

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF VILLAGE OF WARNER  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE OF WARNER ON JANUARY 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Jon Hood, Deputy Mayor Colette Glynn,  
Councillors Doug Neal, Dannie Lien & Sandi Hedin  
Staff: CAO Lisa Carroll & Municipal Clerk Kim Owen  
Residents as observers

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 5:24 pm by Mayor Hood.

**DELEGATIONS**

**None**

001-13

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Hood asked if there were additions or deletions to the agenda. Councillor Hedin asked to have the addition of Item 6A) Security Wall and Mayor Hood asked to add Item 6B) Derelict Home Removal, 6C) Trophy Case at Arena and 6D) Coaches Room Renos. Councillor Neal asked to add an In Camera discussion under item 8A) Last Month to the agenda. Councillor Hedin moved to approve the agenda with the agenda item additions as provided.

Carried

002-13

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councillor Lien pointed out one small item in last month's meeting minutes. She was not in attendance and yet CAO Carroll had her making a motion. This will be corrected with her apologies. Councillor Hedin moved to approve the consent agenda as provided with the clerical change to page 7 of the December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 minutes.

Carried

**ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Regional Water Line

The water is ready to be turned on. There are still a few minor things that need to be done within our water plant but that work won't interfere with having water come from Ridge Water Plant. It's scheduled to be turned on before end of January.

All Council Follow-Up

CAO Carroll asked for some feedback after the All-Councils meeting that was held earlier this month. There were some things brought up at that meeting that related to Chief Mountain that we weren't privy to and Councillor Neal was asked if he was fully aware of the issues there and, if so, why wasn't that relayed back to council. He did know of the issues but didn't think it had direct effect on us down here in the South. Further discussion arose regarding this but it was decided that when the Quad Council meets, it could be added to the agenda with some possible solutions presented at that time.

Consent Agenda

As this is the first time we've incorporated the new consent agenda into the format of the council meeting, CAO Carroll wanted to hear first impressions from council as to whether or not it's something we should be pursuing. It does have potential to save time. All agreed that it's still too early – let's give it a couple or 3 more months to provide proper feedback.

County of Warner  
Emergency Services Consult

Now that the draft report has been distributed and reviewed by all councils, the sub-committee that was set up has now set their meeting for January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the County office to decide on the next steps.

Quad Council

Although there used to be a regular meeting of the quad council (Milk River, Warner, Coutts & South County reps) to discuss issues that only affect the south zone, it's been quite some time since this group has met. With some of the issues now becoming regular topics, it was decided that Village council would take the leadership role in resurrecting this group to ensure items such as Dr. Recruitment & Retention, Chief Mountain, Heritage Handi-Bus, etc. get dealt with by council. Some suggested dates for this meeting were given to CAO Carroll and she will attempt to set something up – sooner rather than later.

Her suggestion was to hold them twice a year but in between the all council meetings so something like this type of schedule:

March – Quad Council

June – All Council

September – Quad Council

December – All Council

Deputy Mayor Glynn felt that some of these issues can't wait until March and in her discussions with Mayor Butler of Coutts, we should meet as early as we can in February. She will work on it with the other 3 administrators and e-mail out the updated information as she gets it.

Cost of Living Increase

Mayor Hood asked CAO Carroll to bring some budget numbers to this meeting regarding what a 2.5%, 3% and 3.5% cost of living increase would mean to the salary budget for the 2013 year. She provided that tonight plus a grid she created for full time staff that could be implemented immediately.

003-13

3.5% Increase/Grid

Mayor Hood moved to implement the new 8 step pay grid that CAO Carroll presented at the 3.5% increase effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 for this fiscal year.

Carried

Civic Centre Committee

It has recently been brought to CAO Carroll's attention that there used to be a group (The Civic Centre Committee) meet on a somewhat regular basis. That group used to do appeal letters which brought in advertising dollars via the banners that hang at the arena. They haven't met for many years and nor have they gotten any advertising funding from the banners so council suggested CAO Carroll forward the information on to the Warner Community Hockey Society and Warner & District Minor Hockey to see if they would like to take on this as a fundraising project, as long as they know that any modifications that they wish to do to the building would have to be approved by council.

CAO Carroll suggested that if and when they do take it on, they consider having a council rep sit on their committee so we at least are in the loop of information.

#### Committee Reports

Councillor Neal gave a brief overview of the Dr. Recruitment & Retention Committee – there seems to be some movement regarding the possibility of the Taber Clinic joining forces with ours but it's still in the discussion stages. They recently had a presentation from John Walkey regarding the use of social media and how critical it is in today's information world.

Mayor Hood attended the Warner Community Hockey Society meeting where they voted in Doug Neal as a "member at large", giving him a vote. Council reminded Councillor Neal that in future, any discussions or decisions regarding the Hockey School, he would have to excuse himself from due to an actual conflict now, as opposed to just having a "perceived" conflict. He also attended the Warner Fireman's AGM and informed them of council's decision to put \$15K into the budget each year and with pre-approval/approved projects, they would assist them with much needed new equipment, training, fire gear, etc. The members in attendance were very grateful for this money and thanked Mayor Hood for council's generosity.

#### Milk River Clinic Support

It was brought to the attention of CAO Carroll that the 2 year agreement that was put into place in late 2010 for the 2011/2012 years to support the Milk River Clinic will soon come to an end. Will they be seeking out support again? What is the status of this clinic's future? This will be added as an agenda item for discussion at the Quad Council meeting.

Water Charge Increase

Mayor Hood wanted to have a discussion about whether or not we should increase the minimum charge (currently set at \$35/bill). His concern is that the Ridge Water Commission will be charging us more than we're charging the residents and we're not going to be breaking even. CAO Carroll is quite confident that we will but she would run the numbers again with the auditors when they come in January/February to ensure the budget is being properly reflected in our revenues for water. It was agreed to table it for now but if it is to become necessary in order to recoup costs, we would revisit the idea.

Taxes Due Date

Mayor Hood has received a few phone calls and other council members have had discussions with residents who still feel like every time we move the "taxes due date" up by a month, they are somehow only having 11 months to pay when this is really only applicable to those members of the community who take advantage of paying monthly – which, again, is a courtesy offered by the Village and not a requirement of the government. Further discussion arose but all in attendance agreed that we would keep this year's taxes due date at the end of August and the Municipal Clerk would ensure it gets put in the February newsletter.

004-13  
Taxes Due Date

Councillor Neal moved to have the 2013 Taxes Due date be noon on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Carried

Security Wall

Again, during the course of this month, CAO Carroll has had several walk-in residents who don't accept that she might be too busy to drop everything. She is asking Council to give her a maximum dollar amount she can spend in order to put up a more secure barricade between her and the public.

**ACTION ITEMS**

005-13

Security Wall Project

Deputy Mayor Glynn moved that CAO Carroll proceed with her plan to build a security barrier between her offices and the public reception area not to exceed \$5,000.

Carried

Derelict Homes

The derelict homes in town that are eyesores have been an ongoing issue for a number of years. We can't invest a huge amount of dollars into them to tear them down because according to our auditors, the cost of tearing them down needs to be added to the minimum bid when they go up for auction. CAO Carroll is in receipt of a bid to tear them down at a cost of \$5,000 per house. This is less than half of the best bid we've received. She needs council to approve her going ahead with contracting this bidder to start. Mayor Hood suggested we put notice in the newsletter that we will be tearing them down some time after February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013, and if anyone has any property on these lots, they have until that date to remove it or we will take ownership.

006-13

Derelict Home Teardown

Mayor Hood moved to have 2 derelict homes that have become Village property via tax sale torn down and removed starting February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at a maximum cost of \$5,000 per home.

Carried

Mayor Hood called for a 5 minute break at 6:50 pm. Regular meeting resumed at 6:55 pm.

Trophy Repair

Back in early 2010, some damage occurred at our arena that ended up with us receiving court-ordered damages in retribution for the broken glass in our trophy case.

Mayor Hood, while attending the recent meeting of the WCHS, discovered that they are wanting to build an additional case at quite an extensive cost. However, they did ask if we would be willing to put those funds towards the replacement glass and then both cases could be used.

007-13  
Trophy Glass

Councillor Neal moved to proceed with the replacement &/or repair of the trophy glass at the Civic Centre using the funds we received in retribution payments via court order.

Carried

Painting at Arena

Mayor Hood was also asked at the Warner Community Hockey Society meeting if it would be o.k. if they were to do some minor renovations and painting in the "Coaches Room", which is a small room at the back of the arena where the coaches and VIP's hang out during events. Discussion arose but if there's no cost to the Village and it'll improve on the building, all felt that there was no problem with allowing them access to do this work. CAO Carroll will inform the arena staff that this will be happening sometime in the near future.

008-13  
Coaches Room Paint

Councillor Lien moved to allow the WCHS proceed with their plan to paint and do some minor renovations, at their expense, to the room at the arena that is known as the Coaches Room.

Carried

**BYLAW REVIEW**  
Land Use Bylaw

CAO Carroll included the copy of the draft land use bylaw that Bonnie Brunner has put together after council's input over the past couple of months. She will be in attendance for the February meeting. Mayor Hood suggested we meet earlier that day with Bonnie as it could be quite a lengthy discussion and at the draft stages, it's not necessary to include residents.

CAO Carroll will contact Bonnie Brunner and see if she could possibly meet at 3:30 pm on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 to discuss the land use bylaw.

Application to Rezone

Council is in receipt of an application to rezone a property on Main Street from Public Institutional to Commercial. This will have to go in the February newsletter and allow the public input.

009-13  
Rezone Property

Councillor Neal moved to go to first reading of Bylaw 540-13.

Carried

**IN CAMERA SESSION**

010-13  
In Camera Session

Mayor Hood moved to go in camera at 7:15 pm

Carried

**REGULAR SESSION**

011-13  
Regular Session

Mayor Hood moved to go back to regular session at 7:39 pm

Carried

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next regular council meeting will be Wednesday, February, 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 5:30.

**ADJOURNMENT**

012-13

Deputy Mayor Glynn moved to adjourn at 7:53 pm

Carried