

**TOWN OF ECKVILLE – COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Monday, August 10, 2009**  
**Council Chambers**

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| <b>1. Call to Order</b>  | 1.0 Mayor Posti called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.<br>Present: Mayor Posti, Councillors Gord Ebden, Geoff Humphrey, Scott Kinley, Mitch Krecsy, Grant van Boeschoten, John Walker<br>Staff: Administrator Therese Kleeberger, Susan Norberg<br>Press: Carson Papke, Eckville Echo   |
| <b>2. Delegations</b>  | 2.1 None  |
| <b>3. Agenda</b>   | 3.1 Additional Agenda Items:<br>10.5 – Community Revitalization Levy  |
| Res.323/09   | Moved by Councillor Humphrey that the agenda be adopted as presented with the additions. Carried.   |
| <b>4. Minutes</b>  | 4.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting July 27, 2009  |
| Res.324/09   | Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the minutes of the regular Council meeting of July 27, 2009 be adopted as presented. Carried.   |
| <b>5. Action Items</b>   | 5.1 Stantec Consulting submitted their proposal to provide engineering services for the Lift Stations/Forced Main Project. The total estimated fee is \$230,400 plus GST, excluding expenses and disbursements, with an additional 8% flat rate disbursement recovery charge.   |
| Lift Stations/Forced Main Project:<br>Engineering Services Proposal – Stantec Consulting<br>Res.325/09 | Moved by Councillor Ebden that Council accept the proposal from Stantec Consulting for engineering services for the Lift Stations/Forced Main Project. One opposed. Carried.  |
| Eckville Agricultural Society: Storage Area Construction   | 5.2 The Eckville Agricultural Society is planning to build a storage closet by the bar in the Multi-Purpose Building. The total project cost is \$3730.00 plus GST. Under the agreement with the Town of Eckville, the Eckville Agricultural Society is required to submit a request to Council for a motion of approval and to disburse funds.   |
| Res.326/09   | Moved by Councillor Krecsy that Council approves the request from the Eckville Agricultural Society to construct a storage closet in the Multi-Purpose Building, for a cost of \$3730.00 plus GST, and that the funds for the project be released to the Eckville Agricultural Society. Carried.  |
| Fencing of Municipal Reserve – 5227-48 St.   | 5.3 A request was received from the homeowner at 5227-48 St. requesting to erect a fence on the municipal reserve (Lot MR5, Block 1, Plan 8420307) adjacent to their property. They are fencing their yard and would like to include the municipal reserve. They are willing to maintain it and will install a 10 ft. gate on the north side of the house and a six ft. gate at the rear of the property for direct access.   |
| Res.327/09   | Moved by Councillor Walker that Council approve the request to erect a fence on the municipal reserve legally described as Lot MR5, Block 1, Plan 8420307 subject to the property owner entering into an agreement with the Town that will include the following conditions:<br>-that the property owner will not engage in any activity which will jeopardize the existing infrastructure and ground surface,<br>-the Town shall not at any time be responsible for, nor shall it be liable for any damage of any kind whatsoever, howsoever caused to the fence and/or trees, including any damage caused by maintenance or repairs of any kind performed by the Town on the said lands, or costs incurred by the property owner,<br>-the property owner can have the personal use and enjoyment of the municipal reserve until such time as the Town wishes to utilize the said lands for any purpose in the future.<br>Carried. |
| <b>6. Bylaws, Policies, Projects</b>   | 6.1 None  |

7. **Reports**
- Street Maintenance
- 7.1 **Foreman's Report**
- The paving crew was here last week and repaired all of the sewer digs as well as the area west of the town shop. In order to get the water to drain west of the shop we had to remove around 20 feet of curb and lower the drainage ditch by about a foot on the south end and around 4 inches on the north end. By the time First Call was done it had rained so we just roughed the ditch in and when it dries up we will fix it properly.
- We also lowered the ditch on the north end of Main Street so the water will drain at that intersection.
- The curbs have been painted on Main Street, 50 Avenue and 51 Avenue. We ran out of paint so will have to get more.
- We have also started torching on the crosswalks. I am going to paint the crosswalks after we run out of the torch on material.
- Lift Stations
- We have had good luck the past 2 weeks with the Lift Stations but have had two call outs at the lagoon because of the recent lightning storms.
- Garbage
- The truck has been working fine and our volumes are down a little compared to what they have been. There has still been stuff in the bins that is not supposed to be there.
- Pumphouse
- In the hot weather there were a few call outs at the Pumphouse due to such a large consumption of water. If someone was filling from the outside hose of the Pumphouse that would bring the Town below pressure and Pump #2 would kick in and we would get a call out for that.
- Vehicles
- All is well.
- Other
- After we finished grading the alleys and parking lots the grader was brought into the shop and taken apart for repairs. We have to get two cylinders repaired as well as replace most of the wiring and the injectors.
- There has been a problem with barricades being moved and placed across Main Street on the weekends so I have phoned the contractor who owns the barricades and asked them to do something about this problem. They said it will be looked after.
- 7.2 **Administrator's Report**
- Alberta Bldg Code  
Barrier Free  
Requirements
- Alberta Municipal Affairs sent an update on how the barrier-free requirements of the Alberta Building Code should be enforced or interpreted. If compliance cannot be achieved, the owner/developer/designer may apply for a relaxation and it must be sent to the Safety Services Branch of Alberta Municipal Affairs. Relaxations in a new build will not be granted.
- AMSC Energy  
Aggregation – Nexen  
Review
- AMSC Energy Aggregation advise that Nexen Inc. is reviewing strategic alternatives for its natural gas and power marketing businesses, which may include the sale of all or part of these businesses. Nexen stated it remains committed to its customers and will ensure that all commitments are met.
- LAPP Rate Increase
- The LAPP Board of Trustees has completed an actuarial valuation of the plan and has decided to implement a contribution rate increase over a three-year term commencing January 1, 2010. The increases are a result of significant losses during the worldwide financial crisis in 2008 and the current low interest rates.
- Medicine Valley Light  
Ind. Park Open House
- I attended the open house to hear the presentation concerning the Medicine Valley Light Industrial Park development plans. ISL Engineering presented the concept plans for the project. Topics of discussion were the road networks, storm water management, traffic impact assessment, utilities including rights-of-way. There was a lot of good feedback from those in attendance and this will be taken back for review and consideration. There were about 15 people in attendance with no opposition to the development.
- GST Review Proposal
- Luckett Wenman & Associates submitted a proposal to do a GST review of the Town. They completed a review 6 years ago that resulted in a refund of GST. I am going to contract with them to do another review.
- Plans, Policies, Bylaws
- Staff are working on various drafts: Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, Municipal Pandemic emergency plan, financial, capital investment policies.
- Joint Fire QMP,  
Operational Policy  
Capital Works Plan
- Drafts currently being reviewed. The Joint Fire QMP and the Operational Policy will be submitted to the Lacombe Regional Fire Services meeting on Sept. 16/09. Stantec is entering data into MIMS. Infrastructure analysis being integrated into plan as well. Target completion date is the end of August.
- Joint Economic  
Agreement
- Comments and suggestions for changes to the first draft forwarded to Lacombe County for their review.
- Server Problems
- As of Aug. 6/09, the server is still down. Advanced Systems still working on getting it up and running. Issues with Windows, some data corrupted but was retrieved.
- 7.3 **Financial Report**
- Report not available due to computer system problems.

Res.328/09 Moved by Councillor van Boeschoten that the Foreman's and Administrator's reports be received for information. Carried.

**8. Committee, Board Reports** 8.1 **Committee, Board Reports**

Nothing to report.

**9. Correspondence, Information Items**

Alberta Municipal Affairs: Changes to the Alberta Building Code and Alberta Fire Code

9.1 Correspondence was received from Alberta Municipal Affairs advising that some issues have come up with respect to the recent changes to the Alberta Building Code and Alberta Fire Code, implemented to make homes safer from high-intensity residential fires and increase security and fire safety on construction sites. To that end a ministerial exemption has been made to grandfather existing construction projects into the code amendments.

Alberta GFOA Special Release Bulletin

9.2 A Bulletin from the Alberta Government Finance Officers Association advises that the requirement for municipalities to file a T2 Corporate Income Tax return in order to avoid a refund hold has been deferred to include all tax years up to and including 2010.

Government of Alberta Information Bulletin: Land Use Framework

9.3 An Information Bulletin received from the Government of Alberta outlines the guidelines and terms of reference for Lower Athabasca Regional Council on developing a plan under the Land Use Framework.

AUMA Member Notice – Followup on Bill 23 (Assessment Complaint Process)

9.4 AUMA advises that Municipal Affairs has responded to the concerns AUMA raised regarding Bill 23. Municipal Affairs states that “the provincial government made these changes to streamline the complaint process and to increase its efficiency and effectiveness”. AUMA continues to be wary of the implications of this Bill, particularly as this legislative change has the potential to download Provincial responsibilities to Municipalities. AUMA continues to monitor this situation and welcomes feedback from municipalities on this matter.

AUMA Notice: Bill 203 – Amendments to the Local Authority Election Act

9.5 AUMA received a response from the Premier regarding concerns with Bill 203, Amendments to the Local Authority Election Act that proposes changes to municipal elections financing. Premier Stelmach advises that while Bill 203 is presently being reviewed, it was supported by the Government of Alberta because the changes strengthen the underlying principles of the Act by increasing accountability and transparency in Alberta's municipal election process.

Own the Podium 2010 Municipalities' Challenge

9.6 The Canadian Olympic Foundation and FCM announce the “Own the Podium 2010 Municipalities' Challenge”. The challenge is an online fundraising initiative engaging communities across the country to provide critical funding support for Own the Podium 2010, a program designed to ensure that Canadian athletes have the support they need to achieve unprecedented results on behalf of all Canadians at the 2010 Winter Games.

AUMA Notice: Responding to Bill 202

9.7 AUMA advises that Bill 202, legislation to create a Municipal Auditor General, has garnered much attention from municipalities across Alberta. The association objected to the private members' bill as soon as its existence was made public. Many municipalities have also expressed concerns regarding this Bill with many advising that it would be a duplication of the audit process that already exists under the Municipal Government Act.

Res. 329/09

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

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

- 10.1 Crime Stoppers 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – September 11, 2009 Red Deer
- 10.2 Red Deer College – Retirement Party for Ron Woodward – September 25, 2009 Red Deer. Mayor Posti to attend.
- 10.3 Northern Alberta Recycling Conference – Sept.9-11, 2009 Cold Lake
- 10.4 Eckville Fall Registration & Information Fair – September 9, 2009 @ Eckville Arena
- 10.5 AACIP – Employing a Community Revitalization Levy – August 25, 2009 Red Deer

Res. 330/09

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

Press left the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

**11. In Camera**  
Res.331/09

Moved by Councillor Humphrey that the meeting moves in camera excluding all persons except Council members, and Staff members Administrator Kleeberger and

Susan Norberg to discuss land and Alberta Animal Services issues. Time: 6:40 p.m.  
Carried.

Res.332/09

Moved by Councillor Walker that the meeting come out of camera and reverts back to the regular meeting. Time: 6:53 p.m. Carried.

Staff Member Susan Norberg left the meeting at 6:54 p.m.  
Council called a recess at 6:55 p.m.  
Council reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

**12. Committee of the Whole**  
Organizational Review  
Res. 333/09

12.1 Moved by Councillor Walker that the meeting moves in camera excluding all persons except Council members, and Staff member Administrator Kleeberger to discuss the Organizational Review. Time: 7:06 p.m. Carried.

Res.334/09

Moved by Councillor Kinley that the meeting come out of camera and reverts back to the regular meeting. Time: 9:31 p.m. Carried.

After discussing the Organizational Review in detail, the general consensus of Council is that the development of a Strategic Plan is key and from there, the majority of the recommendations in the review will fall into place. The Strategic Plan will outline the direction the community wants to go into the future.

Administrator Kleeberger withdrew from the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Res.335/09

Moved by Councillor Humphrey that the meeting moves in camera excluding all persons except Council members to discuss the personnel portion of the Organizational Review. Time: 9:41 p.m. Carried.

Res.336/09

Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the meeting come out of camera and reverts back to the regular meeting. Time: 10:20 p.m. Carried.

**13. Adjournment**  
Res.337/09

13.1 Moved by Councillor Walker that the meeting be adjourned. Time: 10:22 p.m. Carried.

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Mayor

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Administrator