

MINUTES
SUMMER VILLAGE OF BURNSTICK LAKE
COUNCIL MEETING
Silver Springs Golf Club
1600 Varsity Estates Dr NW Calgary, Alberta
April 17, 2008 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Council:

Diane Auld
Harold Esche
Irene Dunsmuir

Administration:

Rick Butler, Administrator

Residents:

George Dunsmuir
Patty Knight, Jerry Knight
Don & Barb Stuart
Hazel Higgins, Lori Higgins
Lloyd Cumming, Beth Cumming
Doug Lindblom, Diane Lindblom
Adolf Becker
Bill & Betty Post
Russ Down, Jill Down
Dianne Sutton

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Diane Auld called the regular council meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion Moved by Councillor Esche that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

MINUTES

Motion Moved by Mayor Auld that the Minutes to the February 13, 2008 meeting (Attachment 2.2) be adopted with corrections to residents in attendance

Carried

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

Rick Butler reviewed correspondence as outlined in attachment 2.3

- Sundre Forest Products Inc commencement of Timber Harvesting operations: A notice was mailed Feb 22, 2008 regarding Sundre Forest Products Inc commencement of Timber Harvesting operations. The following summary was placed in the March Newsletter and the map is available for residents to view. *Sundre Forest Products have advised the Village that they will be continuing the road construction in the South Burnstick Lake compartment, east of Burnstick Lake Road near Twp 34, Rge 05 W5M. Their map will be available at the April 17th Council Meeting.*
- Various encroachment policy suggestions were received which will be discussed under other agenda items.
- A number of grant agreements were received and executed.
- A number of excellent pictures were received from residents for future editions of the Villager.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Rick noted the following from his report per attachment #2.5

Assessment Notices - 2007 Property Assessment Notices were sent to all residents. The average value of improvements has increased by approximately 30-40% over 2006. Despite this, individual taxes will remain stable because assessment increases have gone up consistently across the board; unless of course one had a major improvement to their residence. In this situation, one's assessment and taxes will go up proportionately higher than the average.

Damage at Boat Launch – Efforts continue to recover costs or have this work repaired.

Free Trees for Planting on the Reserve - Councillor Irene Dunsmuir volunteered to pick up the trees and coordinate their planting – likely the weekend of May 3-4.

Third Waste Transfer Station - A third bin or transfer station has been ordered and will be on site starting May 12th through October. It is hoped,

however, that residents will refrain from using this as a waste station for construction material and old couches.

Report of Burnstick Lake Public Advisory Committee

Patricia Knight reviewed her notes to the meeting of the above committee as presented in Attachment #2.5.

- It was noted that The Village needs to get its contact coordinates better profiled so oil, gas and lumber companies would know better.
- It was also noted that the waste research proposed for the area may have been moved to Red Deer. Rick will confirm this.
- Other discussion was carried over to items later on the agenda under Councillor Esche's reports.

2007 Annual Audited Financial Statements (Attachment #2.6)

The Audited Financial Statements as distributed were summarized by Rick Butler as follows:

- Municipal financial position has increased from \$130,703 in 2006 to \$157,066 in 2007. This is due largely to additional capital assets of the walkway bridge and drainage at Poplar and Spruce paid for completely by provincial and other non-Village funds.
- Net operating costs faired slightly better than budgeted at \$1,252 required from the accumulated surplus.
- Village Reserves remain consistent at \$35,417.
- Several questions were asked and answered by Erick pertaining to particular line items related to road improvements, fire and EMS and deferred revenue (capital grants)

Motion Moved by Mayor Auld that the 2007 Audited Financial Statements for the Summer Village be accepted by Council.

Carried

2008 Budget (Attachment #2.7)

The proposed 2008 Budget was presented by Rick with the following comments:

- SVBL still enjoys one of the lowest Summer Village tax rates in the Province; and has been able to take advantage of significant grant dollars for capital projects using none of its tax dollars. However, the Village remains slightly below the average regarding its reserve balances.
- There appears to be continued capital dollars in the future for the many projects that the Village is planning. However, these funds will not help

offset all operating costs. In fact, new capital projects often “push” the operating budget beyond inflationary increases.

- Although we may need to consider a tax rate increase greater than inflation, the attached budget holds to inflation of 6% for a total of \$1,979 increase in property taxes gong to the municipality. It is expected that we will continue to leverage our limited local tax dollars against other sources of funding.

BYLAWS

2008 Taxation Bylaw (Attachment #3.1)

Rick then presented a draft Village Bylaw #56-08 showing the proposed 6% increase in property taxes per the proposed budget. The Village Bylaw will be finalized once Provincial School taxes are known.

Motion Moved by Councillor Dunsmuir that Bylaw #56-08 Taxation Bylaw be read a first time by Council.

Carried

Motion Moved by Councillor Esche that Bylaw #56-08 Taxation Bylaw be read a second time by Council.

Carried

Motion Moved by Mayor Auld that Bylaw #56-08 Taxation Bylaw be read a third time and the bylaw be approved by Council.

Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cell Phone Tower

Councillor Esche reported no change regarding this matter.

Appointments to the Development Appeal Board (Attachment #4.2)

Rick noted that it had been agreed by Council at its Feb 13, 2008 meeting that these members would be renewed for another 4-year term if they agreed and that this would be ratified at the next Council meeting once the intentions of Pete Jess and Jerry Knight were known. Both Pete Jess and Jerry Knight have accepted being reappointed to a second term.

Motion Moved by Councillor Esche that Pete Jess, Jerry Knight and Diane Auld be appointed to the SVBL Development Appeal Board to a term expiring March 9, 2012.

Carried

Other Committees, Boards and Jobs (Attachment #4.3)

The draft list that had been prepared and advertised in the recent newsletter was discussed. The following revisions were made:

- Confirmed Patricia Knight and alternate Diane Auld to the Burnstick Public Advisory Committee (Bill Post wishes to step down as alternate)
- SPOG Community Affairs Committee would be added to the list – made up of Gordon Dunsmuir as SVBL representative
- First response trainees would be added to the list
- West Stoney Candidate Natural Area to be added. This committee composed of Doug Taylor and Harold Esche as alternate does the following:
 - Twice a year walks the area west of Burnstick Lake and provides a written report to the Province thus making sure the area remains specially notated as it is.

Reserve Encroachments Policy – Report from Administration (Attachment #4.4)

Mayor Diane referred to the summary of proposals as distributed as drafted by Rick Butler and referred to the additional document which included all the proposals verbatim. This latter document would be distributed at the end of the meeting to those interested in receiving it. Mayor Auld requested if anyone, who had provided proposals, had any concern with including their verbatim proposals in the aforementioned document. No one raised any objection.

Mayor Auld then outlined the proposed process:

- Residents review the summary of proposals and provide any comment to Rick Butler as soon as possible;
- Council would meet in mid May to draft questions for a plebiscite which would be administered by mail to all Village electors.

There was only limited discussion pertaining to the vote itself.

Waste Incinerator Project

This had been discussed earlier under the Burnstick Lake Management Plan Advisory Committee. It was agreed that confirmation would be sought that – in fact – the proponent of this facility had in fact withdrawn his proposal for the area.

NEW BUSINESS

West Stoney Candidate Natural Area Update

Councillor Esche reported on the importance of this as discussed above under the Committee list. It was further noted that this “special natural areas notation” may end at the predetermined time of 2012 and something should be done to extend this notation or more formally designate it as a special natural area.

Increased Oil and Gas Drilling and Forestry Activity

Councillor Esche reported on his concern for the need for the SVBL to be more proactive given the increased drilling and forestry activity in the area. It was agreed to do the following:

- Rick to contact Alberta Sustainable Resource Development for Clearwater to determine how the SVBL might best be proactively involved in the consultations that companies do in the area with respect to forestry, oil and natural gas exploration and activity
- Rick to confirm himself (and his coordinates) as the formal contact for all forestry, oil and natural gas companies considering activity in the area. There was concern expressed that current ad hoc contacts by companies with some residents some of the time was not appropriate

Propane Co-op Call for Proposals

Rick reported that Dean Mackenzie has been spear heading an effort to consider options for reducing propane costs in the Village. Admin completed a survey which was summarized and provided to Dean for information in the Request for Proposals. He noted that due to some concerns about possible intrusiveness of structures and pipelines that he would be only calling for pricing proposals.

Capital Planning Committee Meeting

Rick noted that we will soon be ready to go with the next phase of the capital plan for Burnstick Lake. The Capital Planning Committee will meet shortly to review the capital plan and “go forward” projects for the next several years.

Projects completed to date include:

- The walkway bridge
- Drainage improvements on Spruce and Poplar Close
- Aerial photography and Legal survey

As predicted in our multi-year capital plan for 2008, our projects have caught up to the special capital funding available and we may need to either borrow from ourselves/reserves if we want to do any big projects or slightly delay projects as annual funding is received. This will be determined over the next few months as Rick pulls together capital funding proposals and we have meetings of the Capital Planning Committee, Council and our June 28 annual community meeting at Burnstick Lake

Possible projects going forward in our capital plan include:

- Major upgrade to Burnstick Drive
- Reserve & Walkway Improvements
- Additional drainage (and street) Improvements
- Fire response plan & infrastructure
- Electric baseboard (back-up) heating for Community Centre,

The following were added for the Committee's consideration:

- Road improvements in each of the cul-de-sacs
- Upgrade of fencing at boat launch
- Increased electrical capacity for community centre and electrical outlet re-configuration to better accommodate garage door opener,

Date of Next Council Meeting

It was agreed that the next Council meeting would be the annual community meeting June 28th at 9:30 a.m. at the Community Centre in Burnstick Lake.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Certified correct and adopted:

Mayor

Administrator