



**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Minutes for Regular Council Meeting #RM 03-17
10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 1, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 starting at 10:00 am

Present: Reeve: Stan Bzowy
Councillors: Elaine Garrow
Yves Mercier
Tony Van Rootselaar
Administration: Kelly Hudson

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:02 am.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS

Community Futures New Business F, Employee Training G, and Letter to Municipal Affairs H.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A. Adoption of the Wednesday, February 1, 2017, Regular Meeting Agenda RM 03-17.

17.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Garrow that the February 1, 2017, Regular Meeting Agenda RM 03-17 be accepted with the addition of new business F Community Futures, Employee Training G, and Letter to Municipal Affairs H.

Carried Unanimously

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

5. COUNCILLOR ABSENCES

6. PUBLIC HEARING

7. DELEGATIONS

Secure Energy Kelly Smith 10:30 am RR 50 construction

Kelly Smith entered the meeting at 10:08 am.

19.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Mercier that we move in camera to discuss legal at 10:17 am.

Carried Unanimously

20.01.02.17 Moved by reeve Bzowy that we rise from in camera at 10:32 am.

Carried Unanimously

Kelly Smith exited the meeting at 10:45 am.

8. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- A. Adoption of Wednesday, January 18, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes RM 02-17.**

18.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Mercier that the January 18, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes RM 02-17 be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

10. REPORTS

A. CAO Report

Direction to administration to write a letter of extension to December 31, 2017 for Eben Rock to complete the 4:40 contract, an environmental audit of the building by the next Council meeting, link to the Energy rebate program in the Signal once the program is approved, register all of Council for the AAMDC Convention, Councillor Garrow for Growing the North and make changes to the purchasing policy as directed.

B. Public Works Supervisor Report

Accepted as information

C. Fire Chief Report

Accepted as information

11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. AEMA Workshops February 28, 2017 Accepted as information

B. Donations

21.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Van Rootselaar that the MD send a food tray to the Jim Denis Family.

Carried Unanimously

Direction to administration to bring back the Donation policy with the changes suggested.

C. Feb 13, 2017 Oil and Gas Awareness Day Declaration

22.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Garrow that the Municipal District proclaim February 13th as Oil and Gas Awareness Day in the MD of Spirit River.

Carried Unanimously

D. Resolution AAMDC Zone meeting

23.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Garrow that the following resolution be submitted to the

Zone meeting of the AAMDC:

Resolution

Collection of Outstanding Taxes for School Fees from the Province

Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta annually establishes the mill rate that the municipalities are required to collect and pay into the Alberta School Foundation Fund (education property tax) on properties assessed within the municipalities; and

WHEREAS each municipality can collect education property taxes along with other taxes to operate the municipality at various times during the year therefore they are asked to submit payment quarterly to the province; and

WHEREAS some of these taxes become in default and are no longer collectible leaving the municipality to recover the amount owing through tax recovery through the seizure of land and assets; and

WHEREAS tax recovery through the seizure of land and assets is not always an option, particularly in relation to linear property such as on oil leases on leased property; and

WHEREAS this inability to exercise tax recovery processes on some linear property leaves the municipality with a bad debt for the tax burden to operate the municipality along with the debt of the education property taxes that they are required to collect by the province; and

WHEREAS the municipality is only acting as an invoicing and collection agency for the province to collect education property taxes on their behalf;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties request that the Government of Alberta develop new tools or utilize existing mechanisms to ensure that municipalities that are unable to collect education property taxes through the tax recovery process be exempted from forwarding those uncollectible tax amounts to Alberta Education, or have the uncollectible amount refunded.

Member Background

As a collection agency for the school taxes we must pay our requisition quarterly whether we are able to collect that taxation or not. Some oil field companies have defaulted leaving nothing that could be converted into cash to offset the taxes outstanding. This also leaves the amount of the school taxes as a burden of the municipality when it was not designed to be so. The municipality has been burdened by the province to collect and forward school taxation to the province; if uncollected these school taxes now become a burden of the municipality that they cannot collect.

AAMDC Background

Carried Unanimously

E. 10-SD-16 Subdivision Debolt

24.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Mercier that the subdivision application to consolidate two existing lots, Lots 1 & 2, Plan 1887KS, (River Lot 32, Spirit River Settlement) and subdivide a 4.3 ha lot from the eastern portion of the consolidated lot, be APPROVED subject to the following conditions:

1. That the applicant/owner enter into a development agreement with the Municipal District of Spirit River to include, but not be limited to, the construction of approaches to the proposed lots, to municipal standards;
2. That the applicant/owner dedicate a 5.0 m road right-of-way by plan of survey along the south and east boundaries of the proposed lot and the balance of the pre-existing lots adjacent to Township Road 782A and Range Road 62A, pursuant to Section 661 of the Municipal Government Act;
3. That the applicant/owner contact an Alberta Land Surveyor for the preparation of a Plan of Subdivision suitable for registration at the Alberta Land Titles Office to obtain title(s) under this decision;
4. That the applicant/owner provide easements, setbacks and/or rights-of-way in accordance with utility company requirements;
5. That the applicant/owner pay all outstanding property taxes on the land proposed to be subdivided or arrangements made which are satisfactory to the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133.

Carried Unanimously

F. Community Futures

Elaine will ask Randy of Community Futures to supply an advertisement regarding lending to small business to be included in the MD Signal Page..

G. Employee Training

25.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Garrow that the two employees be approved to attend the SAGE training if required February 8, 9 and 10, 2017.

Carried Unanimously

H. Letter to Minister of Municipal Affairs

26.01.02.17 Moved by Reeve Bzowy that the letter be sent to Minister Municipal Affairs regarding the viability Review of Rycroft.

Carried Unanimously

14. BYLAWS

01-AM-17 Lefley

27.01.02.17 Moved by Councillor Mercier that Council gives first reading to Bylaw 01-AM-17 and that a Public Hearing be established at 11:00 am April 19, 2017 in the Council chambers to hear public input.

Carried Unanimously

02-AM-17 McCarty

28.01.02.17 Moved by Reeve Bzowy that Council gives first reading to Bylaw 02-AM-17 and that a Public Hearing be established at 11:15 am April 19, 2017 in the Council chambers to hear public input.

Carried Unanimously

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

1. MP Van Loan Heritage Tax Credit

Accepted as information

2. Invitation to Meet Minister of Municipal Affairs Direction was given to administration to request a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs to discuss the Viability of Rycroft and issues of the Central Peace such as delinquent education tax.

3. 2017 Northern Heat Conference

Accepted as information

4. RMRF Law Seminar

Register Councillor Garrow, Mercier and Van Rootselaar to attend the RMRF session in Grande Prairie.

5. Rycroft Arena Board

Direction to purchase four \$50.00 gift certificates for the Frolic.

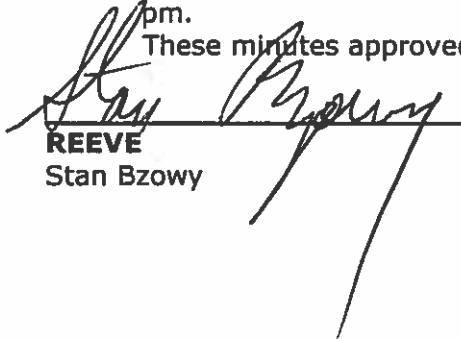
16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

17. IN-CAMERA

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by the Reeve at 2:20 pm.

These minutes approved this 15th day of February, 2017.



Handwritten signature of Stan Bzowy in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

REEVE
Stan Bzowy

CAO
Kelly Hudson