



**TOWN OF HINTON
Regular Council Meeting
January 7, 2014**

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Mackin, Councillors Dale Currie, Ryan Maguhn,
Glen Barrow, Matthew Young

ABSENT: Councillors Stuart Taylor and Marcel Michaels

SECRETARY: Lil Wallace - Executive Assistant

ALSO PRESENT: Bernie Kreiner - Town Manager
Rhonda West - Legislative & Administrative Services Coordinator
Denise Parent - Director of Corporate Services

ORDER

Mayor Rob Mackin called the Regular Council meeting to order. The time was 5:02 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

D. CURRIE - That the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting held January 7, 2014 be adopted as presented.

Carried

CITIZENS "MINUTE WITH COUNCIL"

No one came forward wishing to speak to Council.

DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Dog Park Proposal - Presented by Sharlotte Walsh

Sharlotte Walsh and Lorraine Johnston-MacKay presented their group's vision for a fenced-in dog park in Hinton to be located at Mary Reimer Park. They advised their biggest expense would be approximately \$12,000 costs for fencing and that vandals could be the biggest threat to the park fencing. They are hoping that the lighting will be a big enough deterrent to vandals. Lights would be added to the town's lighting system and the group would be fundraising for the installation costs. Council was told all funds would have to be in place before proceeding with the park but that they have not started to fundraise as it is difficult if a location is not firm first.

Administration advised that since the town is better equipped to do some things and since the park will be built on our lands, ultimately once built, the park will end up to be the town's responsibility. The Town will probably also look after cleaning out the dog waste receptacles provided they are in close proximity to the road and it is easy to do so. Mike Schwirtz will check into what other communities are doing.

Council was told that the group intends to post the rules on a board near the entrance and also enforce those rules. Administration advised that when this is put into place, bylaw services animal control has typically an amendment to their bylaw to include some enforcement rules.


Initial

The delegation advised volunteer clean-up would be ongoing through a "Friends of the Dog Park" but the fundraising, setup, etc. would be a one-time thing. The SPCA does not want to take on the responsibility of the park.

Council enquired about citizen's safety respecting encounters with wild animals that go through the area already and the delegation advised the impact should be minimal due to the size of site.

Mayor Mackin then thanked the delegation for their presentation and asked the group to keep council informed as the group's plans unfold. However, the delegation requested that council make an immediate decision so they can proceed with their fundraising. Town Manager Bernie Kreiner advised administration is comfortable in making this recommendation, with appropriate conditions applied.

After further discussion respecting what the unknown costs might be, Council made the following motion:

R. MACKIN - That council support in principle the site location at Mary Reimer Park for a potential dog park as proposed; however, that council's final affirmation of the site will be based on further operational cost analysis coming back to council from Administration.

Carried

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION

1. Regular Meeting of Council Minutes - December 3, 2013

D. CURRIE - That the Minutes listed above be approved as presented.

Carried

ACTION ITEMS

Refer to the Regular Council Meeting Agenda package for January 7, 2014 for detailed background information on these decisions.

1. **Appointment to the Yellowhead Regional Library Board and Alternate Councillor Appointments to Town Boards & Committees**

G. BARROW - That Terri McHugh be appointed to the Yellowhead Regional Library Board to the 2014 Organizational Meeting of Council;

Carried

D. CURRIE - That Council approve the 2014 Council Representation on Town boards and committees as presented in Attachment #1 with the removal of the Riverfront Park Committee and appointing Councillor Marcel Michaels as the CEAC alternate.

Carried

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Council Information Package #1 - previously circulated December 18, 2013
2. Council Information Package #2 - previously circulated January 3, 2014, 2013



The Mayor asked if Administration knew the number of appeals we get in a year and was advised that 13 appeals were received in 2013, being 7 residential and 6 commercial properties; 7 residential were heard by the local assessment review board and those decisions made in October; the commercial appeals are heard by the composite review board and those were the ones included in the council information package; 2 were not allowed to proceed various reasons and 4 went ahead. This year was a little higher than previous years as traditionally there are only 2 to 3 commercial property appeals. However, 4 commercials were from one owner on 3 parcels of land. Council then asked how much we lost from the decisions and was advised this represents about \$20,000, with 1/3 related to school requisitions so \$15,000 would be town's portion.

M. YOUNG - That Council Information Packages #1 and # 2 be accepted for information.

Carried

REPORTS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER

The Mayor requested that the Town Manager present his report first.

1. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Bernie Kreiner reported:

- met with 3 business partners and non-profit group re theatre; Jasper's theatre operator shared his information; discussed options and how to move forward; 2 continued to have interest as private sector; opportunity for parties to work together and share views;
- Planning & Development Dept. initiative is called "Planning Matters – Together"; commencing Jan. 1 surveys are being done asking "How did we do?" and services will be tracked; meeting with stakeholders on Jan. 24th to look at our processes and policies; and relationships to see how to improve;
- offsite levies chamber committee will meet one more time before final framework bylaw presented before council;
- On January 30, 2014 at 2:00 pm the public is invited to the library's milestone event celebrating 30 years of the library in that location and the head librarian's retirement after 30 years of service;
- Rona and the alley access – council was advised that a meeting is being scheduled for late January or early February to meet with whole group; then will report back to council;
- variance reports – we have line-by-line items that go both over and under in the budget (snow removal example) but the overall direction that Administration takes is to strive to come in under budget for year end.

2. Council Reporting (Training/Conferences/CEAC, Listening Teams, All Other Committees)

Councillor Glen Barrow reported:

- sent in his AUMA convention report before Christmas; felt the first couple of days of the convention were not very good as he didn't learn much, but then networking and actual convention provided good information; he learned we need to learn solutions to help ourselves and don't depend on government funding; saw some good ideas for rec centre and pool
- will attend Hinton Policing Committee meeting on Thursday; coffee with public at Old Grind coming up at end of month;


Initial

Councillor Ryan Maguhn reported:

- attended his first meeting with the Municipal Library Board; learned some impressive statistics, for example in November the Hinton library lent out 1,622 items in one month, borrowed 784 items which means our library is well equipped; lending more than taking in; the Teck Coal room had 96 hours usage that month; new library manager (Tara Million) has been hired; January 31, 2014 is Hetty's retirement event; welcome to public to attend during the day. The Library Board made a decision to form a committee re purchasing retirement gifts and he feels they could use some guidance so he made the following motion:

R. MAGUHN - Understanding that retirements of the head librarian's nature are relatively uncommon, council requests the Mayor to draft a letter outlining current town retirement gift policies for the library board's consideration in making their deliberations.

Carried

Councillor Dale Currie reported:

- he met with a group of businessmen to discuss the performing arts theatre and the financial feasibility of same;
- in early April, Hinton will be hosting a 30-team hockey tournament ("Challenge in the Rockies") which the Hanson Bros. will attend; watch the paper for more details; a large number of volunteers will be required to host this event.

Councillor Matthew Young reported:

- Community Futures West Yellowhead has several meetings coming up that will keep him busy in January.
- Referring to the Challenge in the Rockies hockey tournament and the letter of request for funding that was previously received, he stated the request had been discussed in a previous Standing Committee but no decision had been made at that time. Administration advised that all funding requests (including other time-sensitive ones that had been received) through the Community Safety Initiatives will be coming to council next week so the request could be dealt with at that time. Some Council members felt this request should be dealt with on an individual basis during this meeting and others wanted to receive information respecting the rec centre costs/donating rec centre time. The following motion was then made:

M. YOUNG - That council approve the request from Challenge in the Rockies for funding in the amount of \$15,000.00 to come from photo radar reserve funding.

Carried

- Councillor Young then brought up the "Rona alley use" matter. He made the following motion and stated the intention is that until Administration comes back with a solution and/or agreement with parties, that everyone can use the alley until that time:

M. YOUNG - That enforcement cease re using the R2 lot off Hardisty Avenue between Sunwapta Drive and Switzer Drive until an amicable agreement is finalized on the overall situation; or until such time that Council orders enforcement to resume.

Carried

Mayor Rob Mackin reported:

- he agrees with Councillor Glen Barrow's comments re worthiness of attending the AUMA convention. He stated he will provide AUMA with his feedback and comments that some sessions were not valuable. He then made the following motion:

R. MACKIN - That outside of election years the Town of Hinton send two council delegates only to the annual AUMA conference.

Carried

- had a very busy Christmas season; invited to many events in town since it is his first term as mayor;
- Evergreens Foundation - a motion was made to have the 4 empty homes in Hinton sold and direct Municipal Affairs to give funding back to Hinton.
- encourage council involvement in Riverfront park committee; they are coming before Council as a delegation in January;
- meeting with Grande Prairie Regional College this week;
- meeting with West Fraser near end of month;
- presentation to Chamber near end of month;
- "couch surfing" coming – meeting with the public at Parks West Mall;

MOVE IN CAMERA

M. YOUNG - That the Regular Council meeting move in camera.

Carried

The time was 6:48 p.m. Councillor Dale Currie left the meeting at 6:50 p.m. as he had to go to work.

R. MAGUHN - That Regular Council meeting revert to regular session.

Carried

The time was 7:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

G. BARROW -That the Regular Meeting of Council adjourn.

Carried

The time was 7:36 p.m.



Mayor



Director of Corporate Services


Initial

