



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133
Meeting Minutes for Regular Council Meeting RM 07-23
10:00 am, April 19th, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, April 19th 2023, at 10:00 am.

Reeve: Tony Van Rootselaar

**Councillors: Elaine Garrow
Stan Bzowy
Nick vanRootselaar**

**Administration: Dan Dibbelt
Shirley Hayden**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Van Rootselaar called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with Public Works Supervisor David Johnson and Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 residents Mel and Darlene Knezevich in attendance.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS

10. REPORTS

- A. Public Works Report - Reporting Period March 31st to April 17th, 2023**
- B. CAO Report**

11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

- A. 2023 Final Operating and Capital Budget**

13. NEW BUISNESS

- G. MD Rural Crime Watch / Surveillance Cameras**

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- I. **Information The Rycroft Ball Association - funding for the upcoming 2023 Ball season. (MD contributes annually)**
- J. **Information - Email from Paul McLauchlin, President RMA Update - Fixed Wing Air Ambulance correspondence with the Hon. Minister Jason Copping.**
- K. **Information - Letter from RMA to the Hon. Minister Devin Dreesen - Fixed Wing Air Ambulance; reduction of services in Spirit River, Two Hills and Ponoka.**
- L. **Information - Letter from The Peace Valley Conservation, Recreation and Tourism Society - Board Dissolved - MD Refund.**

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A. Adoption of the April 19th, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda RM 07-23.

118.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the agenda for the regular council meeting RM 07-23 with the agenda additions be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A. Adoption of Minutes from the April 5th, 2023 Council Meeting RM 06-23

119.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that the minutes from the regular meeting RM 07-23, April 5th 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

6. COUNCILLOR ABSENCES

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. DELEGATIONS

Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 residents Darlene and Mel Knezevich entered the meeting at 10:15 a.m. relaying their concerns with the use of digital ID, the introduction of smart city alliance models throughout the province and what impact this technology will have on personal privacy in the future . Council made reference to a recent motion made at the RM-06-23, April 5th, 2023 meeting that the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 will not enter into in any agreements involving smart city alliance programs. Council thanked the residents for coming to the meeting, reiterating that citizen engagement plays a major role in ensuring residents are involved in the decision-making process moving forward and keeping in contact regularly with their local government representatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Knezevich left the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

10. **REPORTS**

A. **Public Works Report - Reporting Period March 31st to April 17th, 2023**

Public Works Director, Dave Johnson reviewed with Council the following items:

- Nardam - Fountain and lights are ordered; they are waiting on lights and then they will be shipped together.
- Culverts - Public Works Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor and another employee worked late steaming culverts. As of now, all culverts seem to be free and running. Checked into a rate-payer's complaint about the culverts being plugged on Twp 793. Culverts were plugged with silt and debris from the ratepayer's work in the drainage ditch, used the backhoe to clean up the ends of the culverts.
- Cemetery - Measured cement pad at MD Cemetery and ordered a 12 X 20 gazebo from Costco which will sit on the pad.

Councillor Stan Bzowy left the meeting at 11:12 a.m. and returned at 11:15 a.m.

CAO Dibbelt left the meeting at 11:13 a.m. and returned 11:16 a.m.

Public Works Report Continued....

- RR 54 Dugout - New dugout on RR 54. All the water was running right past. Had an operator go down and divert the water into the dugout; it is right full now.
- Calcium - Met with Novamen; they sell calcium in totes. We have one more year with Tiger Calcium. They are a little more per litre, but we might try out a small section on RR 54 when it is completed, on the West side of Rycroft.
- Equipment - Removed dozers and wings from graders. All the equipment that required inspections are completed with minimal cost, thanks to the operators that are respecting MD equipment and looking after it.
- Mulching - Finished mulching Twp 773, continuing on RR 54 by Silverwood, should be completed in a few days.
- Brownlee / Administration Building - A local contractor has started putting in the cabinets from the Brownlee Building into the lunchroom at the Administration Building, purchased metal shelving for the Brownlee Building for the staff to store archive boxes.
- Gravel - Grimshaw Gravel has about 22,000 tonne crush and about 15,000 tonne hauled to the stockpile site. They are working on the East side of the pit and reclaiming as they go.

120.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Public Works Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public works Supervisor , Dave Johnson left the meeting 11:19 a.m.

CAO Report

CAO Dan Dibbelt reviewed with Council the following items:

- Brownlee Building permits signed off. Reno near completion, walk through next week.
- Staff Meeting May 2nd , 8 a.m. at the Brownlee Building, Admin office open at 10:00a.m.
- MD audit was completed April 5th, 2023.
- Development / Projects - Updates; Town
- Airport Update; Meeting with RMA President Paul McLaughlin RE: CanWest contracts and Fixed Wing Services. Next call is scheduled for this Friday April 21st.
- Nardam Update; Fountain and Lights have been ordered.
- MD Cemetery; gazebo has been ordered, arriving in a few weeks.
- MD land rental agreements in the process of updating the lease template.
- Central Peace Fire and Rescue (CPFRC) ; Firehall moving forward; Audit on April 21st at 1:30 p.m.
- Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) - Summer Camp will be moving forward in the next few weeks. FCSS meeting April 19th.
- Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 website; launch date is May 1st
- Bus tour planned; Study of existing day-cares in Fahler, Grimshaw and Fairview, Monday April 24th.

121.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that the CAO Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Nick vanRootselaar left the meeting at 12:04 p.m. and returned 12:06 p.m.
The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 12:41 p.m.
Public works Supervisor , Dave Johnson entered the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

C. Financial Report - Final Operating and Capital Budget 2023

The Director of Corporate Finance, Louise Gostick entered the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

Ms. Gostick reviewed with Council the 2023 Final Operating and Capital Budget.

Ms. Gostick and Mr. Johnson left the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

A. 2023 Final Budget: Operating and Capital Budgets

122.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that Council approve the Operating and Capital Budgets for the 2023 year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

123.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that Council approve the 2024, 2025 and 2025 operating budget and verbal financial report as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy Development - LEG.18 Council Committee and Renumeration

Legislative Policy: Council, Committee and Board Renumeration (Leg.18) was presented for Council's review. At the RM 10-22 on June 1st, 2022, the policy was updated to reflect Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) mileage guidelines and submission date for Expense sheets. Administration is now recommending that the policy be updated to reflect changes in the Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) due to rising inflation costs.

124.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that Council approve the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Legislative Policy: Council, Committee and Board Renumeration Leg.18 as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Policy Development - ADM.35 Accumulated Surplus, Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves Policy

The MD's current policy ADM.35I: Reserves and Surplus policy has not been updated since April 24th, 2018. The objective of policy ADM.35 is to establish, maintain and manage reserve funds that provide for emergent needs in our municipality as well as establishing clear standards and guidelines for the management of existing reserves, the establishment of new reserves, and to outline the purpose and parameters regarding the use of designated reserves.

125.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that administration policy ADM.35I: Reserves and Surplus policy be amended as presented and renamed ADM.35: Accumulated Surplus - Restricted and Unrestricted (Reserves) policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. ASB Member at Large Appointment Recommendation

After a regular meeting of the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) on February 8th, 2023, a member at large position opened up. The vacant position was advertised by the Agricultural administration on February 21st 2023, with only one application received to date. At the regular meeting of the ASB on April 14th, 2023, a motion was then made by the board with a recommendation that Lori Witts be appointed to the ASB as a Member at Large by Council.

126.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that council appoint Lori Witts to the Agricultural Service Board as a Member at Large for the 2023 - 2024-year term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Sponsorship Request: Spirit River Graduation 2023

Administration is recommending that in the event the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 should receive a funding request from students in grades 7 - 12 , students will be required to contribute to

the MD in kind, by volunteering time completing maintenance jobs within the MD to qualify for sponsorship.

- 127.04.19.23** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that should a funding request be received from students ages 13 - 18 , they will be required to contribute to the MD in kind, volunteer hours in the form of completing maintenance work within the Municipal District, prior to receiving monies for sponsorship.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Motion Amendment: The Community Rail Advocacy Alliance (CRAA) Membership Fee Amount

At the RM-06-23 April 5th meeting, Council made a motion to join the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance (CRAA). Upon receiving updated information, the fee for a municipality is \$2,000 which is used to cover administration costs, digital assets and print collateral expenditures, and any additional costs as they arise. Administration is seeking an amendment to motion 101.04.05.23 from the RM-06-23, regular meeting held on April 5th, 2023.

- 128.04.19.23** Moved by Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar that motion 101.04.05.23 be amended to read as follows; that Council approve the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 enter into a full membership with the *Community Rail Advocacy Alliance* (CRAA), which includes a one-time membership fee in the amount of \$2000.00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. Sponsorship Request: Central Peace Community Garden Park Project

At the Regular Council Meeting RM 14-22, Shelley Loroff, Vice-Chair and member Darlene Knezevich of the Central Peace Community Garden Park presented their delegation in regard to the group being in need of use of land for the proposed project. The group has since secured land and access to a water source within the town of Spirit River and within the village of Rycroft for the 2023 growing season.

- 129.04.19.23** Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that the Community Garden Park Project request be tabled and further information be brought to a future meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. MD Rural Crime Watch / Surveillance Cameras

Council directed administration to contact the coordinator of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Rural Crime Watch Group and arrange for the team lead provide a progress report on the impact, if any, the groups efforts have had in reducing crime within the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 since the formation of the group in 2019.

- 130.04.19.23** Moved by Nick vanRootselaar that administration contact the coordinator of The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Rural Crime Watch group and make arrangements to retrieve the technology that was provided to the group.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council directed administration bring back information to a future meeting regarding the Crime Stoppers Organization and potential benefit, if any, to the MD in participating services or programs they offer.

14. BYLAWS

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- A. Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual (Manual Copied Separately).
- B. Information - Sponsorship Proposal : Happy Valley Ag and Recreation Club.
- C. Information - CN Rail - Annual Vegetation Management Program.
- D. Information - Email from Family and Community Support Services RE:
Information session: Asset- Based Community Development June 6-8th, 2023 - St. Albert.
- E. Correspondence - Alberta Recreation and Parks (ARPA) and Lieutenant Governors Awards & Scholarships are now open.
- F. Email - A) From the Department of Canadian Heritage - Celebrate Canada funding approval - celebration and commemoration program.
B) Letter from the Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Canadian Heritage RE Activities involving the participation of Russian or Belarusian state organizations or their official representatives.
- G. Correspondence - Letter from the Honourable Jason Luan, Minister of Culture RE: Alberta 2026 Games.
- H. Letter - from the Honourable Minister Rebecca Schulz - RE: Intermunicipal collaboration Framework collaboration agreements (ICF'S) & Ministerial order ICF - Timeline Extension for Review of collaboration framework review period (extended from 5 years to 7 years).
- I. Information The Rycroft Ball Association - funding for the upcoming 2023 Ball season. (MD contributes annually)
- J. Information - RMA - Fixed Wing Air Ambulance Email from Paul McLaughlin, President of Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), RE: Update on the Fixed wing Air Ambulance correspondence with the Hon Minister Jason Copping.
- K. Information - Letter from Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), to the Hon. Minister Devin Dreeshen - Fixed Wing Air Ambulance; reduction of services in The Town of Spirit River, Two Hills County and Ponoka County.
- L. Information - Letter from the Peace Valley Conservation, Recreation and Tourism Society - Board Dissolved; MD Refund.

131.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Correspondence and Information items be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

17. CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

132.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow as per *FOIP Act* requirement in accordance with *section 197 (4)(b) of The Municipal Government Act*, the Meeting enter into a closed meeting to discuss Land and Legal.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting went into a closed meeting at 1:27 p.m.

133. 04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that the meeting come out of closed meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting came out of closed meeting at 1:42 p.m.

134.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that Council approve payment in the amount of \$17,825.24 regarding invoice # 08 , regarding crop loss compensation on leased land located on two separate parcels located at : RL42-78-5-W6 and RL41-78-5-W6 which totals 22.5 acres of un-harvestable Canola due to water reservoir and road construction in relation to the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Range Road 54 Improvement Project .

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

135.04.19.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Council as per section 72(1)(a) of the *Municipal Government Act*, formally authorizes Saddle Hills County, as the managing partner of a Regional Water System, to acquire the land acquisitions as specified in "Schedule A through C" by Saddle Hills County (developed by MPE Engineering Ltd.) pertaining to the Central Peace Regional Water Project, provided that the managing partner of the project cannot produce an alternate route to the existing plan.

Councillor Elaine Garrow requested a recorded vote:

- Reeve Van Rootselaar - Yes**
- Councillor vanRootselaar - Yes**
- Councillor Bzowy - Yes**
- Councillor Garrow - No**


CARRIED

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Reeve Van Rootselaar at 1:51 p.m.

These minutes approved this 3rd day of May, 2023.


 Deputy Reeve
 Tony Van Rootselaar
 Nick vanRootselaar


 CAO
 Dan Dibbelt