

MINUTES
TOWN OF SEXSMITH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2010

This regular Council meeting of Town Council was called to order by Mayor Lagace at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Town of Sexsmith.

COUNCIL PRESENT	Claude Lagace Jonathan Siggelkow Rick Sakundiak Nicole Cooke Don Jickling	Mayor Councillor Councillor @ 6:45 p.m. Councillor Councillor
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COUNCIL ABSENT	Matthew Barnfield Isak Skjaveland	Deputy Mayor Councillor
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STAFF PRESENT	Carolyn Gaunt Deloris Metz	CAO Admin. Ass't.
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PUBLIC PRESENT	Nellie Sterr, Harley Jantz, Andrew Berg, Jody Shkrobot, Al Hodgins, Rob and Jen Campbell, Monte Heyn, Joe Kirstien	
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ADOPTION OF AGENDA	RESOLUTION NO. 380-12-10 Moved by Councillor Jickling that the agenda for this meeting be adopted with the following additions: <div style="margin-left: 100px;">NEW BUSINESS 7. Curling Event BUSINESS ARISING 4. Power @ new skating rink IN CAMERA 1. Appraisal of Government land.</div>	
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CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC SESSION	Captain Rob Campbell moved to Council table and CAO read letter from County re: letter of commendation from the County on how he handled himself and the Sexsmith Fire Department at fires while in the position of incident commander.
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Andrew Berg was introduced to Council and he expressed thanks to Town for cooperation on the rink in the field across from St. Mary’s school. They are excited about it and excited to have built something cooperatively between Grace Bible Fellowship and the Town for the use of the Town’s citizens. Thanks from Mayor Lagace. Councillor Siggelkow passed the praise he has heard along to Mr. Berg.

DELEGATION	Al Hodgins, Jody Shkrobot, Value Drug Mart Group Al Hodgins introduced himself and stated that he represents independent pharmacists. He introduced Jody Shkrobot, pharmacist, who went over the attached information package. The government implemented a pharmaceutical strategy that is confusing not only for patients but for pharmacists as well. The strategy changes how pharmacists get paid and Mr. Hodgins is afraid that this will cause the demise of small pharmacies. Pharmacists in small towns don’t know how they are going to continue their current level of care for patients, as they do not have revenue streams to generate the income necessary. Ontario and Quebec have the volume to maintain their services. In Alberta, this is not so. Smaller centers do not have the patient base to generate revenue streams to ensure a continued level of client care. The smaller the community, the larger the impact. Overall healthcare, i.e. doctors in town, could
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have a negative impact on health services available in communities. At this point, they are looking for advice from Council as to know how pharmacists can let the public know about concerns that services may be dropped due to the implementation of this pharmaceutical strategy.

Mayor Lagace said that it basically is an uphill battle.

Mr. Shkrobot said he looked at pharmacy here and Vishal Sharma, pharmacist, will not be selling cards etc. to help generate income. He makes his living on dispensing drugs only.

Mayor Lagace said that smaller pharmacists might close before we know what's happening.

Councillor Siggelkow said that you could have a different dispensing fee. Superstore is less than some other places.

Mr. Hodgins said you could have a lower, not higher, dispensing fee.

Councillor Siggelkow said in smaller centers, you pay extra for the service.

Mr. Hodgins said government is in healthcare as well as in insurance i.e. Blue Cross, so government is not keen to pick up a higher cost. But all goods cost more in small stores/small communities, so why not have higher drug costs in small communities?

Councillor Sakundiak: If I have a penicillin prescription, cost is the same for it here as in Grande Prairie? The dispensing fee is different, though. Is that correct? Mr. Shkrobot said that was correct.

CAO: The government approves a certain medication and mark up from pharmaceutical companies is huge. Can the government then tax those pharmaceutical companies at a higher rate?

Mr. Shkrobot said that when a patented medicine comes on market, there is a board that controls the price that the manufacturer can sell for, between a set high and low price, for as long as there is patent in effect. Government maybe could negotiate the pricing but a pharmacist could not.

Councillor Jickling: Why do pharmacists put out 90 day rather than 30 day prescriptions?

Mr. Shkrobot stated that on ongoing prescriptions, the pharmacist is mandated to fill it for three months. Mr. Hodgins said that they have tried to negotiate with the government so that pharmacists can prescribe for 30 days. Lots of drugs are thrown away due to 90-day prescriptions. From a business perspective, 30-day prescriptions would help.

Councillor Siggelkow asked if the government has started to buy in bulk?

Mr. Shkrobot said that they don't know what the government is doing because prices to pharmacists has not changed.

Mr. Hodgins: There's no discussion of sharing those savings with pharmacists. We have really tried to engage the Minister and we are here to ask you to express your concern to your MLA. We need this problem addressed before our pharmacy is gone. There are 70 communities in Alberta with only one pharmacist. There is no community who has a doctor with no pharmacist, so the loss of a pharmacist could impact whether doctors remain in town.

Councillor Siggelkow: Why is our pharmacist not here?

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Mr. Shkrobot said he thought Mr. Sharma would be here. CAO said she had talked to him about this issue but did not get major feedback.

Mr. Hodgins: Pharmacists have 5 years of training but not one single business class. Pharmacists are weak in this area and may not know how this is going to affect them financially, if this is the model the government rolls out.

Mr. Heyn: \$5 million fund was paid to pharmacist?

Mr. Shkrobot the \$5 million was paid out as a one-time payment to rural pharmacists.

Mr. Hodgins: The government said they would see \$100 million savings per year, but only \$5 million going back in rural pharmacies, as a one-time payment.

Mr. Shkrobot said that the main challenge for pharmacist is the knowledge that there is inappropriate drug use and the only way to correct that is for pharmacists to work with patients but the government is pulling out the money that allows pharmacists to work with their patients. Mr. Shkrobot also said that pharmacists can prescribe but there no is fee structure attached to their prescribing. If you are looking at viability around dispensing, then pharmacists need to access new fees so you still have enough pharmacists to do the work.

Mr. Hodgins said that there has been enough talk with provincial politicians and now it is time to get MLAs working on this.

Mr. Jantz said that prescriptions his family tries are for 7 days to start with, otherwise there are some 3-month prescriptions that have only 3 pills gone because the medication does not agree with the patient.

Mayor Lagace will talk to our pharmacist and he said, “We have no trouble sending letters to MLA’s.”

Thanks, around and Mr. Shkrobot and Mr. Hodgins left Council Chambers at 7:25 p.m.

Mayor Lagace said that Mr. Kirstein missed Public Session but he had issues that he wanted Council to address. Mr. Kirstein was invited to sit at Council table.

Mr. Kirstein spoke about Sexsmith not having any legislation dealing with cats but there is legislation for dogs. He asked why it is called Animal Control when it does not deal with cats. He says that he has a lot of problem with stray cats.

Mayor Lagace said the Town has cages for trapping cats that we let residents use.

Mr. Kirsien said it costs \$50 for deposit and he doesn’t always have the deposit to pay.

CAO explained that the cheque is held and returned when the cage is returned.

Mr. Kirstein said he does not deal with cheques.

Mr. Kirstein said cats today are far worse than rats. “I am shooing away stray cats every day. If I destroy them, I can be charged.”

Councillor Siggelkow: The Town cannot afford a full-time person to trap cats, so we rely on our citizens to control them. You can take the trap with the cats to SPCA for them to deal with.

Mr. Kirstein: I am home so I can catch them but what about people who aren’t home?

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Mayor Lagace asked CAO what the Town could do about a cat problem? Perhaps have a blitz with Animal Control people hunting down cats for a day or two?

Mr. Kirstein said his area seems to be the worst. He thinks that the cats hang out at the elevators and then wander over to his property.

Mr. Berg suggested advertizing that cat traps are available.

Councillor Sakundiak: “How many cat traps has the Town got?”

CAO replied that the Town only has one, as we have a trap that was not returned.

Councillor Sakundiak: “So, we don’t have enough traps. So the Town should look at getting another cat trap.”

The CAO said the Town would obtain another trap.

Mr. Kirstein: “Police Officers – what are they actually doing here?”

Mayor Lagace replied that a lot of what they do is bylaw work.

Mr. Kirstein: “I’ve been told to bugger off. I had my truck hit by kids and baseball bats. I drove over to Peace Officers who were sitting in the parking lot downtown and showed them the damage and was told to bugger off. Month ago, kids had pellet guns and were shooting out vehicle windows, so he called the RCMP. The RCMP came out and said don’t expect much. We don’t really know the town and what is going on here.”

Mayor Lagace said he would like that officer’s name, as Council sit down with them regularly and he would address the issue.

Councillor Siggelkow said that the County Enforcement can’t do some things and that is legislated by the province.

Mr. Kirstein asked if the Town can get a branch office of the RCMP here. He understood that at one time, a branch office was considered and would be located in the railroad building.

Mayor Lagace said until the Town has 5,000 residents, the RCMP will not be stationed here. The Town can’t hire one officer. It doesn’t take long before the residents know when the officer is off duty. We would have to have three officers and the Town can’t afford it.

Councillor Siggelkow: “COPS program is our best bet. The more people who join, the more shifts that could be out in the evenings. We have to step up to the plate on these things and sometimes that is the answer.”

Mr. Kirstein had a problem with weed inspectors going door-to-door saying residents have to get weeds destroyed. He can walk uptown and show you mayweed and thistle and at the Town shop, it is white with thistle. He said weeds grow along the tracks and blow over to his property.

CAO: “We have to wait for Greenblade, or whomever, to come out and spray. The new subdivision quarter was sprayed late in the year. They don’t just come when we ask them. The weed inspectors were diligent. CN are hard to work with on that. The County has been trying to deal with weeds and then bill CN.”

Thanks, around.

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Mayor Lagace asked that Business Arising #7 be placed as #1, so that light poles at the skating rink could be addressed while Mr. Berg was still in attendance at Council.

Power to new rink RESOLUTION NO. 381-12-10

Councillor Jickling moved that Council pay the cost of putting the plugin and panel on the light post at the new skating rink.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES RESOLUTION NO. 382-12-10**

Councillor Siggelkow moved that Council accept the Regular Council Meeting minutes of November 15, 2010, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUSINESS
ARISING**

**Safety option &
cost for
remediation
of deep ditch
in Painted Sky RESOLUTION NO. 383-12-10**

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council accept the installation of warning signs and fiberglass marker posts, for \$3,000 estimate, at the deep ditch in Painted Sky, to be re-evaluated in spring, 2011.

**2 OPPOSED
3 FOR
MOTION CARRIED**

**Taxes from
empty lots RESOLUTION NO. 384-12-10**

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council accept this for information only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Members of
Town
Sustainability
Committee RESOLUTION NO. 385-12-10**

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council appoint the first two names drawn to a two-year term – Tanya Billingham and Bill Lappenbush; the next two names drawn are appointed to a one year term - Jeanne Lomenda and Tom Warner, to be served on the Sustainability Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CAO meeting
with Michael
Merritt & Jason
- Kripps RESOLUTION NO. 386-12-10**

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, with copies to the Minister of Agriculture, and Mel Knight, MLA, expressing opposition to Peace River Seeds’ request for tax exemption of 2/3 of their tax assessment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Lagace declared a 5-minute break @ 8:40 p.m.

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Agreement with
PWSD on
Sexsmith Child
Development
Centre

RESOLUTION NO. 387-12-10

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council have the CAO take this agreement back to Peace Wapiti School Division for revisions to the agreement for the Sexsmith Child Development Centre.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW
BUSINESS

Appointment of
Denelle (Nell)
Martell to
FCSS Board

RESOLUTION NO. 388-12-10

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council approve the appointment of Denelle (Nell) Martel to the FCSS Board, representing the public at large.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of
2011 road
project

RESOLUTION NO. 389-12-10

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council approve offering paving, as a budget item, to the residents on the west side of 96 Street, with the Town of Sexsmith paying 50% of cost.

**4 FOR
1 OPPOSED
MOTION CARRIED**

Curling Event

Accepted for information only.

FINANCIAL

RESOLUTION NO. 390-12-10

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council accept the bank reconciliation as at October 31, 2010 and the cheque register as at October 31, 2010 (cheques #034336-034457), as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATION
ITEMS

ROUND
TABLE

Sakundiak	Went out for Reverse Santa Parade and thinks it went over fairly well.	Information only.
	Liked the Town Christmas party. It was a good time to bond and better than going out and drinking.	Information only.
	When the Town has subdivisions does it say when the contractor has to put in playgrounds?	He has until he has about 100 houses, then the developer builds a playground.
	Should look at rules, so that after about 50 houses, the developer should have to put in a playground.	Mayor Lagace: The cost is prohibitive if less than 100 houses.

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Siggelkow	Can CAO look at the regulations other communities have for subdivisions on building playgrounds?	CAO will check on this.
Cooke	What is happening with light on 95A Street?	It is in the budget. ATCO said they would put in a pole when they come to put poles in for the new arena.
Sakundiak	Light at 95A Street is \$4000?	Yes.
Siggelkow	<p>Light out at 101 Avenue and 106 Street.</p> <p>Sexsmith Medical Clinic is really nice. Hope the Town can match up the sign at the Community Centre.</p> <p>Recycling has been missed again. That's 5 weeks that it has been missed.</p> <p>Are we going to do anything about the presentation on pharmacies?</p> <p>Re: Council highlights in the newspaper. When I read it, it is not clear. Talked to five people and after they read it, they felt the same way. It looks like jot notes, no context, etc. It wasn't good enough. People said if they weren't there, they wouldn't have a clue what it was about.</p>	<p>Will pass along to ATCO Electric.</p> <p>Information only.</p> <p>Public Works Superintendent will speak to them, again.</p> <p>Earlier discussion suggested that the Town would send a letter to the MLA.</p> <p>Followed the point form that came out of the MD of Greenview as was suggested by Councillor Skjaveland.</p>
Jickling	A couple times, the recycle truck would go right by if his garbage can was out, but if he put away the garbage can, they'd come by later to pickup the recyclables. It's like they didn't notice the recyclables if the garbage can was there.	Information only.
Sterr	Thought the Council Highlights in the <i>Sentinel</i> was nice but the only reason she could understand it was because she was at the meetings.	Information only.
Sakundiak	<p>Asked if Councillor Cooke had any new information on St. Mary's playground equipment?</p> <p>Found out at AUMA conference that the playground equipment is worth less than we were thinking it was worth.</p>	<p>No, they have not replied to her email yet.</p> <p>Councillor Cooke: "Yes, that is why I asked them to value the equipment and we will go from there."</p>

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Lagace	Went to Grande Spirit Foundation meeting and was not happy about how they went about drawing names on which Towns should be on the board. They went out in the hall to pull two names, came back and did not say how many votes each town got. The seniors are being charged \$30 more a month. What is the Town getting for the requisition we pay and should the Town opt out? Most of our seniors at our facility are from the County. What is our role on that board? He feels membership on the management board should be rotational.	
Sakundiak	Did we close the southeast entrance to the Medical Clinic?	There is just one entrance off the paved road.

- Motion for Council To go past 10:30 p.m.**

RESOLUTION NO. 391-12-10

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that the Council meeting go past 10:30 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 392-12-10

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council go ‘in camera’ at 11:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 393-12-10

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council return to the open meeting at 11:05 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- Appraisal on Government land @ former Saskatoon farm**

RESOLUTION NO. 394-12-10

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council accept this for information only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. 395-12-10

Councillor Jickling moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY