

BIRCH HILLS COUNTY  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
BIRCH HILLS SERVICE CENTRE

FEBRUARY 10, 2010

The Regular Meeting for Birch Hills County Council was called to order by CAO, Irene Cooper in the absence of the Reeve and Deputy Reeve, at 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, February 10, 2010, in the Birch Hills Service Centre.

**PRESENT**

WARREN SMITH COUNCILLOR  
DALE JANZEN COUNCILLOR  
GERALD MANZULENKO COUNCILLOR  
CARMEN LUNN COUNCILLOR

IRENE COOPER C.A.O.  
DION HYNES MANAGER OF PUBLIC WORKS  
MICHAEL COY DIR.OF FIELD OPERATIONS  
WARREN SEKULIC AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN  
DENISE JOUDREY RECORDING SECRETARY

DANNY ZAHARA SIGNAL REPORTER

**ABSENT**

SHIRLEY EMERSON REEVE  
DENNIS SATHER DEPUTY REEVE  
FIONA LOVE COUNCILLOR

**AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO. 01-10 (02-10)

Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that Warren Smith be appointed Chairman of the February 10<sup>th</sup> Council meeting in the absence of the Reeve and Deputy Reeve.

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 02-10 (02-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn to adopt the Agenda as presented.

CARRIED.

**MINUTES**

RESOLUTION NO. 03-10 (02-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn to adopt the January 13, 2010, Regular Council Meeting Minutes as circulated.

CARRIED.

Signal reporter, Danny Zahara entered the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Dion Hynes and Michael Coy entered the meeting at 9:05 a.m. to discuss Transportation issues listed under their reports.

**EAGLESHAM**

**GRADER CONTRACT**

Michael Coy presented a cost breakdown for the Eaglesham Grader Contract. He reviewed the contract and discussion took place.

**EAGLESHAM  
GRADER CON'T**

2009 - 2012 Eaglesham Grader Contract  
Current Contract (3 years)

Hours	Rate	Yearly	Contract Total
2080	\$113/hr	\$235,040	\$705,120

The County supplies blades and sandvik tips as required. County graders usually operate up to 1500 hours per year.

Council discussed the areas of the County that require more maintenance than others. The Eaglesham Tangent area have roads that are more heavily used, thus there are more complaints from these areas.

Councillor Janzen asked if the Eaglesham Contractor would be flexible and if possible could the route be changed as needed. Michael Coy confirmed that this was a possibility.

**BURNT RIVER  
BRIDGE**

Dion Hynes informed Council that he is still drafting the letter as discussed at the last meeting.

**ICE BRIDGE**

Dion Hynes reported that an ice bridge would not be installed at the Burnt River as it is passable and there is not enough snow to create one.

**TANGENT WATER  
SYSTEM**

Submitted under the Agenda, for discussion Dion Hynes circulated copies of a letter received from Environment regarding Tangent Waterworks System Upgrade Planning Timeline Extension.

Irene Cooper suggested that council meet with Environment and Infrastructure at the Spring Conference and discuss the funding that is required to undertake the project.

Council agreed that a meeting would be beneficial. Irene Cooper will make the arrangements.

**GT-13 GYRO-TRAC  
BRUSHER**

Michael Coy discussed with Council the possibility of trying to sell the Gyro-Trac again. The last time it was tendered, Council felt the bids were too low.

Michael Coy discussed the cost analysis with Council.

After discussion Council decided to keep the brusher and use it for easy jobs such as line-of-sight brushing. Council wants to discuss it again at the next meeting when the whole Council is present.

**BOBCAT  
USEAGE/  
FUNCTION**

Michael Coy advised Council that after considerable discussion, the Department Heads would like to recommend to Council that the Bob Cat and all attachments be sold. This is a piece of equipment that is not being utilized as it should as the County has larger equipment that is more cost effective to use.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04-10 (02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn that the Bobcat be tendered with the dirt bucket and that all other attachments be sold separately.**

**CARRIED.**

**2010 CALCIUM  
PROGRAM**

Council's input was requested regarding the 2010 Calcium Program. Over the years the Eaglesham/Tangent Road has received calcium, however now it doesn't have as much traffic on it as Township road 790. Councillor Smith recommended that the budget funds be shifted accordingly.

Michael Coy recommended that the County be responsible for dust control when dust is created by the winter gravel haul program. This was an issue this year for the residence at the top of Windy Creek and the County was the only heavy traffic creating a safety issue.

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-10 (02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn that when a hazardous condition is created in conjunction with a County Gravel Haul Program, the County provide the dust control at no cost to the resident.**

**CARRIED.**

**GRAVEL HAUL  
CONTRACTS**

Dion Hynes reported that the 2010 Contracts have gone out.

Discussion took place as to what method will be followed for water trucks. Administrative staff will come up with a proposal for Council.

Discussion took place on the pros and cons of an annual equipment and yearly rate list. It was decided that Michael Coy will research it further and report back next meeting.

**GEMINI**  
**GPS DEMO**

Dion Hynes gave a presentation on screen, as to how the GPS works and it's tracking abilities. Michael and Dion explained to Council how the GPS works with the grading. The GPS system is going to be a great asset for tracking where the grading and mowing has been done and when. The system has a hot spot button that the operator can GPS any spot that needs further future attention.

Dion Hynes and Michael Coy exited the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

**AGRICULTURAL**  
**REPORT**

Warren Sekulic entered the Meeting to speak on Agricultural matters.

Mr. Sekulic reported on a cut stump herbicide treatment for hand cut trees. Mr. Sekulic is going to try a test program and see how it works.

This herbicide will work at outside temperatures of up to -10 and it may be a great way to manage regrowth of brush.

Mr. Sekulic reported on the Provincial ASB Conference highlights. The general message he got from the conference was know your costs and know your markets.

Mr. Sekulic reported on an Odor Mitigation Meeting with NRCB that he recently attended.

Discussion took place on whether or not to get involved with the wild boar bounty program. It was the consensus of Council that we readdress the topic at the next meeting.

Mr. Sekulic exited the Meeting at 11:55.

The Signal Reporter exited the Meeting.

**12:00 P.M. -**  
**1:00 P.M.**

The Meeting adjourned for lunch.

**LANDFILL**  
**CONTRACT**

Mr. Al Parranto was in attendance to discuss his recent price increase for the Landfill Contract. The rate has increased from \$30.00 per hour to \$50.00 per hour. Mr. Parranto advised that the increase was mainly due to having to supply his employee with a truck. He further stated that he could not undertake the contract for less and if Council felt they could get a better price they should retender.

LANDFILL  
CONTRACT  
CON'T

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10(02-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn that the Landfill Contract be re-advertised.

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-10(02-10)

Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that the closure Policy for the landfills be changed from -30 to -35 degrees. Temperature point to be Birch Hills County Office.

CARRIED.

BUSINESS  
ARISING FROM  
THE MINUTES

TCA POLICY

RESOLUTION NO. 08-10(02-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn that the Appendix "A" for Policy No. 02-09 (Tangible Capital Assets) be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

LAW SEMINAR

Submitted under the Agenda was information to preregister for the Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Northern Municipal Law Seminar. Councillor Lunn confirmed her attendance.

2010 VSI  
REQUISITION

Submitted under the Agenda, for information, was the 2010 VSI Requisition.

G5 MEETING

Submitted under the Agenda was an invitation from the Town of Spirit River for a representative to sit on their Committee and for the County to participate in funding the project.

Council does not feel they have enough information and asked Ms. Cooper to request more information.

HOST G-5  
MEETING

Submitted under the Agenda was the question, should Birch Hills County host the next G-5 meeting.

Discussion was held and it was decided to host the next G-5 Meeting at Tangent Hall.

G-5 WORKING  
COMMITTEE

Submitted under the Agenda was information reported from Irene Cooper. A short discussion took place and Council decided to discuss this further.

**LOCAL  
BROCHURE**

Submitted under the Agenda was information on joining with Saddle Hills County to develop a Local Brochure featuring our recreation spots.

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn that Birch Hills county Partner with Saddle Hills County in the development of a Brochure.**

**CARRIED.**

**GRAZING LEASE  
CANCELLATION**

Administration advised Council that Roll No. 186509 was a grazing lease that expired as of September 28, 2009 and has not been renewed. Taxes in the amount of \$73.17 should be written off.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that taxes in the amount of \$73.17 owing on Roll No. 186509 be written off.**

**CARRIED.**

**MISCELLANEOUS  
LEASE**

A Garden Lease on NW 23 79 23 W5 expired March 26, 2005. The 2009 taxes in the amount of \$61.41 should be written off as Roll No. 237098 should not have been active.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that the 2009 taxes in the amount of \$61.41 levied to Roll No. 237098 be written off.**

**CARRIED.**

**TREASURY**

**Bank  
Reconciliations**

Submitted under the Agenda was January, 2010 Bank Reconciliation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn that the January, 2010 Bank reconciliation be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**CHEQUE LISTS**

Submitted under the Agenda was Cheque List:  
PMPAY00000140 - PMPAY00000143 (4), 011310 #3,  
011310, CHEQUES BD#4, CHEQUES 012210, 012910.

**Resolution no. 13-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn to accept the Accounts Payable as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**C.A.O.  
REPORT**

**FCSS FUNDING**

Irene Cooper reported that this year we will have surplus funds. She also advised that there have not been any further developments with the Seniors Support Program. The Central Peace FCSS Director is seeking approval from Councils for the Town of Spirit River, Village of Rycroft and MD#133 to extend this program to Birch Hills County.

**INSURANCE SEMINAR**

Jubilee Insurance will be coming out to give a presentation on March 31, 2010 to all the community groups that have insurance through the County. Council previously directed that participation is mandatory in order to continue receiving insurance under the Counties policy.

**SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Irene Cooper advised that an ad has been placed in the paper to replace Dave Meuser.

**LINEAR ASSESSMENT**

Irene Cooper reported that the 2010 Linear Assessment has decreased by \$21, 310,570.00 which means \$355,125.00 in tax dollars based on the 2009 tax rate.

**ALBERTA COMMUNITY SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM**

Irene Cooper requested Council's approval to participate in the Summer Camp Program as in previous years by sponsoring a maximum of 4 participants. Council was in agreement.

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

**GROWING THE  
NORTH**

Councillor Janzen attended the Growing the North Conference and gave a report.

**LIBRARY  
BOARD**

Councillor Lunn reported that the Library Board held a meeting and discussed the decision by Council to join the Peace Library System.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that Councillor Lunn be appointed as the Birch Hills representative on the Peace Library System Board.**

**CARRIED.**

**EMS  
BOARD**

Councillor Lunn informed Council that she will be resigning from the EMS board. She is the only elected official on the Board and felt that it was not necessary to have representation.

**CLOSED TO  
THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn that the meeting be closed to the public at 3:20 p.m.**

**CARRIED.**

**OPEN TO  
THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-10(02-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Lunn that the meeting be opened to the public at 4:00 p.m.**

**REGIONAL  
EFFICIENCIES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 17-10(03-10)**

**Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that Birch Hills County apply for funding through Municipal Affairs to explore regional efficiencies with Saddle Hills County.**

**CARRIED.**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Council Meeting was set for 9:00 a.m., March 10, 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.