

BIRCH HILLS COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BIRCH HILLS SERVICE CENTRE

March 10, 2010

The Regular Meeting for Birch Hills County Council was called to order by Reeve, Shirley Emerson, at 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, in the Birch Hills Service Centre Fire Hall.

PRESENT

SHIRLEY EMERSON	REEVE
WARREN SMITH	COUNCILLOR
FIONA LOVE	COUNCILLOR
GERALD MANZULENKO	COUNCILLOR
CARMEN LUNN	COUNCILLOR
IRENE COOPER	C.A.O.
MICHAEL COY	DIR.OF FIELD OPERATIONS
DENISE JOUDREY	RECORDING SECRETARY
DEAN COOPER	ASSESSOR
GORDON HARDY	CHIEF ASSESSOR
DANNY ZAHARA	SIGNAL REPORTER
DON JOHNSON)	AAMD&C
TOM BURTON)	
SERGEANT LANDREVILLE	SPIRIT RIVER R.C.M.P.
SERGEANT PALTY	MCLENNAN R.C.M.P.

ABSENT

DENNIS SATHER	DEPUTY-REEVE
DALE JANZEN	COUNCILLOR
DION HYNES	MANAGER OF PUBLIC WORKS
WARREN SEKULIC	AG. FIELDMAN

AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 01-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Love to adopt the Agenda with noted additions:

7. (B) Tangible Capital Assets Policy No. 02-09

CARRIED.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION NO. 02-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Manzulenکو to adopt the February 10, 2010, Regular Council Meeting Minutes as circulated.

CARRIED.

THE SIGNAL

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

AAMD&C Member Visit

Don Johnson, President and Tom Burton, Director, District 4 AAMD&C entered the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Carmen Lunn entered the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Open discussions were had on the following topics:

Edmonton Municipal Airport and Ambulance

Stars Air Ambulance

Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI)

Railway Service

Health Care

WATER FOR LIFE

Irene Cooper expressed her concerns regarding this program and how it's been a struggle for Birch Hills County to benefit from the program. The status on our application has remained the same for the past three years "received".

Don Johnson suggested we meet with Environment Minister Hon. Rob Renner, Minister of Transportation Luke Ouellette and our MLA, Hector Goudreau and discuss what we can do.

Reeve Emerson thanked the AAMD&C Delegation for attending and they exited the Meeting at 10:02 a.m.

TRANSPORTATION

Michael Coy entered the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

**LANDFILL AND
TRANSFER SITE
CONTRACT**

Submitted under the agenda were the results of the tender re-advertising the Landfill Contract.

Codesa Construction	-	\$40.00 per hour
Eagle 99	-	\$43.07 per hour
Alco	-	\$51.00 per hour
County Disposal	-	\$63.13 per hour

Council reviewed the tenders

RESOLUTION NO.03-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Love that Birch Hills County award the Landfill and Transfer Site Contract to Codesa Construction at \$40.00 per hour fee.

CARRIED.

**GYRO TRAC
GT 13**

Michael Coy readdressed the Gyro Trac GT 13 and asked Council to make a final decision on selling or keeping the unit.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that Birch Hills County keep the Gyro Trac GP 13.

CARRIED.

**FUNDING FOR
STREET
IMPROVEMENTS**

Michael Coy explained to Council how the Street Improvement Grant works. The grant is based on population. Our grant portion for 2010 is \$25,140.00, it's a 75/25 split. Birch Hills County would have to front the cost of major projects and receive grant money later; or we could save our yearly grants until we have enough to complete the projects intended.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Manzulenko that Birch Hills County only do the work that is needed on the streets and sidewalks this year.

**WINTER
GRAVELLING**

Michael Coy reported that due to an abnormally mild, dry winter the Winter Gravel Program was a success. There was no excessive gravel loss in the ditches. We will plan to implement the same program in the future years if conditions permit.

Michael Coy exited the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

**BUSINESS
ARISING FROM
THE MINUTES**

**TANGIBLE CAPITAL
ASSETS POLICY
POLICY NO. 02-09**

Irene Cooper presented two additions to the Tangible Capital Assets Policy No. 02-09. The first change added under the heading AMORTIZATION is a paragraph that states the following; The Asset will be amortized for a full year the first year of purchase regardless of the month in which it is purchased and will not be amortized the year in which it is sold. The second addition is under the Asset Classes; an additional column of Residual Value.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-10(03-10)

Moved by Fiona Love to adopt the Tangible Capital Assets Policy No. 02-09 as circulated.

CARRIED

DELEGATION

R.C.M.P.

Sergeant Landreville, Spirit River R.C.M.P., Sergeant Palty, McLennan R.C.M.P entered the meeting 10:30 a.m. and handed out, for information , Crime Statistics for both areas. Sergeant Landreville and Sergeant Paltry exited the Meeting at 10:45 a.m.

**PEACE WAPITI
SCHOOL BOARD**

Rodney Lee, Deputy Superintendant and Chris Shantz, FCSS Liaison Worker for Peace Wapiti School Division entered the Meeting at 10:48 a.m. Handed out was information regarding the Family School Liaison Worker's area of responsibility and job outline.

Rodney Lee explained to Council that with more FCSS Funds from our area we would be entitled to more time from a Liaison Worker at our school.

Rodney Lee and Chris Shantz exited the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

**DEVELOPMENT &
SUBDIVISION
BOARD MEMBER**

Birch Hills County advertised for a new Development and Subdivision Board Member. Patty Swinimer of Eaglesham and Maurice Lemay of Tangent applied.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn that we accept Maurice Lemay as the new Development and Subdivision Board Member based on his geographical location in the County.

CARRIED

**FUNDING
OPPORTUNITY
WOMEN OF THE
NORTH**

Submitted under the Agenda was a financial support request for the upcoming 3rd Annual Women in the North Conference.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn that we send Women of The North a gift basket.

CARRIED

TREASURY

Bank

Reconciliations Submitted under the Agenda was February, 2010, Bank Reconciliation.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn to adopt the February, 2010 Bank Reconciliation as circulated.

CARRIED

Check List

Submitted under the Agenda was Cheque List:
Cheque List: PMPAY00000145 – PMPAY00000147(3), 020510 CHEQUES, 021110 CHEQUE, CHEQUES BD#5, 021610 CHEQUES, 022210 CHEQUES

RESOLUTION NO. 10-10(03-10)

Moved by Councillor Lunn to adopt the Cheque List as circulated.

CARRIED

ASSESSMENT

Dean Cooper and Gordon Hardy entered the Meeting at 11:35 a.m. Handed out for information was the 2009 annual general assessment breakdown for Birch Hills County.

The 2009 assessment has decreased by approximately 8.8%. Irene Cooper advised that this will mean an approximate decrease of \$500,000.00 in the 2010 taxes. Farmland assessment decreased insignificantly, residential property increased, non residential decreased due to the removal of buildings that were associated with non producing wells and idle plant deconstruction.

There was a large decrease in Machinery and Equipment Assessment. This is due to the number of wells that have been shut in this year due to depleted zones and the lower price of gas, as well as the drop in the price of steel, cheaper technology and a slowdown in the drilling and pipeline construction (new royalty regime) and recession. Linear Assessment decreased for the same reasons.

Mr. Hardy and Mr. Cooper also discussed with Council some specific taxation scenario's based on the change in residential assessment.

C.A.O. REPORT

WEBSITE

Irene Cooper informed Council that we have outgrown our website and the current provider can only do limited modifications for us. We are interested in going with a new provider, New Harvest Media Inc. The basic start up package is \$4,550.00. Administration will proceed with the basic package.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Council Meeting was set for 9:00 a.m., April 14, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

REEVE, SHIRLEY EMERSON

C.A.O., IRENE COOPER