

grant program.

Res.475/09 Moved by Councillor Ebden that Administration apply for the Town Office retrofit project under the 2009 Municipal Sponsorship Grant. Carried.

Councillor Kinley left the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Joint Economic Agreement (JEA) – Lacombe County 5.5 The Municipal Government Act gives municipalities powers to enter into agreements to provide any service or thing in another municipality and for the sharing of revenues. Administration requested that Council reviews and approves the Town of Eckville/Lacombe County Joint Economic Agreement.

Res. 476/09 Moved by Councillor Walker that Council approves the Town of Eckville/Lacombe County Joint Economic Agreement. Carried.

CN Rail – Pile of Railway Ties 5.6 At the July 13, 2009 Council meeting, a concern was brought forward regarding the pile of railway ties that CN has stacked on the south side of the railway tracks within the Town of Eckville. A letter was sent to CN in July for which there has been no response to date. Foreman Rick McKinnon spoke with a regional representative on November 24, 2009 who advised that CN hopes to remove the railway ties within the next year or two.

Res.477/09 Moved by Councillor Ebden that another letter be sent to CN advising of Council's concern with the safety issues, the potential fire and environmental hazards and the unsightliness of the pile of railway ties with copies of the letter sent to Blaine Calkins, MP, Ty Lund, MLA and Bruce Mackenzie of Alberta Emergency Management Agency. Carried.

Councillor Humphrey left the meeting at 6:54 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Eckville Municipal Library – Proposed Budget 2010 Res.478/09 5.7 The Eckville Municipal Library submitted their 2010 Proposed Budget for Council approval. Moved by Councillor van Boeschoten that the Eckville Municipal Library Proposed Budget for 2010 be approved. Carried.

Res.479/09 Moved by Councillor Walker that Administration advises the Eckville Municipal Library of the Town of Eckville's policy with respect to Recreation Funding. Carried.

Councillor Kinley left the meeting at 6:56 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Canadian Badlands/Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation – Tourism Development Plan for Dry Island Buffalo Jump Provincial Park and Area Res.480/09 5.8 Mayor Posti received a request to become a member of a Tourism Development Plan for Dry Island Buffalo Jump Provincial Park and area.

Moved by Councillor Walker that the request from Canadian Badlands/Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation be received for information. Carried.

Councillor Humphrey left the meeting at 7:02 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Council Meeting – December 29, 2009 5.9 Administration asked Council if they wished to cancel the December 29, 2009 Council meeting as there was nothing for the agenda to date.

Res.481/09 Moved by Councillor Kinley that the December 29, 2009 Council meeting be cancelled. Carried.

Councillor Walker left the meeting at 7:15 p.m. and re-entered the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

6. Bylaws, Policies, Projects 6.1 None

7. Reports **Foreman's Report**

Street Maintenance 7.1 We have been busy plowing streets getting all the main ones done. We had to come in last Saturday to plow the main routes and get the large drifts off the streets on the west end of town.

Lift Stations We had a little trouble with the West Lift Station but nothing serious. It just required a few minor adjustments and everything is working fine again.

Garbage The carriage is bent on the garbage truck again. I think it is because some of these bins are so heavy. It is a big job to take the truck apart and straighten the carriage so we are going to try and limp through until the new truck comes. I will keep monitoring the situation.

Pumphouse All is fine.

Vehicles All is fine.

Other I met with Waste Management and WSI over the Blue Box and Recycle programs. Waste Management cannot do the Blue Box program - they can only do what they are currently doing for us now. WSI can do the Blue Box program and a price quote is attached. Also, their Recycle program is different than the competitors where all recyclables go into one bin and when its full it goes to Horn Hill. It is then loaded onto 53' trailers and hauled to Edmonton where it is sorted.

I have completed all of the modules for my water course and am waiting for them to be marked and then I can write my AWWA test, hopefully before Christmas. If everything goes as planned I can then write my Alberta Environment test in March.

7.2 **Administrator's Report**

Facility Use Agreements Eckville Arena Operating Committee have signed and completed the facility use agreement with the Town. Eckville Community Center is in the process of signing and will likely be forwarding it shortly for signature by the Town. A draft has been given to Eckville Lions Club for their review for the campground.

Millennium Playground To the best of everyone's knowledge, there does not exist a lease agreement between the Town and Wolf Creek Public Schools for the Millennium Playground area. A draft agreement is being prepared by Wolf Creek Public Schools.

Strategic Planning Session Council held their strategic planning session on Dec. 2/09. Wayne Page Facilitation will prepare a draft plan by the end of December. It will then go before Council for their final input. Once there is a final draft, Mr. Page will meet with senior staff to look at and set out the implementation process.

eCopy Software Through the Town's lease with Ikon, the Town has acquired eCopy Desktop software. It enables users to create and distribute PDF files and provides office workers with advanced tools to scan, merge and modify documents and connect them with the software they use every day. Staff has received training to use the program and feel it will be very beneficial.

Water Meters Faulty batteries continue to be an issue with the meters. Discussion is taking place with Neptune and Accu-Flow concerning this matter. To date 33 batteries have been replaced with several more to do.

Interim Audit Collins Barrow were out Nov. 30/09 to start the interim audit. Next scheduled on site visit is March 4 – 5/09.

Lift Station/Forced Main Project Design plans are progressing. The latest revisions were reviewed and comments forwarded to Stantec. Stantec will follow up with the suggested changes and report back. The goal is to present the final designs to Council in January.

MGB Assessment Appeal Hearing Councillor Walker (as Chair of the ARB) and I travelled to Calgary Nov. 26/09 to attend and respond to the appeal that was filed with the MGB. The MGB will be forwarding their decision.

Time Off I will be off from Dec. 21 – 28/09.

Upcoming Mtgs/Seminars None

7.3 **Financial Report**
The December 14, 2009 Accounts Payable Report was reviewed.

7.4 **Development Officer's Report**
As at November 30th there have been 40 Development Permits and two Demolition Permits issued. For the same period in the previous year, 54 Development Permits and one Demolition Permit had been issued.
Kilian Estates Phase I – there are presently 27 lots rented in Phase I with 3 lots vacant and three lots rented in Phase II.
Fourteen lots have been sold in McDonald Heights, with ten homes completed and one home under construction.

7.5 **Fire Chief's Report**
The Eckville Fire Department has had 63 calls year to date. The number of calls has tripled in the last 5 years. We still have 20 members that work hard as a team.

7.6 **Website Usage Statistics**

The Website Stats Report May-November 2009 was reviewed by Council

Res.482/09 Moved by Councillor Walker that the Foreman's, Administrator's, Financial, Development Officer's, Fire Chief's and Website Usage reports be received for information. Carried.

8. Committee, Board Reports

8.1

Councillor van Boeschoten

December 2 – Strategic Planning Workshop
December 8 – Library Community Christmas Party
December 9 – Library Board Meeting

Res.483/09

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

9. Correspondence, Information Items

Alberta Transportation – 9.1
Canada-Alberta Building
Canada Fund Deadline

A letter was received from Alberta Transportation advising of the March 31, 2011 deadline to substantially complete projects under the Canada-Alberta Building Canada Fund.

Alberta Municipal
Affairs – Municipal
Sponsorship Plan for
Emergency Management
Training

9.2

Correspondence was received advising that Alberta Municipal Affairs is again funding emergency management training under the Municipal Sponsorship Program.

Alberta Municipal
Affairs – Regional
Consultation Sessions
Feedback

9.3

A letter was received from Alberta Municipal Affairs recapping the key themes brought forward by the municipalities at the Regional Consultation Sessions held in October 2009.

Government of Alberta
News Release – Land-
use Framework

9.4

A News Release was received from the Government of Alberta advising that population growth and water supply and demand are key factors that will be considered in the development of a new regional plan for southern Alberta under the Land-use Framework.

Canadian Federation of
Independent Business
(CFIB) – Alberta
Municipal Spending
Watch

9.5

CFIB is a non-partisan, political advocacy organization representing the interests of small and medium-sized businesses in Canada. CFIB advises they are releasing the second edition of their annual *Alberta Municipal Spending Watch* research report. The report reveals that operating spending continues to grow faster than combined population and inflation growth in the vast majority of municipalities. AUMA maintains that the CFIB's use of a "Fiscal Sustainability Gap" to analyze municipal finances provides a false picture of municipal governments and the functions they perform for Alberta citizens.

Government of Alberta
News Release -
Pharmaceutical Strategy

9.6

A News Release was received from the Government of Alberta advising that the second phase of a pharmaceutical strategy is being unveiled. It is expected that Albertans will save money on their generic prescription drugs and receive more advice about their medications from their local pharmacist under Phase Two of the government's pharmaceutical strategy.

Central Alberta Child &
Family Services
Authority (CFSA) –
2008-09 Annual Report

9.7

A letter was received from CFSA advising their 2008-09 Annual Report is available on their website at www.centralalbertacfsa.gov.ab.ca.

AlbertaFirst.com –
Dissolution of
Organization

9.8

The Board of AlbertaFirst.com has agreed in principal to move toward the dissolution of the organization as a result of a loss of major funding.

Alberta Municipal
Services Corporation
(AMSC) – 2010 Group
Benefits

9.9

AMSC provided the 2010 Group Benefits renewal statement effective January 1, 2010.

AMSC Insurance
Services Ltd. – AMSC
Pet Insurance Benefit
Program

9.10

AMSC announced the launch of Pet Health Insurance.

Alberta Urban

9.11

A letter was received from AUMA expressing their appreciation for Council's

Municipalities
Association (AUMA) –
2009 Annual Convention attendance and participation in the 2009 Annual Convention.

Citizenship and
Immigration Canada –
Paul Yuzyk Award for
Multiculturalism 9.12 Citizenship and Immigration Canada provided information on the Paul Yuzyk Award for Multiculturalism.

Alberta Sport,
Recreation, Parks &
Wildlife Foundation –
2008-09 Annual Report 9.13 Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks & Wildlife Foundation provided a copy of their 2008-09 Annual Report.

Res. 484/09 Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the correspondence and information items be received for information. Carried.

- 10. Seminars, Meetings, Special Events**
- 10.1 Brownlee LLP – Emerging Trends in Municipal Law (Calgary – Feb.4/10, Edmonton – Feb.11/10). Mayor Posti and Councillor Walker to attend February 11, 2010 workshop.
10.2 Growing Rural Tourism – April 12-14, 2010
10.3 Eckville High School Potluck Dinner – December 18, 2009

Res.485/09 Moved by Councillor Humphrey that the Seminars, Meetings, and Special Events be received for information and to approve attendance as indicated. Carried

- 11. In Camera** None

12. Committee of the Whole

Water & Sewer Bylaw 12.1 Council reviewed the new Water & Sewer Bylaw and asked that the final draft be brought back to Council at a later date.

Water & Sewer Rates
Bylaw (Utility Rates and
Fee Structure 2010
Bylaw 693/09) 12.2 Council reviewed Bylaw 693/09, being a Bylaw to establish and set the water, sewer and garbage rates and fee structure for the water, sewer and garbage services for the Town of Eckville. Council made some amendments to the rates and fees.

Res.486/09 Moved by Councillor Ebden to give Bylaw 693/09 first reading with the amendments. Six in favor, one against. Carried.

Res.487/09 Moved by Councillor Krecsy to give Bylaw 693/09 second reading with the amendments. Six in favor, one against. Carried.

Res.488/09 Moved by Councillor Kinley to introduce Bylaw 693/09 for third reading with the amendments. One opposed. Defeated.

Council requested the amendments be made to the Utility Rates and Fee Structure 2010 Bylaw 693/09 and that a Special Meeting be held on December 29, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in order to review and pass the said Bylaw.

Councillor Humphrey left the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

- 13. Adjournment** 13.1 Moved by Mayor Posti that the meeting be adjourned. Time: 9:00 p.m. Carried.
Res. 489/09

Mayor

Administrator