Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Council
Of the Town Of Castor
Held Monday, August 11, 2014
Council Chambers, Castor Town Hall
Castor, Alberta

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Garry DeVloo.

Councillors in Attendance:

Brenda Wismer, Travis Ryan, Tony Nichols, Rod Zinger, Richard Elhard.

Absent: Lonnie Nelner

Also in Attendance:

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.
Arjan Van Heinen – Public Works Foreman
Landin Chambers – Q-14 Radio
Jenna Witherow – Q-14 Radio
Stacy Lavallie – Castor Advance Reporter

Agenda:

154/14 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

Delegations/Interviews:

Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes of the July 14, 2014 regular Meeting of Council.

155/14 MOTION: Councillor Elhard that the Minutes of the July 11, 2014 Regular meeting of Council be approved with a correction.

CARRIED

Accounts:

The List of Accounts was presented to Council for payment.

156/14 MOTION: Councillor Ryan that Account numbers 17512 to 17548 and 17592 to 17632 be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be marked Schedule "A" and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED

Gas & Water Comparisons:

The C.A.O. presented Council with the Gas and Water Comparisons to June 30. We are below 2% losses in the gas system. The water system, however, is still experiencing significant losses. In the past month several water meters have been changed, we are hopeful we will see decrease in the losses for August.

157/14 MOTION: Councillor Zinger to accept the Gas and water comparisons as information.

CARRIED

Correspondence:

Municipal Affairs – SCA: The Honourable Greg Weadick, Minister of Municipal Affairs wrote to inform Council that a review of the Safety Codes Act is in the works. Council accepted this as information.

SMRWSC: Council received an invitation to the Opening Ceremonies of the Big Valley and the Donalda water facilities on August 20, 2014 at 1:30pm. Councillor Zinger will try to attend.

Cousineau – Park Area: A letter was received from Charles D. Cousineau informing Council of the Cousineau family's intentions to subdivide and donate a portion of a lot for use as a memorial park. They will also donate a recognition plaque given to Dr. Cousineau to the museum.

Justice and Solicitor General: A response concerning the closure of the Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Branch office in Coronation was received from Alberta Justice and Solicitor General explaining the reasoning for the closure. Council accepted this as information.

BRAED: BRAED wrote informing Council that the upcoming 2015/16 fiscal year will see an increase in fees from $.55 to $.75 per capita. The C.A.O. has contacted the Development officer as PEPS currently pays the fees.

Community Futures: A notice of the Community Futures Annual General Meeting was received by Council. The meeting will be Sept. 8, 2014 in Mirror at 4:30pm.

Old Business:

Fire Radios: Very little change has taken place since the July 14, 2014 Council meeting. The Fire radios still are not working properly. The fire chief indicated that Sunday the radios were clear.

New Business:

Fire QMP: The Town of Castor Fire Quality Management Plan has been sent to the Safety Codes Council for approval.

Franchise Report – ATCO: The C.A.O. met with a representative from ATCO to go over the 2013 Franchise Report. As far as system reliability, the Town's load numbers are good. Complaints as far as how the power system is run in Town are almost nil. Council accepted the report as information.

Tax Collection: The C.A.O. reported that the 2014 Tax Collection rate is approximately 87% collected to the July 31 deadline.

Committee Reports:

Landon Chambers: Introduced the new Q-14 Reporter Jenna Witherow.

Mayor DeVloo thanked Mr. Chambers for his coverage in the past.

Councillor Nichols:

- Met with the County to try and get an increase in the annual donation and also get some help with capital purchases.
- Had a request to fill the fair sized pot holes on 45Ave and 44 St.

Councillor Zinger:

- Summer students have not been able to trim trees, asked if they could do that and cut the branches up at a reasonable height.
- Noticed new signs were put up by Corrillion on 861 heading north.
- Asked if the swim schedule had been changed. The C.A.O. informed Council that it had not because the occupancy rate has doubled over last year. It was the general consensus that a change might be warranted.

Councillor Elhard:

- Hospital board meeting is coming up, the Administrator's retirement will be on the agenda.

Foreman:

- Students have been busy painting curbs/handicapped areas.
- Finished the ATCO project, all costs were covered by ATCO
- Robert has been working on the line heater for the gas system.
- Adam is working on water meter changes.
- Crew is busy patching.
- Purchased a new gravel truck.

C.A.O.

- The Fire Department requested a street closure on September 5, 2014 for a BBQ. The BBQ will be held on 51st Street from 50th Ave. to 49th Ave. ATCO is sponsoring.

158/14 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that 51st Street from 50th Ave. to 49th Ave. be closed for a BBQ on September 5.

CARRIED

- Reminded Council of the upcoming AUMA Convention from September 24 – 26, 2014 in Edmonton.
- The Assistant Rec. Director is taking the Risk Management course today, then on Wednesday will take the Custodial Care Course. In November she is registered for the Arena Level II course. Once these courses are completed she will have her Master's Certification for Recreation.
- It was suggested that a weeding bee be held one day next week. With the moisture and heat this summer it has been nearly impossible for the students to stay on top of the weed control. Monday, August 18 9:00am, Town will provide coffee and cake.

Mayor DeVloo:

- Attended a trap shoot sponsored by the gun club.
- Fair was on this past weekend.

Stacy Lavallie:

- Participated in a ride along with the RCMP and informed Council that the RCMP Officer mentioned that the Town Council is doing a good job of keeping a proactive town. He feels that the Town is well lit.

In-camera Discussions: Council proceeded to an in-camera session to discuss the Weseen subdivision and an employee issue.

Landon Chambers, Jenna Witherow, and Stacy Lavallie left the Council meeting at 7:57.

159/14 MOTION: Councillor Ryan to move to an in-camera session to discuss the Weseen subdivision and a staff issue.

CARRIED

Council went in-camera at 7:59pm.

160/14 MOTION: Councillor Ryan to come out of an in-camera session.

CARRIED

Council returned to an open session of Council at 8:45pm.

161/14 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that Council approve the letter concerning the Weseen Subdivision Agreement drafted by Brownlee LLP.

CARRIED

Adjournment: **162/14 MOTION:** Councilor Zinger that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER