

MINUTES
TOWN OF SEXSMITH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009

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 Rick Sakundiak Don Jickling Barb Sparks Jonathan Siggelkow Matthew Barnfield Isak Skjaveland	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor
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**COUNCIL
ABSENT**

STAFF PRESENT	Deloris Metz	Admin. Ass't.
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PUBLIC	Chris Warkentin, M. P.
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ADOPTION OF AGENDA	RESOLUTION NO. 051-02-09 Moved by Councillor Barnfield that the agenda for this meeting be adopted with the following additions and changes: <div style="text-align: right;">BUSINESS ARISING 3. Election of mayor 4. Building Canad Fnd</div>
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CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC SESSION	No public was present so Mayor Lagace closed public session and continued the meeting.
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ADOPTION OF MINUTES	RESOLUTION NO. 052-02-09 Councillor Jickling moved that Council accept the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of February 2, 2009 as presented. <div style="text-align: right;">CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</div>
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**BUSINESS
ARISING**

Sexsmith Minor Hockey Assoc./ amount remaining	RESOLUTION NO. 053-02-09 Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council donate \$250 to the Sexsmith Minor Hockey Association for their provincial tournament. <div style="text-align: right;">1 OPOSED 6 FOR CARRIED</div>
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**Board of
Community Centre**

RESOLUTION NO. 054-02-09

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council direct the Town Office to take over bookings at the Community Centre and have the phone transferred to the office number.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Election of Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 055-02-09

Moved by Councillor Skjaveland that Council have CAO obtain more information for the next regularly scheduled Council meeting about Council-elected mayors from other towns and AUMA.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**NEW
BUSINESS**

**Aquatera request
for support Building
Canada Fund Grant**

RESOLUTION NO. 056-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council approves Aquatera’s Building Canada Fund application for the water system upgrades and Heritage Park Lift Station upgrades.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request of Chamber
of Commerce**

RESOLUTION NO. 057-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council pay the Chamber of Commerce’s insurance premiums.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request of
Funding, Sexsmith
Secondary School**

RESOLUTION NO. 058-02-09

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council will contribute ‘in kind’ services as they are needed for their ‘Extreme Gym Makeover’.

RESOLUTION NO. 059-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that the request for funding for the Sexsmith Secondary School’s gym make-over be table the next budget meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

Chris Warkentin, M. P.

Thanked Council for the invitation. Mr. Warkentin gave his analysis of where the federal government is at today. For the last few months, there has been some interesting government theatre. His sense was that the opposition was not as unified as the press presented. That threat has been put to bed. Canadians reacted harshly to the opposition uniting to bring down the government. Mr. Ignatieff is more rational not as ideological as Dion was. Mr. Ignatieff does not seem to have the need to leave a legacy in a small amount of time. Ignatieff’s position is one of being able to work with the Conservatives and, until they see a political advantage of bringing down the government, the government is stable. Budgeting as a deficit was hard to come to terms with. There seems to be a universal belief, in other countries as well, that deficit budgeting is necessary. Until the

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south is prepared to get their banking and housing situation into order, there is not too much that can be done to remediate the situation.

What came out of the budget that is of interest to communities was the increased money for green infrastructure (parameters not laid out yet), money for social housing, money for renovations, and infrastructure money. They all should be applied for. In the past, we have

been successful in getting a fair amount of money for Aquatera. Mr. Warkentin will be making sure that there is political representation from us on how to spend the money.

Mayor Lagace: Regarding senior housing, the Town is hoping to qualify somewhere in there.

Mr. Warkentin: The first thing is that the federal government does not invest in housing. We have headed in that direction. There does not seem to be a program where this project can get money. I sense there is some desire to see projects like this around the country - there are blueprints ready for shovels in the ground - that's just faster - and infrastructure money is to be spent in the next year to year and a half.

Mayor Lagace asked about green funding.

Mr. Warkentin: There is some money to invest in community buildings. This is a unique category. Part of the seniors' complex is town owned with part sold off to private individuals, so it's a little more complex. We may want to look at P3.

Mayor Lagace: The Town is looking at \$2 million and the Town would own some of the units. The Mayor was recently asked, "When was the last time you got something from the federal government?" and he really couldn't remember when the Town last got something from the federal government.

Mr. Warkentin: Tax rebate on fuel is from the federal government. It is hundreds of thousands of dollars. We, as the federal government, gave \$1 billion for housing to the province - but none of it was attributed to the federal government.

Mayor Lagace: You never see a "a built with funds from the federal government" billboard.

Mr. Warkentin. There are certain western diversification funds and there is a suggestion that these regional projects should get per capita funding. It is through regional development funds that smaller centers get funding and we are lagging behind.

Councillor Sakundiak: What is available for green fund?

Mr. Warkentin: The criteria is not set yet.

Councillor Sakundiak: Dawson Creek is starting with windmills. Some buildings in Edmonton are all green.

Mr. Warkentin: Eco energy will subsidize wind power and solar power for municipalities and will fund new, innovative ways to deal with wastewater. They could segment funding for the community-based portion of the seniors' housing.

Councillor Sakundiak: Transportation - LRTs buses - is money available if you can prove you can get vehicles off the road?

Mr. Warkentin: Yes, green infrastructure money is available. The federal government has been funding directly.

Mayor Lagace: Is it matching money on Building Canada Fund?

Mr. Warkentin: Yes. On green infrastructure, it has not determined yet.

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Mayor Lagace: If we were to build roads, would money be more available (E.g. paving the road outside of town, etc.)?

Mr. Warkentin: That would certainly be possible. It would be 1/3 federal government, 1/3 provincial government, and 1/3 community funding.

Mayor Lagace: Did you say there is \$176 million more to Albertans?

Mr. Warkentin: That is for small towns, so that they are not competing with big cities for funding.

Councillor Sakundiak: Is there funding for hospitals?

Mr. Warkentin: The federal government makes transfers to the provincial government for health care costs. Regarding the gun registry, the long-term plan was for legislation to scrap it. If the Conservatives brought legislation to the floor and lost, then Canadians would lose their amnesty. In this parliament, we believe we have the votes. Gary Breitkreutz will bring forward a private member's bill, so they don't have to vote for a Conservative bill. We have commitments for the private member's bill. Ignatieff, being as he was not around for the wrangling that went on, can probably let his members vote their conscience.

Councillor Barnfield: Are they scraping it altogether?

Mr. Warkentin: They are scraping the long gun registry. You will still need a license to own guns. That is to prove that you took safety courses and are not unstable.

Councillor Sakundiak: Did they look at pistols registration?

Mr. Warkentin: Pistols have had to be registered since the 30's and will continue to have to be registered. The deadline for the Building Canada Fund is March 15, 2009. If anything changes on seniors' housing, I will let you know.

Councillor Siggelkow: I heard a radio station ad encouraging people to buy sound systems and take advantage of the incentive program for renovating homes for paying for it.

Mr. Warkentin: I was unaware of that but the incentives are to encourage people to spend on their homes which will help keep people working in the trades. Only 10% of the population is spending money, so it is an effort to keep people thinking more rationally at this time. It is an incentive to counteract the fear about spending.

Thanks, around.

Mayor Lagace declared a 5-minute break @8:00 p.m.

**Building Canada
Fund**

RESOLUTION NO. 060-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council have CAO apply for roads, sidewalks, water park (5 lots @ \$70,000 per lot), recycle water, skateboard park, ditch/creek cleaning, paving 106 Street (or any paving) grants from the Building Canada Fund. The CAO should write a letter regarding the purchasing of railway land. (Mr. Warkentin said he would get back to Council with an answer but Council forgot to ask about it during his presentation.)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**AUMA requests
for comment – Zone
Boundary Change**

RESOLUTION NO. 061-02-09

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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**Request of Larry
Vavrek**

RESOLUTION NO. 062-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council approve, in principle, the erection of a large billboard promoting organ donation, to be erected along the Foster road allowance, between the paved road and Arclin. Council would like to see the sign or drawings of it before totally agreeing to it.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCIAL

RESOLUTION NO. 063-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council accept the Reconciliation as at January 31, 2009 and accept the cheque register for January, 2009 (cheques # 031558-031658).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ROUND
TABLE**

Siggelkow	<p>Re: Community Centre. I am concerned about the rent scale; i.e. dance is \$60 per week but football only pays \$100 for whole year. The Playroom renting their area out to make money.</p> <p>Civic Centre also has different fees - need a set fee schedule.</p> <p>Re: funding STARS. Highland Helicopters got the people from the recent crash out of the remote location, then STARS picks them up.</p>	<p>Football donated a lot of money to the Centre and probably gets a reduced rent due to that. CAO will look over the rental agreements.</p> <p>Councillor Skjaveland said that kids get it for a nominal fee. There is a lady, from Rural Reading, teaching another lady to read. She gets the hall for an hour a day for free. Wedding receptions are all the same fee. It is half the price of the 5-Mile Hall. After January 2009, the fee is \$900 for a wedding reception. His Board is happy with the job Councillor Skjaveland is doing with the hall.</p> <p>Information only.</p>
Sparks	<p>There is a truck at 10009 105 Street that has been there for a while.</p> <p>The CAO looks into things that come up at roundtable and, often, Council never hears about it again. It would be nice to know what happened.</p>	<p>Public Works will check it out.</p> <p>CAO will follow-up.</p>
Barnfield	<p>Can we get some of our facilities on green power so the Town can get some of the money from federal</p>	<p>CAO will look into.</p>

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	<p>government? The Community Centre, the Civic Centre, and arena should retrofit, if they're willing to apply.</p> <p>Thanks to Public Works for cleaning ice off streets.</p> <p>Public Works is doing a really good job at re-doing the park bathrooms.</p>	<p>Information only.</p> <p>Information only.</p>
Sakundiak	<p>Sexsmith Secondary School is against the portables being used for daycare for safety reasons, pollution, play area, etc. At the least, they would like the portables moved to SE corner of RWZ.</p> <p>Sexsmith Secondary School's Council isn't happy with the letter regarding the culvert.</p>	<p>Information only.</p> <p>Information only.</p>
Skjaveland	<p>What does the Town get out of it when a Peace Officer writes a ticket?</p> <p>There was a break in at library on Saturday but the culprits never got all the way in. The alarm went off and apparently scared them off! Security company was not contracted – doesn't know why. There are two outside lights that Councillor Skjaveland has replaced. He is checking on his way home to see if they come on automatically.</p> <p>Haven't seen anything done about unsightly premises i.e. dumpsters are still in back alleys around Town.</p> <p>PAZ, instead of trying to get too much money from donations, is hoping to get a tax on license plates for the Peace Air Zone Association.</p>	<p>Town gets some money but often have to wait until the offender tries to renew his license.</p> <p>Information only.</p> <p>CAO will have check on this.</p> <p>Information only.</p>
Mayor	<p>At the Mayors' Caucus, he brought up the new fire codes and almost got laughed out of the room. It was referred on to building committee.</p> <p>Doctors need to request the provincial government to pay a subsidy to small towns for doctors. It didn't go anywhere.</p>	<p>Information only.</p> <p>Information only.</p>

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	GETTI, a group of four or five communities around Leduc, share services of a CAO. If the Town is not training a CAO or a Public Works Superintendent to take over when the current people retire, that may be what communities will have to look at in the future.	Information only.
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**CLOSED
TO THE
PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. NO. 064-02-09

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council go ‘in camera’ at 9:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MEETING
OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 065-02-09

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council return to the open meeting @ 9:08 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Doctors' Rent of
Medical Clinic**

RESOLUTION NO. 066-02-09

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council send a letter to the doctors telling them they must pay their own rent, as they are now being paid the same as doctors in other municipalities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 067-02-09

Councillor Jickling moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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C. Lagace, Mayor

Carolyn Gaunt, Town Administrator