

MINUTES
TOWN OF SEXSMITH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2011

This regular Council meeting of Town Council was called to order by Mayor Lagace at 6:33 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Town of Sexsmith.

COUNCIL PRESENT	Claude Lagace Jonathan Siggelkow Rick Sakundiak Don Jickling Matthew Barnfield Isak Skjaveland Nicole Cooke	Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor Deputy Mayor Councillor Councillor
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COUNCIL ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT	Carolyn Gaunt Deloris Metz	CAO Admin. Ass't.
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PUBLIC PRESENT Harley Jantz (left at 9:00 p.m.), Derian Rosario @ 8:53 p.m. (and left immediately)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA **RESOLUTION NO. 012-01-11**
Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council approve the agenda for this meeting with the following additions and changes:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| IN CAMERA | 1. Staffing
2. Aquatera Board Appointments
3. Fire Agreement with County |
| BUSINESS ARISING | 5. Fire Hydrant |
| NEW BUSINESS | 5. Request for Approval for Emergency Public Warning System Training
6. Old Zamboni |

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC SESSION None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES **RESOLUTION NO. 013-01-11**
Councillor Jickling moved that Council accept the Regular Council Meeting minutes of January 4, 2011.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING

Results of Request for Proposal for Audit **RESOLUTION NO. 014-01-11**
Moved by Councillor Skjaveland that Council accept the lowest bid for auditing the Town, which was from Meyers, Norris and Penny, for the next three years.

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RESOLUTION NO. 015-01-11

Moved by Councillor Skakundiak that Council table this to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**4 FOR
3 AGAINST
MOTION CARRIED**

**Yearly Cost of
Last 5 years
of Audit**

RESOLUTION NO. 016-01-11

Councillor Skjaveland moved that Council accept this for information only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fire Hydrant

RESOLUTION NO. 017-01-11

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council get the cost on flow tests and defer the decision to when Council has enough information to make a judgment.

**4 FOR
3 AGAINST
MOTION CARRIED**

DELEGATION

MR. BERND MANZ, AQUATERA CEO

The CAO explained that Mr. Manz was attending Council in regards to Aquatera Business Plan 2011 – 2012. Mr. Manz handed out copies of the Business Plan.

Mr. Manz spoke about upgrades to the wastewater plant that will cost up to 45 million and the need to have the upgrades completed by 2014. Aquatera is working with the province to see if there are grants available. The cost of the upgrades effects Aquatera overall in respect to borrowing. The water system is in good shape and they are expecting nothing big over the next two years but in five years, they have to do some upgrades at the river. Aquatera will need to protect the riverbank and put in a new intake. Rate increases are 3.6% for the waterside of things.

Mayor Lagace: Has the government said we have to clean the water haze?

Mr. Manz: We do have tighter regulations but our treatment process is able to accommodate that without major upgrades. We are hoping to put upgrades on water treatment off for 5 – 10 years. We still only have a single intake water pipe into the City and at sometime we will have to build a second pipe from the river into the City but not in the next couple of years.

Wastewater for Clairmont and Sexsmith have not generated enough money to cover costs, so both towns are looking at 25% increases in the next 2 years. It costs each resident about \$1/week and it will cost about \$1.50 in 2012 per week. Upgrading has not been at cost recovery. Typically, Sexsmith pays less than \$1/day for that wastewater.

Councillor Siggelkow: Do you have utility rate comparisons?

Mr. Manz: If you look at page 39 in the booklet, there is a comparison of rates in Sexsmith and Clairmont. The cost for Sexsmith is less than it is in Clairmont. Rates in Grande Prairie are going up 7.9% each year to ramp up to pay cost of the Grande Prairie treatment plant. Sexsmith does not subsidize Grande Prairie's waste treatment plant. The province doesn't have a granting system for cities over 50,000 people although Ft. McMurray did get lots of money. Ft. McMurray is a special situation.

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Councillor Barnfield: Don't you have County residents hooked into that system?

Mr. Manz: Yes, but there's only a few County residents in Wedgewood, etc. There are not enough to enable us to get grants from the province.

Councillor Siggelkow: You base wastewater calculation on the amount of household usage of water?

Mr. Manz: Sewer is billed based on what you use for water.

Councillor Siggelkow: You have no way to measure sewer, anyway.

Mr. Manz: That is correct. All municipalities measure by water use rather than measuring the amount of sewer usage.

Councillor Barnfield: Is there a provincial program for getting rid of sumps?

Mr. Manz: That isn't a source of great flow for us but retrofitting to get rid of sumps is not easy.

Mayor Lagace: Is there a federal program for taking sumps out of the system?

Mr. Manz: Combined overflow is an issue in some cities but is not an issue for us.

Mayor Lagace: If Council wants to study the 2011-12 Aquatera plan, is that an issue?

Mr. Manz: No, but we need the bylaw passed before March 1st. I would be pleased to come back to answer any questions. We would like to advise people of rate increases before the increases become effective, so the earlier we get the bylaw passed, the better.

Councillor Siggelkow: It was on the radio just after the new year but it probably shouldn't have been released.

Mr. Manz: As soon as we present to one community, it is out to the media.

Councillor Siggelkow: Do you have graph of expenses or breakdown of yearly costs?

Mr. Manz: It is in the annual report you got last year. It breaks out the categories by expense division. We just completed a two year agreement for a 50 cents per hour wage increase, so that's 1% for this year and a 2% increase for next year.

Councillor Siggelkow: The answer isn't always to increase taxes. Sometimes it is to cut back. That is where I am coming from. Have you heard about inefficiencies, i.e. rink fire hydrant took forever.

Mr. Manz: We have challenged everyone to see how we can be more effective. I am not familiar with rink hydrant. Hydrant work is normally done in summer – but if you know of inefficiencies, please let me or Jeff Johnson know. Currently, our overhead is higher than should be. We are working through that and looking to lower our overhead. We are looking at better ways of doing things. We want to do work in a cost effective manner.

Councillor Siggelkow: I think our Public Works Department told Aquatera where the waterline was but Aquatera dug elsewhere. People shook their heads. Are these kind of things prevalent?

Mayor Lagace: Sexsmith is looking at doing surface repairs so that is one inefficiency that the Town is participating in improving.

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Councillor Barnfield: In your report, the increase is over two years. Is it cheaper to do the increase all in one year?

Mr. Manz: The Board looked at that and thought that it would be too big a rate shock to customers.

Councillor Barnfield: How many years of 25% increases are we looking at?

Mr. Manz: I think it will be 4 years but at the end of 2012, the Board will look to see if those rate increases are necessary.

Mayor Lagace thanked Aquatera for the hydrant they donated at skating rink across from St. Mary’s School.

Mr. Manz: We will continue to monitor what we spend in town and try to keep the costs down. The board increased the board members to nine. There are three board members whose terms would take effect in June. You have a slate of candidates with bios to examine. If you have any concerns, we would like to know before the next board meeting. All three shareholders have to agree on the appointment of board members.

Councillor Sakundiak added his thanks to Aquatera for the donated fire hydrant and said that people are making good use of the outdoor rink.

Mr. Manz noted Sexsmith roads are in much better shape than Grande Prairie’s. Thanks around and Mr. Manz left Council Chambers @ 7:25 p.m.

**Aquatera
Business Plan
2011-12**

RESOLUTION NO. 018-01-11

Councillor Skjaveland moved that Council accept the Aquatera 2011 – 12 Business Plan as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Bylaw No. 848 B
The Aquatera
Bylaw**

RESOLUTION NO. 019-01-11

Councillor Barnfield moved that Council give first reading to Bylaw 848 B, the Aquatera Bylaw.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION NO. 020-01-11

Councillor Sakundiak moved that Council give second reading to Bylaw 848 B, the Aquatera Bylaw.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION NO. 021-01-11

Councillor Jickling moved that Council give permission for third and final reading to Bylaw 848 B, the Aquatera Bylaw.

**3 FOR
4 AGAINST
MOTION DEFEATED**

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NEW
BUSINESS

**Request from
PREDA for letter
of support** **RESOLUTION NO. 022-01-11**

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council send a letter of support for continued provincial government funding for PREDA to the Honourable Mel Knight.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request for
Support – Bill 203,
Alberta Get
Outdoors
Weekend Act** **RESOLUTION NO. 023-01-11**

Moved by Councillor Sakundiak that Council send a letter or email of support for the Alberta Get Outdoors (‘GO’) Weekend Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request for
Nomination for
Alberta Order
Of Excellence** **RESOLUTION NO. 024-01-11**

Moved by Councillor Skjaveland that Council leave Walter Paszkowski’s name as the Town’s continuing nomination for the Alberta Order of Excellence.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request for
Funding for
Volunteer
Service Bureau** **RESOLUTION NO. 025-01-11**

Moved by Councillor Siggelkow that Council commit \$3,471 to the Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau.

**1 FOR
6 OPPOSED
MOTION DEFEATED**

**Request for
Emergency Public
Warning System
Training** **RESOLUTION NO. 026-01-11**

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council approve the Director of Disaster Services and Mayor Lagace attending the Emergency Public Warning System training when it is available.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Old Zamboni **RESOLUTION NO. 027-01-11**

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council defer to the Infrastructure Committee for cost information for 12’ x 14’ insulated building to house the old zamboni and that the Infrastructure Committee recommendations be brought back to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATION
ITEMS

RESOLUTION NO. 028-01-11

***Sentinel*
On Line** Councillor Siggelkow moved that the *Sentinel* be put on the Town’s website; if there is a cost involved, the issue must be brought back to Council.

**1 OPPOSED
6 FOR
MOTION CARRIED**

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**ROUND
TABLE**

Sakundiak	<p>Did we know that they are moving that portable from St. Mary’s to the new school?</p> <p>Can residents on 96 Street bring their garbage to the front street?</p>	<p>Yes, they contacted the office.</p> <p>No. Is has not been followed up on but it will be.</p>
Barnfield	<p>Please add snow removal to the agenda for next meeting Public Works maybe should have worked all weekend when the large snowfall was forecast. We may have to make a policy change.</p>	<p>CAO will add to next agenda and snow removal will be discussed at the Infrastructure meeting.</p>
Jickling	<p>I got a call from a lady regarding snow removal. Public Works worked Saturday and Sunday but then spent Monday morning cleaning the Public Works yard. Public Works still haven’t done the seniors’ parking lot.</p>	<p>CAO said Public Works have cleaned the seniors’ parking lot but haven’t gotten to their street cleaning yet.</p>
Skjaveland	<p>He is concerned about the boarded up house on 96 Street. All sorts of stuff is being put on the property, i.e. ATVs, trailers, etc. Does the Town have a bylaw whereby residents can’t keep putting vehicles on grass?</p> <p>Does the Town still have taxes in escrow for Arclin?</p>	<p>CAO will investigate this property.</p> <p>CAO: Yes, it is still there.</p>
Lagace	<p>Down the street from seniors is a guy who parks on the lawn and another on 96 Street.</p> <p>Went to STARS and it was really good.</p> <p>Asked the CAO if she has spray park information for budget?</p>	<p>Information only.</p> <p>Information only.</p> <p>CAO answered that she does have the necessary information.</p>

Mayor Lagace declared a 5-minute break.

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**CLOSED
TO THE
PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 029-01-11

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council go ‘in camera’ at 9:10 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MEETING
OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 030-01-11

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council return to the open meeting at 9:50 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Cooke declared a conflict of interest on the fire agreement, as her husband is the County Fire Chief and she left Council Chambers.

**CLOSED
TO THE
PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 031-01-11

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that Council go ‘in camera’ at 9:51 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MEETING
OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

RESOLUTION NO. 032-01-11

Moved by Councillor Jickling that Council return to the open meeting at 10:50 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Fire Agreement
With the County**

RESOLUTION NO. 033-01-11

Moved by Councillor Barnfield that the Town send a letter to the County, and cc other municipalities, stating that we are not in concurrence with the proposed County fire agreement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 034-01-11

Councillor Jickling moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Lagace, Mayor

Carolyn Gaunt, Town Administrator