



## TOWN OF HINTON REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES December 2, 2014

**PRESENT:** Mayor Rob Mackin, Councillors Dale Currie, Ryan Maguhn, Marcel Michaels, Stuart Taylor, Glen Barrow, Matthew Young

**ABSENT:** N/A

**SECRETARY:** Lil Wallace - Executive Assistant

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mike Schwirtz - Town Manager  
Denise Parent - Director of Corporate Services  
Rhonda West - Legislative & Administrative Services Coordinator

### **ORDER**

Mayor Rob Mackin called the Regular Council meeting to order. The time was 5:00 p.m.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**D. CURRIE - That the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting held December 2, 2014 be adopted as presented.**

**Carried**

Rhonda West handed out ballots to Council so they could vote and the tally would be reported on later in the meeting.

### **CITIZENS "MINUTE WITH COUNCIL"**

Joan Janeczko asked if council had met with the school boards respecting the defibrillator purchase and maintenance. Her understanding was that if the school would agree to look after the ongoing maintenance of the equipment, including any costs to do so, the town would then pay to purchase it. Administration advised that the Health & Safety Coordinator has spoken to the school boards on the phone. Administration's understanding is that the town would get the school the cheaper price, due to their bulk buying power, but it was contingent on the school agreeing to also pay the ongoing maintenance. **Administration will follow up with Mrs. Janeczko directly and also report back to council on status.**

Mrs. Janeczko also stated she was hoping there would be some trainer time bought also, and there must be proper signage as to where the AED is located. **Administration will also report back to council on this.**

In support of an action item to be discussed later in the agenda, Adam Walker, Director of Operations, and Duane Vienneau, Executive Director, both with Tour Alberta, presented statistics and financial information on the possibility of Hinton hosting the Stage II Finish Festival.

  
Initial

## **DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Appeal of Notice Under Bylaw 1009-1 - Presented by Dan and Charlotte Sedgwick**

See Attachment #1 for Late Handout provided to Council by Dan and Charlotte Sedgwick.

Mike Jodoin appeared on behalf of Dan and Charlotte Sedgwick to appeal the infraction ticket they recently received under Nuisance Bylaw #1009-1. Mr. Jodoin advised the Sedgwick's had taken a number of steps to process the wood to burn better, including several financial expenditures, to improve their burning practices in order to appease their neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Benson. The Bensons previously appeared before council on October 21, and November 4, 2014 to complain about smoke from the Sedgwick's chimney filling their house.

Mr. Jodoin further advised that the nuisance bylaw had been created when he was a member of Town Council, and it had been created to deter people from burning wet fuel and/or garbage or other noxious substances in their stoves. He said it was not meant to stop people from heating their homes with proper wood fuel, and this is a community issue as it could affect all citizens with stoves and/or fireplaces.

Several present and past neighbors of the Sedgwicks and Bensons then provided their comments to council in support of the Sedgwicks, indicating they had noticed an improvement in the burning, resulting in little or no smoke. Some concerns were expressed that they too burn wood and by levying the fine there is concern council could be heading towards banning wood stoves in the community.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION**

1. Regular Meeting of Council Minutes - November 18, 2014

**M. YOUNG - That the Minutes listed above be approved as presented.**

Carried

## **ACTION ITEMS**

***Refer to the Regular Council Meeting Agenda package for [December 2, 2014](#) for detailed background information on these decisions.***

### **1. RFD for Appeal Ticket**

**R. MAGUHN - That Council support the appeal of the charge and have the ticket issued to Daniel Sedgwick dated November 20, 2014 withdrawn.**

Carried

**R. MAGUHN – That Council refer the issue of nuisance smoke to a Standing Committee meeting, the date of which is to be determined by the mayor and administration; and that Council direct Administration to look at:**

- (1) practical health thresholds that we can measure; and
- (2) how 4-5 surrounding communities have dealt with nuisance indoor and outdoor smoke.

Carried

  
Initial

Because the nuisance bylaw covers several different items (snow removal, parking, smoke, etc.), Administration asked for direction and clarification on enforcing the current nuisance bylaw until the bylaw is thoroughly reviewed and/or updated.

**R. MACKIN - That Bylaw Services shall suspend effective immediately any further enforcement of complaints under Section 4.05 (h) of the Nuisance Bylaw until the matter comes before Regular Council for a decision.**

**Motion Defeated**

After further discussion on how council would like to proceed, the Mayor called for a short recess at 6:49 p.m. to give Administration time to review the matter and provide a recommendation. The meeting reconvened at 6:59 p.m.

Administration recommended to continue with enforcement of infractions as set out in the current bylaw until the next Standing Committee meeting, when Administration will present a report with options.

**2. Tour of Alberta**

**M. YOUNG - That the funding request of \$150,000 relating to the purchase of the rights for Hinton to host the Stage II finish festival of the 2015 Tour of Alberta be denied.**

**Carried**

**3. Appointment to Yellowhead Regional Library Board and the Community Engagement & Accountability Committee (CEAC)**

**D. CURRIE – That HENDRIK SMIT be appointed to the Yellowhead Regional Library Board to the 2015 Organizational Meeting of Council.**

**Carried**

Council appointed DOUG HEINE (based on ballot voting results) to the Community Engagement & Accountability Committee (“CEAC”) to the 2016 Organizational Meeting of Council.

**4. Recreation Centre Stat Openings**

**D. CURRIE – That as an initial first task the future appointed Recreation Centre Advisory Committee review the opening/closing of the Dr. Duncan Murray Recreation Centre on all statutory holidays.**

**Motion Defeated**

**G. BARROW – That Council support continuing the Dr. Duncan Murray Recreation Centre Statutory day openings trial (conducted in 2014) for a further two-year period.**

**Carried**

**5. Recommendation from Standing Committee Meeting**

**G. BARROW - That Council supports the concept of a riverfront park.**

**Carried**

  
Initial

**6. Request for Property Tax Reimbursement**

**M. YOUNG - That the request of Ronald and Nina Schroder (to have their property taxes reimbursed during the time they were living in other accommodations due to a house fire) be denied.**

**Carried**

**R. MAGUHN - That Council extend the time for the Regular Council Meeting beyond three hours.**

**Carried**

The time was 8:29 p.m.

**7. Request to Cancel Property Tax Penalties**

See Attachment #2 for Late Handout provided to Council by Field Law.

**R. MAGUHN - That the request made by Field Law on behalf of their client (to cancel the property tax penalties in the amount of \$42,831.31 from 2007 to April 2013 for the property located on 350 Drinnan Way) be denied.**

**Carried**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Council Information Package #1 - previously circulated November 19, 2014
2. Council Information Package #2 - previously circulated November 26, 2014

**S. TAYLOR - That Council Information Packages #1 and # 2 be accepted for information.**

**Carried**

**REPORTS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER**

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

Councillors reported on the various committees, meetings and activities they attended since the last Regular Council meeting and what they plan on attending in the coming weeks. The Mayor stated that due to holiday schedules, there may not be quorum for the December 23, 2014 Standing Committee meeting.

**R. MACKIN - That the Standing Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 23, 2014 is cancelled.**

**Carried**

**2. Town Manager Report**

Town Manager Mike Schwirtz provided an update on administrative matters.

**MOVE IN CAMERA**

**M. MICHAELS - That the Regular Council meeting move in camera.**

**Carried**

  
Initial

The time was 8:46 p.m. The Mayor called for a short recess and the meeting reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

**M. MICHAELS - That Regular Council meeting revert to regular session.**

**Carried**

The time was 9:04 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Carried**

The time was 9:05 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
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Director of Corporate Services

