



Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17

112 Railway Ave E, Val Marie, Saskatchewan

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting February 13, 2024 - 01:00 PM

PRESENT:

Reeve: Larry Grant
Division 2 Councillor: Timothy Christianson
Division 3 Councillor: Steven Gunter
Division 4 Councillor and Deputy Reeve: Shadrick Peno

ABSENT:

Division 1 Councillor: Tyler Jensen
Division 5 Councillor: Greg Kornfeld

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

1 Call to order

A quorum being present, Reeve Grant called the meeting to order at 12:55 p.m.

2 Approval of the Agenda

Res. No. 2024-0034

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the agenda for this February 13, 2024 meeting be approved with the addition of appointing a weed inspector in New Business, and that the In-Camera Session not be held until the end of the meeting if time permits.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3 Adoption of Minutes

3.1 January 15, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Res. No. 2024-0035

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the minutes of the January 15, 2024 Regular Meeting be approved as read.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.2 January 29, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes

Res. No. 2024-0036

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the minutes of the January 29, 2024 Special Meeting be approved as read.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 Public Hearings

5 Delegations

5.1 2:00 p.m. Adam Laturus - Newton Lake Road/Road Erosion

Adam and Andrew Laturus were received by Council at 1:54 p.m. Delegates relayed their preference that the R.M. deal with the Frenchman River bank eroding into the Newton Lake Road (in the SW 03-04-14-W3) and keep the road in the current location rather than re-routing the road around this location. Delegates excused themselves at 2:15 p.m.

5.2 2:30 p.m. - Betty Johnson, Plant Health Technical Advisor SARM Division 3

Ms. Johnson was received by Council at 2:30 p.m. Ms. Johnson reviewed environmental health programs that are administered by SARM and she can provide assistance to R.M.'s with. The plant health officers will also assist R.M.'s with training of weed inspectors. Ms. Johnson reviewed changes to the Invasive Plant Control Program that are going to be implemented for the 2024 program; which include training for weed inspectors as well as weed monitoring. Ms. Johnson excused herself at 3:04 p.m.

6 Reports of Administration & Committees

6.1 Administrative Update

Res. No. 2024-0037

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the Administrator's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 List of Accounts for Approval

Res. No. 2024-0038

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the "List of Accounts for Approval" detailing the following payments be approved:

Inn. CU - Cheques 4244 to 4261 totalling \$40,745.19

Inn. CU - CAFT Payment No. 2024-0006 to 2024-0014 totalling - \$11,088.94

Inn. CU - Online Banking Payment No. 2024-0006 to 2024-0014 totalling - \$9,919.91

Collabria Credit Cards Payment No. 2024-0006 to 2024-0008 totalling - \$3,117.54

Total Payments - \$64,871.58

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 Monthly Statement of Financial Position and Balance Sheet

Res. No. 2024-0039

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the Statement of Financial Position, Balance Sheet, and Bank Reconciliations as of January 31, 2024 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4 2023 Draft Audited Financial Statements

Res. No. 2024-0040

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the Draft Audited Financial Statements for 2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.5 Committee Reports

Res. No. 2024-0041

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the committee reports and minutes be accepted and filed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 In Camera Session

8 Unfinished Business

8.1 Seismic Program Monchy 2023-2S Synterra Technologies Ltd.

Res. No. 2024-0042

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the Synterra Technologies Ltd. seismic program Monchy 2023-2S be approved, noting that the approval is to cross R.M. road allowances with equipment only - no seismic activity is permitted on road allowance rights of way.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 Seismic Program Huff Lake 2023-2D II Synterra Technologies Ltd.

Res. No. 2024-0043

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the Synterra Technologies Ltd. seismic program Huff Lake 2023-2D II be approved, noting that the approval is to cross R.M. road allowances with equipment only - no seismic activity is permitted on road allowance rights of way

CARRIED

8.3 Black Tailed Prairie Dog Control Program - Meeting Ministers of Agriculture & Environment

Res. No. 2024-0044

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That up to four Council members and the Administrator meet with the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment in Regina on March 7, 2024 regarding the Black Tailed Prairie Dog Control Policy recently communicated to the R.M. by those ministries.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.4 Irrigation Project Transfers

Res. No. 2024-0045

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That it be noted the R.M. has fulfilled all of its obligations outlined in the "West Val Marie Irrigation Project Transfer Agreement" and the "Val Marie Irrigation Project Transfer Agreement", and that the Administrator now send the invoice for legal fees to the respective groups.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.5 ICIP Project Closures - Project 50200053 "Jensen Bridge Replacement" and Project 50200033 "Olson Bridge Replacement"

Res. No. 2024-0046

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the project completion letter regarding the "Olson Bridge Replacement" (NE 09-03-13-W3) and "Jensen Bridge Replacement" (NE 29-04-17-W3) from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program be noted as received and the ongoing obligations be agreed to.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.6 Road Reclassification Requests

Res. No. 2024-0047

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the decisions made by the Rural Road Classification Committee on the requests for road classification changes made by resolution 2022-131 on June 14, 2022 be noted as received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.7 SaskPower - Easement Agreement Request NE 19-03-13-W3

Res. No. 2024-0048

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the "Consent and Agreement with Respect to Acquisition of and Compensation for Easement of Right-of-Way Rural Electrical Distribution" from SaskPower for crossing the NE 19-03-13-W3 Plan BM1663 Ext 81 Parcel # 150766634 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.8 Texas Gate Agreement Request - Dale Laternus

Res. No. 2024-0049

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That this matter be tabled until the next meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 New Business

9.1 Prequalification Contract for Aggregate Loading, Hauling and Spreading

Res. No. 2024-0050

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That a "Prequalification Contract for Aggregate Loading, Hauling, and Spreading" be offered to Stacey McCrea for the 2024 year with the same terms and conditions as the 2023 contract.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 Prequalification Contract for Aggregate Loading & Hauling, and Excavation Services

Res. No. 2024-0051

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That a "Prequalification Contract for Aggregate Loading, Hauling, and Excavation Services" be offered to 102039803 Saskatchewan Ltd. (Harlan Gunter) for the 2024 year with the same terms and conditions as the 2023 contract.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 Items to Surplus - February 2024

Res. No. 2024-0052

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the following items be listed for sale via classified ads at the following prices:

- Homebuilt Sidearm - \$500
- Schulte Sidearm - \$5,000
- Water tank from Sand Lake Truck - \$350.00 (\$1/gallon)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 Audit Fees for 2023 & 2024

Res. No. 2024-0053

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That Dudley and Company be notified that the Council will not accept an increase in the audit fees to \$8000 for 2023, or a 2-4 % increase as this was a tendered project for a four-year price. If the original bid price cannot be honored, the Council will re-tender for audit services for the 2024 year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 Road Crossing Agreement Templates from SARM Legal Department

Res. No. 2024-0054

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the Administrator review the road crossing agreement template provided and revise it to add the typical crossing conditions that the R.M. of Val Marie requires and bring back to Council for review.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 Grasslands National Park - Contract Spraying

Res. No. 2024-0055

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the R.M. agree to provide custom work services for Grasslands National Park for spraying specific road ditch areas at a rate of \$250 per hour provided:

- Grasslands National Park supply the chemical they want used; and
- time is charged for mixing and tank preparation, travel, and the time it takes to clean/flush out equipment when finished.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 HWY 37 - Request for Slow Moving Vehicle Signs around Sections 30 & 31-04-18-W3

Res. No. 2024-0056

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That a letter be sent to the Ministry of Highways letting them know that the R.M. supports the landowners request to have slow moving vehicle signs installed on HWY 37 in the approximate area of sections 30 & 31-04-18-W3 (locally known as "the river hill"). The farm yard site in that area is on the highway daily with farm equipment, and the signs would be proactive in making motorists aware of the high potential of a slow moving vehicle ahead - which is important in that area due the hill inclines and visibility being reduced from turns.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8 HELP International - Tree Program - Expression of Interest

Res. No. 2024-0057

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

Our RM recognizes the central role trees play in wind and snow protection, carbon sequestration, oxygen production, and habitat development and is interested in our rural residents' participation in HELP International's proposed Free Tree/Tree Mulch/Drip Irrigation materials program under the federal government's Two Billion Tree Initiative.

Our region is considered semi-arid by international rainfall standards. The addition of plastic mulch and drip irrigation would greatly heighten the success in establishing trees and lessen the maintenance burden on landowners. Drip Irrigation for tree installations is understood as an important water conservation technology that helps preserve limited dugout and well water supplies for humans and livestock.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9 Bylaw 2024-01 - A Bylaw to Repeal Previous Bylaws

9.9.1 Bylaw 2024-01 - First Reading

Res. No. 2024-0058

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

Be it resolved that Bylaw 2024-01, A Bylaw to Repeal Previous Bylaws, be introduced and read for the first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9.2 Bylaw 2024-01 - Second Reading

Res. No. 2024-0059

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

Be it resolved that Bylaw 2024-01, A Bylaw to Repeal Previous Bylaws, be now read for the second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9.3 Bylaw 2024-01 - Three Readings at One Meeting

Res. No. 2024-0060

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

Be it resolved that Bylaw 2024-01, A Bylaw to Repeal Previous Bylaws, be given three readings at this one meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9.4 Bylaw 2024-01 - Third Reading & Adoption

Res. No. 2024-0061

Moved by: Reeve Grant

Be it resolved that Bylaw2024-01, A Bylaw to Repeal Previous Bylaws, be read for the third time and adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 TC Energy - Snow Removal to Compressor Stations

Res. No. 2024-0062

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That TC energy be given the names of local landowners who may do snow removal on a contract basis and if they can't help to get back to the R.M. to assist with finding a snow removal contractor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.11 Bylaw 2024-02 - A Bylaw to Amend Bylaw 1/81 known as the Zoning Bylaw

9.11.1 Bylaw 2024-02 - First Reading

Res. No. 2024-0063

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

Be it resolved that Bylaw 2024-02, a Bylaw to Amend Bylaw 1/81 the Bylaw known as the Zoning Bylaw, be introduced and read for the first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.12 Weed Inspector Appointment

Res. No. 2024-0064

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That Ben McLearn be appointed weed inspector until a subsequent weed inspector can be found. That the Administrator continue to advertise for someone to fill this role.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 Communications

Res. No. 2024-0065

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the communications listed on the agenda be acknowledged as required and filed as deemed appropriate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Peno left the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

The meeting adjourned due to lack of quorum at this time.
