

MINUTES
TOWN OF SEXSMITH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011

This regular Council meeting of Town Council was called to order by Mayor Lagace at 6:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Town of Sexsmith.

**COUNCIL
PRESENT**

Claude Lagace
Don Jickling
Nicole Cooke
Matthew Barnfield

Mayor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

**COUNCIL
ABSENT**

Isak Skjaveland
Rick Sakundiak
Jonathan Siggelkow

Councillor
Councillor
Deputy Mayor

**STAFF
PRESENT**

Carolyn Gaunt
Deloris Metz

CAO
Admin. Ass't.

**PUBLIC
PRESENT**

Bernd Manz, Aquatera; Dave Michaels, CJXX Radio; Jeanne Lomenda; Harley Jantz; Jack Donnelly @ 6:45 p.m. to deliver a letter.

**ADOPTION
OF AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO.

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council approve the agenda for this meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

Bernd Manz, CEO, Aquatera

Talked about the storm that hit Sexsmith in the middle of the night of July 14th; about 2:30 a.m. had alarms and Blaine Huber was here by 3:00 a.m. The Heritage lift station was close to flooding. The lift station was sandbagged by the Town. No wells flooded but it was close. It was a one in hundred years kind of storm. Mr. Manz talked about the affected homes on the maps that were handed out. 100 A Avenue and cul-de-sac where the houses sit lower than their neighbors were flooded. Our system is not built to accommodate that type of storm. Aquatera will look at ways storm water gets into the system. In the older homes, the storm water gets into the system. If houses are graded away from the house the water will get into the system. It is important to put backflows into the system. Aquatera will be getting more information out. If residents have a sump pump, it should be directed away from the house because if the pump pours into a floor drain, you are working against yourself. Some improvements to overland flow of storm water would help, too. It was much worse storm in Sexsmith than in Clairmont or Grande Prairie.

Mayor Lagace: Same thing happens in Grande Prairie once in awhile.

Mr. Manz: In the 90's, it became mandatory to have sump pumps.

Mayor Lagace: Will you have some information that can be sent out to residents to help themselves, such as:

1. Proper lot grading
2. Install sump pumps
3. Direct downspouts away from house?

Mr. Manz: We will include information in our bills and on our website.

Mayor Lagace: As far as backflow valves, is Aquatera looking at helping with that?

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Mr. Manz: We hadn't thought of it.

Mayor Lagace: I notice in a couple places in the States where the water companies helped people with purchasing backflow valves.

Mrs. Lomenda: We are at the end of a line and neighbors have had backflow valves and still are flooded. My sump pump runs through the floor drain. We are having a plumber come next week to correct that.

Mr. Manz: Where you are sitting you have no one upstream of you?

Ms. Lomenda: We are at the end of a line. We are stuck in a home that floods every 2 years, so we can't even sell it. We are having the backflow preventer put in next week. So I am expecting to flood every two years.

Mr. Manz: We will take another look at your line to see if anything can be done.

Councillor Barnfield: Can you camera that line?

Mr. Manz: I will look and see when it was last seen with a camera.

Ms. Lomenda: At Ms. Martell's house, the valve stuck open.

Mr. Manz: They sometimes stick open when they are dry and then won't work when you need it.

Ms. Lomenda: Daren and Heather's house didn't flood. Angela and Kevin flooded as well. We had Aquatera come out and camera in our line, in October, and they couldn't see any problem.

CAO: Is there a possibility that there is a sag or a hole in your line?

Mr. Manz: If we looked at it with a camera and nothing was seen, it's hard to know where it is coming from. I don't know if that manhole was under water.

Mayor Lagace: Most of this came with the surge.

Mr. Manz: One of the realities is that the sewer would have to be bigger than it is to accommodate the build up of houses. Ideally, the lines would be bigger than they are.

Mayor Lagace: If lines are bigger, the lift station will not handle the bigger lines. We do not have the mandate to force citizens to retrofit.

Ms. Lomenda: The plumbers didn't know that it was against provincial code to not have a sump pump, so how is a homeowner supposed to know?

CAO: It is on the building permit application.

Ms. Sterr: Are all of the sewer lines the same size?

Mr. Manz: No, the lines get bigger as they collect from a bigger area. The kind of storm we had, we do not build sewers to accommodate that.

Ms. Sterr: I hear the line in front of my place is only 6". When the neighbor built, he had to put in his own lines so he put a 6" line, I believe.

Mayor Lagace looked on the map and ascertained that it is an 8" line in front of Ms. Sterr's house.

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Mr. Manz: Normally that would be lots of size but it was a very unusual storm. We will be getting information to plumbers, as well. Ms. Lomenda’s flooding happening so often, there is a problem that needs to be looked at. We are told by plumbers that the back pressure invalidates the flood preventer.

Mr. Manz took Ms Lomenda’s phone number. To replace the pipes is a huge expense. Ideally, it is better to stop the storm water getting into the system in the first place. If you’re hearing about people who are having backups regularly, we would appreciate if you’d let us know.

CAO: The provincial government won’t even look at the possibility of compensation until fall.

Thanks, around.

**PUBLIC
SESSION**

Harley Jantz come to the table for Public Session. He spoke of his business site. “We are now into about 10 years of Town dumping water on our property. When the road into the park was built, there was not adequate consideration for the water flow coming down 95 Avenue. The lines get smaller at our end. I am not talking just about this storm. What needs to happen at our gate, there needs to be a culvert crossing 95 Avenue, because the Town doesn’t want water in the park and I don’t want it in our yard. I can’t dump my water on anyone else’s land and it is not legal for the Town to dump water on my land. I am looking for a permanent solution, not another tax concession.”

Mayor: Due to staff and Council holidays, can we deal this in two weeks? There was agreement to do so.

Mr. Jantz: I deducted 20% off of my taxes and I don’t expect a penalty for doing so.

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

RESOLUTION NO.

Councillor Jickling moved that Council accept the Special Council Meeting minutes of July 11, 2011, Public Hearing and Regular Council Meeting minutes of July 18, 2011 with correction to page 6 of the July 18th Regular Council minutes. Councillor Skjaveland’s comments referred to the Tourism Board, not the Community Foundation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUSINESS
ARISING**

**Aquatera –
sewage lines**

RESOLUTION NO.

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council accept this for information, while awaiting more information from Aquatera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Bylaw No. 886
– Franchise
Agreement**

RESOLUTION NO.

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council give second reading to Bylaw 886, the ATCO franchise agreement bylaw

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION NO.

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council give 3rd and final reading to Bylaw 886, the ATCO franchise agreement bylaw

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Declaration of Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month & FASD **RESOLUTION NO.**
Moved by Councillor Cooke that Council declare September, 2011 as Muscular Dystrophy Awareness month and declare September 9, 2011, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder Day.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Request for date for Sexsmith Night **RESOLUTION NO.**
Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council approve the Town entering into an agreement with the Storm Hockey team to dedicate Saturday, November 19th as Sexsmith night. (Second choice: Friday December 2, 2011.)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jeanne Lomenda left Council Chambers @ 7:25 p.m.

Ms. Sterr asked about the Animal Control Report and then made comment that people walking dogs are not picking up the animal droppings, especially on the berm downtown.

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

**ROUND
TABLE**

Barnfield	Still having trouble with garbage cans being left for weeks at a time. Dog licenses – do we send flyers out? Mr. Jantz re: taxes – CAO should write him a letter outlining the do’s and don’ts.	CAO will look into this. They are advertised in <i>Sentinel</i> . CAO will do so.
Cooke	Garbage wasn’t picked up on my street. Will water park be in on time?	Office phoned the company and they picked up the missed garbage on Monday. Aquatera is supposed to dig in the lines this week and the equipment should be here next week.
Mayor	Gibson Energy Inc. is a go for the Arclin site and we will meet at the end of the month.	Information only.
CAO	When is the playground equipment at the old St.	Councillor Cooke said the new equipment will be

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	Mary’s school site being moved.	installed on August 18 & 19 th .
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ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION NO.

Councillor Jickling moved to adjourn the meeting at 7: 43 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Lagace, Mayor

Carolyn Gaunt, Town Administrator