at the June 29<sup>th</sup> Mayor's and CAO meeting a consensus was reached to have the agreement be taken back to local councils for further study.

The salient points are:

- separate agreement proposed for each jurisdiction
- requirement for standard operating procedures
- change in service levels requires approval of County and the municipality
- 25 year capital equipment plan
- quarterly financial reporting
- capital building on as required basis, requires County approval.

The County requires a copy of the fire department budget as part of the agreement.

M#107-2005 Stead: that the Terms of Emergency Fire services Agreement be accepted and that the Mayor and Administrator be authorized to sign the Agreement.

Carried Unanimously

c) Recreation Funding Agreement

Under the terms of the Recreation Funding Agreement Lamont County is proposing a base grant of \$2,083 for each municipality plus a pro rata contribution towards arena operations. Village eligibility is limited to the base grant of \$2,083.

M#108-2005 Stribling: that Council accept the agreement terms and that the Mayor and administrator are hereby authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village of Chipman.

It was agreed that funds be utilized towards the outdoor skating rink.

Carried Unanimously

Other Business (Cont'd)

d) 'New Deal' Canada-Alberta Grant Agreement

Copies of correspondence and the grant agreement between the Minister of Transportation and the Village of Chipman were circulated with the agenda. The Village will be eligible to receive \$79,483 capital grant funding over a 5-year period subject to the provision of the following documents to the province:-

- i) project profile for each project
- ii) application for project acceptance
- iii) multi-year Capital Plan by 2006
- iv) Integrated Community Sustainability Plan prior to December 2008

M#109-2005 Stead: that Chipman Council ratify the signing of the agreement and that future grants be utilized against the Streets and Roads program.

Carried Unanimously

e) Seven Lot Subdivision (Block B) Servicing and Conditions of Development

This item was placed on the agenda in response to inquiries to purchase lots. It was noted that road costs and utility installation costs have to be factored into the price and these figures are not yet available.

Discussion followed on determination of utility tie in and limitations posed by sewer elevations at the south end of the village.

f) Tax Recovery – Disposal of Mobile Home

Council was advised of the legal steps to be followed if they were to proceed with the removal and disposal of the mobile home acquired through the tax recovery process. The subject property is legally described on Lot 11, Block 6, Plan 5250-Q. The mobile home is badly deteriorated and unstable.

M#110-2005 Palmer: that administration notify the previous owner in writing of the village intentions to remove and dispose of the mobile home and offer 30 days to the owner to remove the structure from the village.

Carried Unanimously

e) SuperNet Project

Councillor Stead presented information on a Broadband service that the Village of Andrew is utilizing and suggested that administration check into possibilities for Chipman.

M#111-2005 Stribling: that this item be received for information.

Carried Unanimously

f) Culvert Installation Request

Council was presented with a request from the owner of Lot 14, Block 1 for the installation of a culvert in the back alley behind as property as water build-up has become a problem.

Administration was directed to inform the owners that the village does not install private culverts.

g) CMHC – Leasing of Tax Recovery Property

In taking ownership of the mobile home at 4836-48 Avenue CMHC has made inquiries as to whether or not the village would be willing to lease the site, if the mobile was sold.

M#112-2005 Palmer: that CMHC be advised that the village would consider leasing the site but would prefer to sell the lands with the mobile home.

Carried Unanimously

Other Business (Cont'd)

h) Maintenance Agreement – Chipman Ag Society

It was noted that the annual operating fees would need to be reviewed due to rising utility and insurance costs.

The administrator was requested to bring the revised numbers to the next meeting.

i) Town of Lamont – Cost Sharing Garbage Collection Service

A letter of inquiry was received from Lamont Mayor Fred Pewarchuk as to whether Chipman Council would be interested in discussing the possibility of sharing the costs of operating a garbage collection service.

Discussion ensued on this item and it was noted that Chipman is the only community in the County that operates its own garbage collection service. A new garbage truck was purchased last year and it was further noted that the village would not be able to offer the same level of service when a compactor is utilized.

M#113-2205 Palmer: that the village decline the offer for now and that Lamont be advised accordingly.

Carried Unanimously

**REPORTS:**

a) Administrator's

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

- Mayor's initiative - time capsule for 2005 Centennial
- Lamont County Heritage Management Plan
- Tax rate collection 2005
- Alberta Environment Proficiency Testing program implementation
- A new 5-year Regulated Rate Option for residential, farm and small commercial electricity consumers has been approved by government Caucus and put into place. Move assures small consumers that regulated option will be available for those who choose not to sign contracts for supply.
- ATCO Gas Franchise payment received July 18<sup>th</sup> - \$5,188.82
- Notice to Northern Fibre that cable installation clean-up efforts on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue done to village satisfaction
- Request for utilization of Chipman National Hall at no charge for rehearsals of children's choir.

Mayor Palmer stated that increased utility costs may force the village to close the hall during the winter months. Organizations requesting the facility for free should be asked what they can give in return.

- legislation currently under review
- Lamont Two Hills BDC Community Economic Development new funding announcement. Funds available to assist local municipalities with initiatives towards the development of local CED plans.
- steps taken to enforce clean-up of unsightly properties.
- Franchise agreement with Aquilla (Fortis) due for renewal.

M#114-2005 Stribling: that the administrator's report be accepted for information.

Carried Unanimously

b) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i) Ambulance Board

Covered earlier in the meeting.

ii) Lamont County Fire Advisory Committee

With change in fire agreement, group no longer holds meetings.

iii) County of Lamont Regional Landfill Commission

Council Stribling indicated that the Lagoon at the Landfill site has not been started as engineers are backlogged.

iv) County of Lamont Senior's Foundation

Councillor Stead advised that a 3% increase is the requisition can be anticipated in 2006.

iv) C.R. Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission

Mayor Palmer reported that new pump installation is behind schedule. Lamont County is working in concert with the Industrial plants to determine if existing caverns can be utilized for water storage and delivery by means of an air gap.

v) LEAP (Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership)

No Items – next meeting September 20<sup>th</sup>.

vi) Chipman Agricultural Society

2 years of bad weather resulted in low revenues vs large prize monies offered for team penning.

viii) FCSS (Family and Community Support Services)

Councillor Stribling reported on a successful summer program.

M#115-2005 Stead: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

**QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 10:43 p.m.

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Mayor, Jim Palmer

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Administrator, Pat Tomkow

