

The R.M. of Val Marie No. 17 held its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 in the Municipal Chambers in Val Marie, Saskatchewan commencing at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Reeve Larry Grant; Division 2 Councillor: Timothy B. Christianson; Division 3 Councillor: Steven Gunter; Division 4 Councillor: Shadrick Peno; Division 5 Councillor: Greg Kornfeld

ABSENT: Division 1 Councillor: Tyler Jensen

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Cathy Legault, Administrator; and Ben McLearn, Public Works Foreman

CALL TO ORDER: A quorum being present, Reeve Grant called the meeting to order at 12:58 p.m.

01/21	AGENDA	CHRISTIANSON: That the agenda for this January 12, 2021 Council meeting be adopted with the addition of reviewing quotes for security systems for the office. Cd.
02/21	PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES	JENSEN: That the minutes of the December 10, 2020 regular meeting be approved as read. Cd.
03/21	ADMIN REPORT	GUNTER: That the Administrators report be accepted as presented. Cd.
04/21	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	PENO: That the Draft Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2020 be accepted as presented, noting that final year end adjustments are still to be made. Cd.
05/21	GRAVEL INVENTORY	CHRISTIANSON: That the administrator record the gravel inventory with whichever amount is lower, the recorded inventory on file or the volumetric report provided by the drone survey. Cd.
06/21	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS	KORNFELD: That the attached list of accounts for payment be approved. Cd.
2:00 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.	DELEGATE	Dione Hagen from Finning was received by Council. Mr. Hagen introduced himself as the sales rep. for this area and informed the Council on recent equipment changes.
07/21	COMMITTEE REPORTS	PENO: That the committee reports and minutes be accepted and filed. Cd.
08/21	FORMER CATHOLIC CHURCH TRANSFER	CHRISTIANSON: That the changes proposed by the Archbishopial Corporation of Regina be approved and the agreement signed by the Reeve and Administrator. Cd.
09/21	ORKNEY BLK 2 LOTS TENDER	KORNFELD: That the tender for the sale of lots in block 2 Plan BM2409 that are owned by the R.M. be approved with a closing date to accommodate awarding the tenders at the March Council meeting and an April 1, 2021 possession date. Cd.
10/21	LOTS AROUND ORKNEY HALL	PENO: That the Administrator begin the public notice process to close the street east of the Orkney Hall (1 st Street East) from HWY18 to First Avenue and the alley behind the hall (behind Lots 1 to 6 Blk 5 Plan BM2409); as well as begin the process to remove the municipal reserve designation on Blk R Plan BM2409. Cd.
11/21	CHEQUE SIGNING/EFT POLICY REVISION	GUNTER: That the revision to the Cheque Signing and EFT Policy to add the following text in section 3.1 be approved, and that the full policy with revisions be attached to the minutes:

		<i>“After the administrator and assistant administrator have authorized payments outlined in section a) they are to email a scanned copy of the timesheets and paystubs to the council members with signing authority.”</i> Cd.
12/21	SICK/PERSONAL LEAVE POLICY	PENO: That the attached Sick/Personal Leave Policy be approved and implemented. Cd.
13/21	HOURS ACCRUED FOR SICK/PERSONAL LEAVE	KORNFELD: That all staff be permitted to accrue sick/personal leave hours beginning when the Fit to Work Policy was implemented on March 20, 2019 and that the attached calculation of hours be approved as starting balances for Sick/Personal Leave for the first pay period of 2021. Cd.
14/21	BRIDGE OPTIONS REPORT	CHRISTIANSON: That WSP be contracted to present to Council an options report on the Walker, Dixon, Olson, McGuire, and Jensen Bridges. The options evaluated should include large cement low-level culvert crossings, portable “oil field” bridges, replacing with a similar structure that is currently there, upgrading to RRIG standards, or any other good options that the engineers deem worth discussing. The report should also include estimated construction costs and expected useful life for all options. That a meeting with the Reeve and applicable Division Councillors be held before the work begins. Cd.
15/21	ENGINEERING RFP	PENO: That the Engineering RFP be tabled until the February 2021 meeting. Cd.
16/21	PEST CONTROL OFFICER FOR CLUBROOT	CHRISTIANSON: That Rick Hobbs be appointed the R.M.’s Pest Control officer for Clubroot for the 2021 year. Cd.
17/21	SARM RESOLUTION #1	KORNFELD: That the following resolution be submitted to SARM for consideration at the Annual Convention: <i>“WHEREAS Black Tailed Prairie Dogs are a species protected by The Species at Risk Act; and</i> <i>WHEREAS Black Tailed Prairie Dogs cause long term damage to both native grassland as well as damage to seeded crop and tame forages; and</i> <i>WHEREAS damage from Black Tailed Prairie Dogs is not covered by Saskatchewan Crop Insurance’s Wildlife Compensation Program;</i> <i>BE IT RESOLVED that SARM lobby the Provincial Government to make necessary changes to farm support programs so that producers can be compensated for the damage done by Black Tailed Prairie Dogs; and</i> <i>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SARM work with the Provincial Government to negotiate a legal control measure that landowners can implement in order to address the infestations of Black Tailed Prairie Dog colonies.”</i> Cd.
18/21	SARM RESOLUTION #2	KORNFELD: That the following resolution be submitted to SARM for consideration at the Annual Convention: <i>“WHEREAS Black Tailed Prairie Dogs are a species protected by The Species at Risk Act; and their status has recently been heightened from “Threatened” to “Endangered”; and</i>

WHEREAS local knowledge is such that there are exponentially more Black Tailed Prairie Dogs today than there was 40 years ago and they are out of control; and

WHEREAS legislation in neighboring Montana is not aligned with Canadian legislation and protection efforts are not as restrictive or elaborate where they have large habitat area; and

WHEREAS the area occupied in Southern Saskatchewan is the northern most area of their habitat;

BE IT RESOLVED that SARM lobby that Black Tailed Prairie Dogs' be removed as a species designated by The Species at Risk Act."
Cd.

18/21 PRESENTATION OF THE BOND

CHRISTIANSON: That it be noted the Administrator presented the municipal bond coverage.
Cd.

19/21 MARCH MEETING DATE

GUNTER: That the regular meeting in March be moved to March 3, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
Cd.

20/21 ADJOURNMENT

GRANT: That this meeting do now adjourn, time 5:25 p.m.
Cd.

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Reeve

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Administrator