

TOWN OF ECKVILLE – COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, May 12, 2008
Council Chambers

- 1. Call to Order** 1.0 Mayor Helen Posti called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
Present: Mayor Helen Posti, Councillors Gord Ebden, Scott Kinley, Mitch Krecsy, Rick McKinnon, and John Walker.
Staff: Administrator Therese Kleeberger, Recording Secretary Susan Norberg
Absent: Councillor Sandra Hallgren
- 3. Agenda** 3.1 Additional Agenda Items:
Action 5.5: Borrowing of Snow Fence – Safe Grad Party
Action 5.6: 2008 Budget
Seminars, Meetings:
10.5: Charity Golf Tournament - Rimbey
10.6: Rocky Mountain House Parade – June 7, 2008
- Res. 205/08 Moved by Councillor McKinnon that the agenda be adopted as presented with additions. Carried.
- 4. Minutes** 4.1 Moved by Councillor Walker that the minutes of the regular Council meeting held April 28, 2008 be adopted as circulated. Carried.
Res. 206/08
- 5. Action Items** 5.1 A letter was received from a citizen inquiring about the census that was to be done in 2008, the sale of bulk water and the usage of same, where residents are to park their RV's if they are not allowed to park on the streets, and why the sidewalk in front of the Town Office was not shoveled after a recent snowfall.
- Census - Council had decided at the 2008 Budget meeting not to proceed with a census this year.
Bulk Water – while it is difficult to control what bulk water is being used for, the amount of water being sold does not support the notion that bulk water is being used for well injection purposes.
RV Parking – at the April 28th Council Meeting, Council rescinded the motion of not allowing RV parking on streets. Administration is presently investigating what other municipalities do in this regard.
Snow Shoveling – as the clearing of the streets was the priority at the time of the last heavy snowfall, this unfortunately resulted in the sidewalks in front of the Town Office not being cleaned until later in the day. Public Works will be advised that shoveling of the sidewalk in front of the Town Office is to be done first thing in the morning following a snowfall, and throughout the day as required if possible. Administration will also look into hiring someone to shovel the sidewalks on the weekends if required.
- Res.207/08 Moved by Councillor Kinley that Administration provide statistics on municipal water consumption versus bulk walker consumption at the May 26, 2008 Council meeting. Carried.

Lacombe County – Cemetery Agreement – Additional Lands from Old Railway 5.2 At the April 14, 2008 Council Meeting, Council reviewed the Cemetery Agreement received from Lacombe County. The agreement included the transfer of the rail bed land adjacent to the Eckville Cemetery to the Town of Eckville in order to expand the existing Cemetery. Council made a motion at that time to sign the agreement subject to written confirmation that there are no environmental concerns with the rail bed. Correspondence has since been received from Lacombe County indicating that while a formal environmental assessment was not completed, they are confident there are no concerns in this regard.

Res.208/08 Moved by Councillor Ebden that the Town of Eckville accepts the land as is to be used to expand the Eckville Cemetery and to sign and return the Cemetery Agreement to Lacombe County. Carried.

Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta - Local Government Charter 5.3 An information session to discuss a Local Government Charter proposal will be held in Red Deer on May 31, 2008. Mayor Helen Posti will attend and report back to Council as approved at the April 28, 2008 Council Meeting. Mayor Posti advised if any member of Council had any concerns or questions they would like addressed at the session to let her know.

Res.209/08 Moved by Councillor McKinnon that the Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta - Local Government Charter correspondence be received for information. Carried.

Alberta Transportation – Sylvan Lake Half Ironman Triathlon – July 26, 2008 5.4 Correspondence received from Alberta Transportation regarding the Sylvan Lake Half Ironman Triathlon being held on July 26, 2008, which will pass through Eckville on Highway 766. Approval is required from the Town of Eckville.

Res.210/08 Moved by Councillor Walker that a letter be sent to Sylvan Lake Triathlon advising of the Town of Eckville’s approval of the event providing Highway 766 meets Alberta Transportation’s specifications. Carried.

Borrowing of Snow Fence – Eckville Safe Grad 5.5 A request was received from a parent of one of the Eckville Grads to use the Town’s plastic snow fence for the Safe Grad party. The snow fence will be used to fence off the area where the party will take place and allow for a restricted entrance/exit to the party.

Res.211/08 Moved by Councillor McKinnon that Council approve the request for the Eckville Graduating Class to use the Town’s snow fence for the Safe Grad party. Carried.

2008 Budget Res.212/08 5.6 Moved by Councillor Kinley that this item be deferred to the end of the meeting. Carried.

6.1 Bylaws, Projects 6.1 The first reading and Public Hearing for Bylaw 678/08, a bylaw to amend the zoning of SE 21-39-3-5 from Urban Reserve to Central Commercial and Lot 6, Block 20, Plan 7720079 and Lot 11, Block 20, Plan 8920768 from Urban Reserve to Heavy Industrial, took place on April 14th. A presentation expressing concerns with respect to noise and possible odors was given by an adjacent landowner. The Town of Eckville’s Municipal Development

Plan includes a policy that states “Where industrial development occurs or exists adjacent to non-industrial land uses, the Town will require the provision of sufficient screening and/or buffering to minimize potential impacts on the non-industrial areas. This may include the provision of landscaping, fences, and/or berming.” In addition, there is a dedicated green space on the west side of Lot 11, Block 20, Plan 8920768. Objections have not been received from the Wolf Creek School Division to date and Parkland Community Planning Services have advised there are no regulations with respect to zoning properties adjacent to schools. Council discussed the potential development options based on different zoning and felt that any issues or concerns could be adequately dealt with in a Development Agreement and Development Plan with the developer.

Res.213/08 Moved by Councillor Walker to give Bylaw 678/08 second reading. Carried.

Res.214/08 Moved by Councillor Ebden to give Bylaw 678/08 third and final reading. Carried.

Building Infrastructure 6.2 Council reviewed and discussed the Tenders for the Building Infrastructure Data Collection Project – Review of Tenders Data Collection Project. The grant monies available for this project are \$20,000.00. After considerable discussion, Council made the decision to award the contract to Stantec Consulting.

Res.215/08 Moved by Councillor Walker that the Building Infrastructure Data Collection Project contract be awarded to Stantec Consulting. Carried.

7. Reports:
Street Maintenance
 Street Sweeping

7.1 **Foreman’s Report**

At last, the entire Town has had at least one pass with the sweeper to pickup immediate gravel/sand left over from winter. Normal sweeping will begin again and we will attempt, as time permits, to do another entire Town sweep.

Pot Holes

We are going to fill some of the larger areas with cold mix. This will only be a temporary solution as digging up and re-paving will be required in the near future.

Lift Stations

East Lift Stations

A second air valve broke down on May 8, 2008. The diaphragm on the air valve had blown thus sending wastewater into the lift station. It was immediately shutdown and repaired by All Pro Valve. We were able to use the valve I had rebuilt. All Pro Valve will rebuild the valve or get us a replacement valve.

Garbage

Waste

Once again we have found a load of concrete and concrete siding in a bin. This time it was at the pumphouse/campground. We have samples of the siding and will investigate further.

Pumphouse

Leak at Pumphouse

After the snowstorm on May 8 2008, we noticed that we had a leak coming from the electrical transformer line into the pumphouse. Bermac Electric came out and open up the plate and water spewed out. After confirming

with Fortis, it is a problem with the secondary line from the transformer into the pumphouse. We do not know if there is a break in the conduit line or is there a line at all? Water drains from the roof of the pumphouse down on top of the line so we are not sure if that is where our leak is. Will continue to investigate and get problem fixed ASAP.

Other

Flushing of McDonald Heights

As requested by Gary Will, we are going to flush the sewer lines from McDonald Heights. When Cam-Trac inspections comes in to do the camering and flushing of the Town sewer lines, we will have them do this job first.

Gravel

We have ordered some more gravel. Bill Bardenhagen will deliver it the week of May 12th -16th.

Compost Pile

Due to the amount of brush and other items that are not compostable in the pile, we will begin the move the pile out to the lagoon and use it for fill in the swamp area and start a new and hopefully cleaner compost pile.

Dry Rubble/Brush

One (1) dry rubble run and two (2) brush runs were completed since the last report.

Hazardous Household Roundup

We have tentatively marked Saturday June 28, 2008 from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm as our date and time for the Toxic Round up.

Float

The Town of Eckville float has been re-built and is on the truck ready for use. Extra duct tape/staples/staple gun etc will be placed inside if needed.

Snow Fence

We will be taking down and discarding all of the wooden and broken snowfence as quickly as possible.

Flooding

I have been asked again by the resident of 5140-52 street to see if we could repair the drainage of the campground behind his home. Although water from the campground ditch flows west towards 52 street , he informs me that it floods his backyard and it seems that only his yard has this issue. In the past, the area was dug out and it was thought the problem was fixed. We may need to have the engineer look at this area as well the alley between 48/49th streets and 51/52 avenues.

Issue from previous Foreman's Report
Sewer line inspections

Status Work that has been completed

- O Work has not yet begun due to the weather. Will try again the week of May 12th.

(O = ongoing)

Administrator Kleeberger advised that although the McDonald Heights street signs have been received, they do not have the Town of Eckville Coat of Arms on them, so will be returned to have that completed. Public Works will prioritize the maintenance at the Millenium Park and will

start the repairs at the Skateboard Park. The slide has been received for the 50th Avenue Playground and will be installed as soon as possible. Garbage weights had been requested at the last Council meeting. This information was not available for this meeting.

Council discussed the flooding issue and suggested that site lines should perhaps be done to try rectify this problem.

7.2 **Administrator's Report**

Projects

Memorial Park Storm Water Drainage: a pre-project meeting was held on May 1/08 with the contractors to go over the details. Planned project start date is June 10/08.

Water Meters Project: a pre-project meeting was held on May 8/08. An introductory letter has gone to the residents. An information booklet will be mailed out in the next week or so also. Residents are encouraged to book appointments right away. Project start date will be May 26/08 and the goal is to have the project completed by the end of June.

North Outlet Storm Water: Tagish Engineering is nearing completion of the design and cost estimates for the project. I am working with affected land owners to get easements signed.

Kilian Estates: engineers were out with the contractors to do a site inspection. No major deficiencies were noted. Certificates will be issued for the deep utilities. There is another year to go yet for the roadworks.

Standard Development Agreement: Brownlee Law is close to completing their review. There are a couple of options for Council to consider: use the agreement that they have developed, or continue using the Town's which needs some beefing up.

Holidays

I will be on holidays from May 15 –26, 2008.

7.3 **Financial Report**

The Accounts Payable report was reviewed.

Res. 216/08

Moved by Councillor Walker that the Foreman's, Administrator's and Financial reports be received for information. Carried.

Res.217/08

Moved by Councillor Ebden that the Brownlee Law Development Agreement template be used by the Town of Eckville. Carried.

8. **Committee, Board Reports**

Councillor Ebden

8.1

Canada Day Fireworks: Councillor Ebden advised that as a 300 meter distance is required for setting off fireworks, and that there is not an area within the Town of Eckville that will provide that much distance, that "Family Fireworks" should be purchased for the Canada Day Fireworks Display this year. "Family Fireworks" only require a 50 meter distance and as they do not cost as much, more fireworks can be purchased.

Res.218/08

Councillor Ebden moved that Administration send a letter to the David Thompson Health Region requesting permission to set off the fireworks on

their land on the north side of the Town on Canada Day, and that letters also be sent to Newalta and adjacent landowners advising of this event and if they have any concerns to contact the Town Office. Carried.

Councillor McKinnon

Plasco Plant: Councillor McKinnon travelled to Ottawa to tour the Plasco Test Plant. He reported there was no smell and little noise even though the generators were running. The plant is presently in test operation. It is situated on 3 acres beside the current landfill. The power that is generated from the plant is sold to the power grid. If the Plasco Plant goes ahead here it will take approximately 2 years to build and another year to get it running. The Letter of Credit is presently an issue that is being dealt with.

Bull-Arena: The event was a success although the final numbers are not in yet.

Memorial Park: It is being recommended that a concrete swale be built to divert water to 54th Avenue.

Councillor Krecsy

Eckville Library: attended a meeting on May 6th. Introductory computer classes are being offered for the next few weeks. The Summer Reading Program is ready to go and summer staff has been hired.

Emergency Table Top Exercise: will be attending the Sword Energy Table Top Exercise with Councillor Ebden on May 15th.

Councillor Kinley

A written report was provided by Councillor Kinley.

Community Needs Survey: the 3 major themes from the assessment were:

1. Recreation – there is strong interest in a skateboard park and a splash park. A committee was struck to fact find on both of these.
2. Welcoming Community – a group is working on a community garden and a community Food Bank.
3. Community Cleanliness – The High School is doing a cleanup on June 5th and would like to have some community involvement. A more structured event coordinated through Pitch-In Canada is tentatively being planned for next year.

Fire Department: The Fire Department is requesting an additional phone line be installed in the Emergency Services Facility. They also inquired if the old fire truck is going to be sold.

Administration and Council advised that as the old fire truck belongs to the Town, not the Fire Department, that Councillor Kinley advise the Fire Department of this and that there is no intention of selling it. The additional phone line request will be referred to the Emergency Services Committee.

Councillor Ebden left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Councillor Walker

Adult Day Support Meeting: There will be a Caregiver Tea on June 26th at

the Health Care Centre.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting: Chili Cook-off is on June 6th. A request will be sent to the Town asking for permission to barricade the street.

Inter-agency Meeting: held on May 6th. Discussed the activities each agency was going to be doing in the near future. Guest speaker spoke on Family Violence and Bullying. Seniors Week is the first week of June.

DTHR Breakfast: Guest speaker spoke on the changing roles of nurses.

Central Alberta Seniors Housing Association (CASHA): discussed some of the issues facing local boards – funding, staffing, costs (food, etc.).

Reviewed the government standards for supportive living and assisted living.

Mayor Posti

Attended the following events:

Volunteer Recognition Night: well attended event.

Third Academy: received a Hidden Hero Award.

Family Gospel Music Festival: attendance continues to grow at this annual event.

Women In Politics

Peanut Butter, Pearls and Politics

Bull-Arena

Ann Thomas' 90th Birthday

Mother's Day Tea

Res. 219/08

Moved by Councillor Walker that the committee and board reports be received for information. Carried.

Councillor Ebden re-entered the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Mayor Posti called a recess at 7:55 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

**9. Correspondence,
Information Items**

- 9.1 CAEP – Annual General Meeting – June 12, 2008 – Draft Agenda. Moved to 10.7
- 9.2 Alberta Employment & Immigration – Best Employers Award for 50-Plus Canadians. The Awards will be presented at the fourth Annual Summit on Mature Workforce to be held in Calgary in the fall of 2008. Open to employers that have 10 or more employees.
- 9.3 First Impressions Community Exchange (FICE) Program – the Town of Eckville's application for this pilot program was declined due to the volume of applications received. Our application will be kept on file should the program continue next year.
- 9.4 Parkland Regional Library (PRL) – 2008 Annual Survey and 2007 Annual Report. 52% of municipalities belonging to PRL completed the survey with a result of 100% satisfaction. The report outlined where funding was spent.
- 9.5 Eckville Ambulance – Statement of Operations March 2008. Call average is up year to date and the year end projection is significantly higher than the previous four years.

Res.220/08

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

- 10. Seminars, Meetings, Special Events**
- 10.1 Alberta Urban Municipalities Association – Summer Networking Golf Tournament – June 19, 2008
 - 10.2 Alberta Emergency Management Agency – Mini Forums. Councillor Ebden to attend on May 20, 2008.
 - 10.3 Town of Westlock – Designing Affordable & Sustainable Homes & Communities – June 17, 2008.
 - 10.4 Prairie Region *trans*CAER Seminar & Workshop – July 12, 2008
 - 10.5 7th Annual Rimbey Invitational Charity Golf Tournament – June 19, 2008
 - 10.6 Rocky Mountain House Parade Invitation – June 7, 2008. The Town of Eckville is unable to participate due to the Eckville Parade being the same day.
 - 10.7 CAEP Annual General Meeting – June 12, 2008. Marty Jones will be attending on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Administration will followup with Councillor Hallgren to see if she will be attending.
- Res.221/08
- Moved by Councillor Kinley that the Seminars, Meetings, and Special Events be received for information and to approve attendance as indicated. Carried.
- 5. Action Items**
- 5.6 2008 Budget. Council reviewed the 2008 Budget and thanked Administrator Kleeberger for all her efforts in completing this task.
- Res.222/08
- Moved by Councillor Walker that Council approve the 2008 Budget. Carried.
- 11. In Camera**
Res. 223/08
- Moved by Councillor McKinnon that the meeting go in camera excluding all persons except Council members, Administrator Therese Kleeberger and Staff Susan Norberg to discuss land issues, the Intermunicipal Development Plan and the Water Meter project. Time: 8:35 p.m. Carried.
- Out of Camera
Res. 224/08/08
- Moved by Councillor Krecsy that the meeting revert back to the regular meeting. Time: 9:15 p.m. Carried.
- 11. Committee of the Whole**
- 13. Adjournment**
Res. 225/08
- 13.1 Moved by Councillor McKinnon that the meeting be adjourned. Time: 9:16 p.m. Carried.

Mayor

Administrator