

**TOWN OF ECKVILLE – COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Monday, April 13, 2009**  
**Council Chambers**

- 1. Call to Order**                    1.0 Mayor Posti called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.  
Present: Mayor Helen Posti, Councillors Gord Ebdon, Mitch Krecsy, Grant van Boeschoten, Scott Kinley, John Walker  
Staff: Administrator Therese Kleeberger, Susan Norberg  
Press: Carson Papke, Eckville Echo
- 2. Delegations**                    Marsha Smalley – Collins Barrow
- 3. Agenda**                            3.1 Additional Agenda Items:  
Item 5.9: Eckville Dance Jamboree  
Item 5.10: Lawn Mower Purchase  
Item 9.10: Private Member's Bill – Bill 204  
Item 10.3: Eckville Co-op AGM
- Res.143/09                            Moved by Councillor van Boeschoten that the agenda be adopted as presented with additions. Carried.
- 4. Minutes**                            4.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting March 23, 2009
- Under Action Items – Real Estate Listing – McDonald Heights, Resolution 120/09 states “Moved by Councillor Walker that Council extend the contract with Coldwell Banker Ontrack Realty for one year to market, list and sale the residential lots in McDonald Heights”. It should state “....for one year to market, list and sell the residential lots.....”.
- Res.144/09                            Moved by Councillor van Boeschoten that the minutes of the regular Council meeting of March 23, 2009 be adopted with the correction. Carried.
- 5. Action Items**
- Tax Recovery – Public Auction    5.1 Under Division 8 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) the town must annually prepare a tax arrears list to the Registrar of the Land Titles Office no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>. If the tax arrears are not paid before March 31<sup>st</sup> of the next year, the parcel must be offered for sale at a public auction before the next March 31<sup>st</sup>. Properties which will be offered for sale at the 2009 auction are properties whose taxes are in arrears from the 2006 or prior taxation years. Prior to offering the properties for sale, Council must set the date and time of the public auction and set a reserve bid that is as close as reasonably possible to the market value of the parcel and any conditions that apply to the sale. The property described as Plan 264HW, Block 9, the easterly portion of Lot 17 is on the tax arrears list. Wild Rose Assessment suggested a fair market value of \$138,000.00 for this property.
- Res.145/09                            Moved by Councillor Kinley that the property described as Plan 264HW, Block 9, the easterly portion of Lot 17 be offered for sale on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 commencing at 2:00 p.m. and that the parcel be offered for sale subject to a reserve bid of \$138,000.00 on an “as is, where is” basis and the Town of Eckville makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to the adequacy of services, soil conditions, land use districting, building and development conditions, absence or presence of environmental contamination, or the developability of the subject land for any intended use by the purchaser, and that the terms of payment to be cash, money order or certified cheque with 10% down, balance in 15 days. Redemption may be affected by payment of all arrears of taxes and costs at any time prior to the sale. The Town may become the owner of any parcel of land that is not sold at public auction. Carried.
- Eckville Co-op – Annual Easter Egg Hunt    5.2 A letter was received from the Eckville Co-op on March 31, 2009 requesting permission to use the Millennium Park for their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 11, 2009. As the event was taking place prior to the next Council meeting, Council members were contacted upon receipt of the request for their vote in this matter. All members of Council were in agreement to the request.
- Res.146/09                            Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the request by the Eckville Co-op to use the Millennium Park for their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 11, 2009 be ratified. Carried.
- Bob Cat: Trade In, Wood Chipper, Snow    5.3 Rick McKinnon, Public Works Foreman requested that Council consider trading in the Wood Chipper on a Snow Blower, as the Wood Chipper is not being used.

Blower		
Res.147/09		Moved by Councillor Ebden that Public Works investigate with other municipalities to determine if a Snow Blower can handle the chunks of ice made from the grader, and that Public Works contact Bob Cat to see if the Wood Chipper could be put on consignment at their business. Five in favour, one against. Carried.
Disposal of Surplus Equipment	5.4	Rick McKinnon, Public Works Foreman requested permission to hold a Silent Auction to sell off surplus equipment.
Res.148/09		Moved by Councillor Kinley that Public Works be authorized to proceed with the sale of surplus equipment by Silent Auction and that a reserve bid be set for any items that have a replacement value of \$5,000. or more, and that a list of surplus equipment be completed and brought to Council. Carried.
Eckville Fire Department Policies	5.5	Lacombe Regional Fire Services has prepared a couple of draft policies for review and consideration by Council, those being Policy 110 – Volunteer Recognition and Policy 116 – Fire Department Audit Procedures.
Res.149/09		Moved by Councillor Krecsy that Lacombe Regional Fire Services Policy #110 be adopted. Carried.
Res.150/09		Moved by Councillor Kinley that Lacombe Regional Fire Services Policy #116 be adopted. Carried.
Stantec Proposal – 10 Year Capital Works Plan and MIMS Update	5.6	Over the past couple of years, Council has authorized the completion of reports and assessments of the town’s sewer and water infrastructure, road/pavement analysis and building condition assessments. The next stage of this program is to prepare a capital works plan and put probable costs to the projects. Application was made under the 2008/2009 Municipal Sponsorship Program to do this project. The project was approved by Alberta Municipal Affairs and the Town will receive a grant of \$19,222.00 which must be used in 2009. Total estimated cost for the project is \$27,500.00 for which \$20,000.00 was budgeted in the 2009 Budget.
Res.151/09		Moved by Councillor Kinley that the decision to approve the proposal from Stantec to prepare a capital works plan be deferred to the next Council meeting and that Administration contact Stantec to see if they would do the plan for \$20,000.00 or for as close to the grant approval amount as possible without changing the scope of the project. Five in favour, one opposed. Carried.
Stantec Proposal – Water System Study	5.7	Council had previously directed Administration to get a proposal from Stantec Consulting to conduct a water system study as the last study was done approximately 20 years ago. The estimated cost of the study is \$19,400.00. It was also recommended by Stantec that a drilling contractor be hired to look at the water wells to get current information on their capacities, flows, etc. The work would also include checking and re-working the pumps, cleaning and shocking. The data collected from this work would be incorporated into the water study. The estimated cost for this additional work would be \$25,000.-\$35,000. depending on the magnitude of work the town approves. Discussion followed.
Res.152/09		Moved by Councillor Kinley that this item be deferred until after the Delegation. Five in favour, one opposed. Carried.
<b>Delegation</b> Town of Eckville – Financial Statements and Auditors’ Report December 31, 2008	2.1	Collins Barrow – Marsha Smalley and Leanne Edeen entered the meeting at 6:55 p.m.  Marsha Smalley reviewed the Town of Eckville’s Financial Statements with Council. There was a \$39,000.00 operating surplus in 2008.
In Camera Res.153/09		Moved by Councillor Walker that the meeting move in camera excluding all persons except Council members, Staff members Administrator Kleeberger and Susan Norberg, and the delegation of Marsha Smalley and Leanne Edeen to discuss the Town of Eckville 2008 Audit Report. Time: 7:24 p.m. Carried.
Out of Camera Res.154/09		Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the meeting come out of camera and reverts back to the regular meeting. Time: 7:39 p.m. Carried.  The delegation left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.
Res.155/09		Moved by Councillor Walker that Council approve the 2008 Audited Financial statements as presented. Carried.

**Action Items**

- Stantec Proposal – Water5.7 See also 5.7 above.  
System Study  
Res.156/09 Moved by Councillor Kinley that Council approve the Water System Study to be completed by Stantec in the amount of \$19,400.00 to be paid from the 2008 Operating Surplus. Carried.
- Res.157/09 Moved by Councillor Kinley to defer the additional work to the water wells as proposed by Stantec for consideration in the 2010 Budget. Carried.
- Organizational Review – 5.8 At the February 9, 2009 meeting Council approved Administration to proceed with Request for Proposals submitting a Request for Proposals (RFP’s) to potential tenders to have an Organizational Review completed for the Town of Eckville in 2009. \$25,000. was included in the 2009 Budget for this purpose. Four RFP’s were received as follows:  
-\$31,225. + GST + miscellaneous expenses  
-\$6,000. + GST + miscellaneous expenses  
-\$31,900. + GST + miscellaneous expenses  
-\$29,900. + GST (miscellaneous expenses included)
- Res.158/09 Moved by Councillor van Boeschoten that the tender for the Town of Eckville Organizational Review be awarded to HR Group in the amount of \$6,000.00 plus GST and miscellaneous expenses. Carried.
- Eckville Dance 5.9 The Eckville Dance Jamboree Committee for 2009 submitted a letter to Council Jamboree requesting Recreation Grant funding to assist with a Dance Jamboree which is being planned for August 28, 29 and 30, 2009. The letter outlines the costs as being approximately \$5,000.00.
- Res.159/09 Moved by Councillor Kinley that the Town of Eckville provide a \$1,000. Recreation Grant to the Eckville Dance Jamboree Committee for 2009.  
  
Moved by Councillor Walker that Resolution 159/09 be amended to provide a \$2,000. Recreation Grant to the Eckville Dance Jamboree Committee for 2009. Four in favour, two against. Carried.
- Res.160/09 Moved by Councillor Kinley that additional funding of up to \$3,000. from the Recreation Grant fund be made available to the Eckville Dance Jamboree Committee for 2009 if required to host their event. Carried.
- Lawn Mower Purchase 5.10 Public Works has obtained three quotes on a new lawn mower, being \$18,045.00 for a Ferris, \$19,999.00 for a Husqvarna and \$13,499.00 for a Husqvarna demo. The Husqvarna supplier will also take the old Toro lawn mower on trade for the amount of \$1500.00. The costs of the lawn mower will be paid for from the proceeds of the disposal of surplus equipment.
- Res.161/09 Moved by Councillor Walker to approve the purchase of the Husqvarna demo lawn mower in the amount of \$13,499.00 less trade-in of \$1500.00 and that the sale proceeds from the surplus equipment go towards the purchase of the new mower. Four in favour, two against. Carried.
- 6. Bylaws, Policies, Projects** None.
- 7. Reports** **7.1 Foreman’s Report**  
Street Maintenance All the streets have been plowed at least twice excluding 52 St Close. I hope this is the last time and we can look forward to getting the sweeper going. There are a few spots around town where the pavement has sunk and in the future we should look at getting the guys in to pump sand under them. We have gotten the street sweeper out and are going through it for repairs and new parts. I hope to get the sweeper out soon and start getting some of the gravel picked up off the roads.
- Lift Stations I had to order new air valves for each lift station as the old ones we took out where not repairable. We had trouble again with the west lift station as number one pump went down on suction failure. Between many hours and vac trucks I hope we finally got it fixed, as there was a large amount of gravel in the bottom. Both pumps are working fine.  
ABB is planning on fixing the disconnect switch at the west lift station soon, as I met with the branch manager and we went over what needed to be done.
- Garbage We had to repair the carriage for picking up the bins and totes on the garbage truck. Over time everything has bent and wore out. Last week we had trouble with a pressure relief valve on the truck so adjusted it up and it has been working fine. Our volumes are up 1000 to 1500 kgs. per week with the garbage truck and have been for the last couple of months. Also our recycling is up quite a bit too and we

have a hard time making 2 weeks out of a bin.  
 We have hauled three loads of dry rubble out to the transfer site.  
 We have gone around and changed out all the garbage bin lids and springs that were in stock at the yard and will have to order more so that the project can be finished.

Pumphouse Had trouble with chlorine line at pumphouse plugging off where it enters the water line. The fitting was cleaned and things are working better. We will have to shut all the water off to the town and drill the fitting out of the water line and replace it as it is a plastic fitting and is wore out. We took the inspection plates off the water filters and checked the sand in them, everything looked fine but I am going to have to order new gaskets for the plates because we had a hard time getting them to seal again. Well depths were normal for the month.

Vehicles The new truck has been picked up. Not all the accessories were installed so it will have to be taken back at a later date.  
 The 1993 truck was taken to the garage to have a new heater core put in.

Other All of the signs have been changed to Mellisa Hollingsworth Avenue.  
 Both of the Toros are in the shop as well as the J.D. Tractor and we are going through them to see what needs to be done to them as far as repairs.  
 The electrician has started wiring the cold storage shed.  
 The new compressor is at the shop now so will have to get the electrician to hook that up while he is here.

7.2 **Administrator's Report**

LGAA Conference – Red Deer Mar. 18-20/09 – was very good – Sessions included Celebrating People – Balancing people and tasks, just another BORING safety talk – importance of practicing plans, etc., TILMA (comes into effect April 1), AUMA emerging trends.

Assessment Bulletin Depreciation Clarification Schedule “D” depreciation clarification – information bulletin to assist assessors in the preparation of machinery and equipment assessments and linear electric power generation assessments  
 MSI – funding rule changes The Premier has announced that carrying costs of borrowing money for infrastructure projects will now be an allowable expense as part of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI).

Credit Union Prime Rate Eckville Credit Union advises that they have made changes to the way their prime rate is calculated. Previously, the prime rate of interest was the same as Credit Union Central prime. A minimum prime rate has been approved by the Board regardless of how low the Credit Union Central Prime Rate goes.

Lacombe County Subd. Approval Grant: Ground Ambulance Lacombe County advises that they have approved the subdivision application for the NW 3-39-3W5.  
 With the take over of ambulance service by the province on April 1, 2009, Alberta Health & Wellness advise that municipal ambulance grant funding will no longer be provided. Instead, it will be provided to Alberta Health Services.

Lieutenant Governor's Award Alberta Recreation & Parks Assn selection panel has made their decisions regarding the nominations for awards under the Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award program. The Eckville Community Development Assn. was nominated for an award but was not selected.

Alarm Call Out Reports Phone Experts forwarded the alarm system reports for the lift stations and sewage lagoon for the month of March. No issues indicated in reports.

Quality Assurance Committee The Committee met and reviewed the following policies: sewer, water, fire hydrant maintenance. The Communications program is currently being worked on. Other discussion items included water/sewer service calls, dump truck usage, property line locates, bulk sewage disposal and RV trailer dump station.

Vehicle Decaling With the purchase of the new pick up truck, new decals will be ordered for all the town vehicles and equipment. The decals will be changed from the usual “Coat of Arms” to the logo that is used on the town letterhead and envelopes.

Upcoming Meetings, Events By-election: April 21/09 – voting hours are 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.  
 Council Planning Session: April 22/09 – 9:00 am at Emergency Services Facility.

7.3 **Financial Report**

The January and February 2009 Financial reports were reviewed.

7.4 **Development Officer's Report**

The March 31, 2009 Development Officer's Report was reviewed. Year-to-date there have been seven Development Permits issued compared to nine for the same period last year.  
 Kilian Estates Mobile Home Park – there is one lot left for rent in Phase 1 of the mobile home park and construction of Phase 2 has been started. The mobile home park owners are anticipating that some of the lots in Phase 2 will be available for rent by the end of April.  
 McDonald Heights – thirteen lots have been sold with nine homes completed and two in various stages of development.

Res.162/09

Moved by Councillor Walker that the Foreman's, Administrator's, Financial and

Development Officer's reports be received for information. Carried.

**8. Committee, Board Reports**

Councillor Ebden  
Councillor van Boeschoten  
Councillor Krecsy  
Councillor Kinley  
Councillor Walker

**8.1 Committee, Board Reports**

Nothing to report.

Nothing to report.

Nothing to report.

Nothing to report.

March 24 – attended Therese's service recognition event.

March 26 – Adult Day Support meeting.

March 30 – Lacombe Foundation meeting.

April 6-8 – Community Planning Association Conference.

April 8 – MPC

Mayor Posti

March 24 – attended Therese's service recognition event.

March 24 – Alberta Health Services supper.

March 26 – Adult Day Support meeting.

April 6-8 – Community Planning Association Conference.

April 7 – Arena meeting.

Res. 163/09

Moved by Councillor Kinley that the Committee and Board reports be received for information as presented. Carried.

**9. Correspondence, Information Items**

9.1 Alberta Municipal Affairs – Assessment Audit. A Detailed Assessment Audit Report for the Assessment Roll Year 2008 was reviewed.

9.2 Eckville Ambulance – the Statement of Operations for February 2009 was reviewed.

9.3 Seniors Advisory Council for Alberta – Seniors' Week June 1-7, 2009. Information regarding Seniors' Week was reviewed.

9.4 Alberta Health & Wellness/Alberta Health Services (AHS) – the EMS Transition Update dated March 2009 was reviewed. A dispatch plan is being finalized which will see consolidation from over 30 to 3 locations over the next 12-24 months.

9.5 FCM – Update on Federal Infrastructure Funding. The Government of Canada's Economic Action Plan (Budget 2009) provides \$12 billion in new infrastructure investments over the next two years. This funding will help create jobs and boost the economy. It will also assist municipal governments in meeting their infrastructure needs.

9.6 Blaine Calkins, MP – Federal Gas Tax Funding. Through Canada's Economic Action Plan, the Federal Government is doubling the annual funding that local municipalities receive as part of the Gas Tax Fund.

9.7 Parkland Regional Fire Prevention Group – the Meeting Minutes from January 15, 2009 were reviewed.

9.8 Alberta Infrastructure – Land for large-scale Infrastructure Projects. Enhanced accountability and transparency is the focus of proposed legislation to improve the way the Government of Alberta identifies and sets aside land for large-scale infrastructure projects related to transportation, utilities and water management.

9.9 Town of Blackfalds – an invitation to participate in the Blackfalds Day Parade on June 6, 2009 was received.

9.10 Private Member's Bill – Bill 204. A letter was received from Laurie Blakeman, MLA Edmonton-Centre, asking for support for the Private Member's Bill – Bill 204, the Provincial-Municipal Tax Sharing Act. If passed, the Bill would enable municipalities to access a portion of provincial income tax revenue each year providing predictable operating funding for municipalities in Alberta.

Res. 164/09

Moved by Councillor Walker that the correspondence and information items be received for information. Carried.

Carson Papke, Eckville Echo withdrew from the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

**10. Seminars, Meetings, Special Events**

10.1 Family Services of Central Alberta – 2009 AGM & Open House May 11, 2009

10.2 AMSC Member Notice – Muni Funds: Investment Solutions for Alberta Municipalities – May 5, 2009

10.3 Eckville Co-op Annual General Meeting April 23, 2009. Councillor Walker to attend.

Res. 165/09

Moved by Councillor Walker that the Seminars, Meetings, and Special Events be received for information and to approve attendance as indicated. Carried.

Council took a recess and reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

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| <p><b>11. In Camera</b><br/>Res.166/09</p>                                  | <p>11.1 Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the meeting move in camera excluding all persons except Council members and Staff members Administrator Kleeberger and Susan Norberg to discuss equipment, land and legal issues. Time: 9:10 p.m. Carried.</p>  |
| <p>Res.167/09</p>   | <p>Moved by Councillor Walker that the meeting come out of camera and reverts back to the regular meeting. Time: 10:20 p.m. Carried.</p>  |
| <p>Res.168/09</p>   | <p>Moved by Councillor Walker that Council proceed with the meeting past 10:00 p.m. Carried.</p>  |
| <p>Sale of Ambulance<br/>Res.169/09</p>                                     | <p>Moved by Councillor Walker to approve the sale of the Town of Eckville's ambulance to the interested party for the amount of \$4,500.00. Carried.</p>  |
| <p>Lease of Space at<br/>Emergency Services<br/>Facility<br/>Res.170/09</p> | <p>Moved by Councillor Walker that the space identified in the draft copy of the Emergency Services Facility Lease Agreement be leased to the Lacombe Municipal Ambulance Service Association at the cost of \$21,645.00 per year plus applicable utility and insurance costs. Carried.</p>   |
| <p>Addendum – Lacombe<br/>County<br/>Res.171/09</p>                         | <p>Moved by Councillor Walker that the Addendum to the Town of Eckville and Lacombe County Joint Ownership and Use Agreement be approved. Carried.</p>  |
| <p>Eckville Ambulance<br/>Donations<br/>Res.172/09</p>                      | <p>Moved by Councillor Krecsy that Administration contact ConocoPhillips and the Lawyer for the Estate of Sophus Rasmussen regarding their donations to the Eckville Ambulance to see if the parties would be in agreement to having the funds transferred to the Eckville Fire Department Donations Account. Carried.</p> <p>Councillor Kinley congratulated Administration on the 2008 Financial Statement.</p> |
| <p><b>12. Committee of the<br/>Whole</b></p>                                | <p>12.1 Councillor Walker recommended that the CAO Bylaw, Job Description and Performance Evaluation be completed at the April 22, 2009 Council Planning Session.</p>   |
| <p><b>13. Adjournment</b><br/>Res.173/09</p>                                | <p>13.1 Moved by Councillor Walker that the meeting be adjourned. Time: 10:27 p.m. Carried.</p>   |

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Mayor

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Administrator