

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF STETTLER COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2015 IN THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present: Mayor Dick Richards

Councillors A. Campbell, D. Bachman, M. Fischer, S. Nolls &
K. Sernecky

CAO G. Switenky

Press (2)

Absent: Councillor W. Brown & Assistant CAO S. Gerlitz

Call to Order: Mayor D. Richards called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1/2. **Agenda Additions/Approval:**

Motion 15:08:01 Moved by Councillor Bachman to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

3. **Confirmation of Minutes:**

(a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held July 21, 2015

Motion 15:08:02 Moved by Councillor Sernecky that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on July 21, 2015 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(b) Business Arising from the July 21, 2015 Meeting Minutes

None

4. **Citizen's Forum:** (a) No one was present at the Citizen's Forum

5. **Delegations:** (a) 6:45 P.M. – Stettler RCMP Acting Detachment Commander Corporal Cam Russell re: Municipal Enforcement Issues

This item was dealt with later in the meeting.

(b) 7:15 P.M. – Stettler Gymnastics Club

This item was dealt with later in the meeting.

6. **Administration:** (a) Communities in Bloom National Symposium and Awards Ceremony September 30 – October 3, 2015 in Kamloops, BC

CAO G. Switenky advised that the Communities in Bloom National Symposium and Awards Ceremony will take place September 30 to October 3, 2015 in Kamloops, BC.

The Town of Stettler has competed in the National Communities in Bloom competition since 2008, achieving a 5 Bloom rating (the highest) each year. In 2011, Stettler was chosen as the winner in their population category, making them the National Champion for the 3001-7500 population category.

In 2014, the Town of Stettler received a 5 bloom rating and a special mention for Project: Walk 'n' Roll during the National Symposium and Awards Ceremonies in Charlottetown, PEI. Stettler also received an Outstanding Achievement Award for the Natural Tidiness Award. The Town of Stettler participated in the International Challenge (Small) category along with Castlegar BC, Fogo NL, Killarney-Turtle Mountain MB, Jasper AB, Moynalty Village Ireland and Trail BC.

The Beautification Committee has an allocated amount of \$5000 within their 2015 operational budget to support travel costs for CIB judges and to attend the National Symposium and Awards Ceremony; to be held this year in Kamloops, BC.

It was noted that in past years the Committee has requested Council's permission to send delegates to the Ceremony based upon the cost of travel and local optics.

Mayor Richards concluded that it is appropriate to send volunteer delegate representation to the annual National Awards Ceremony, on an affordable basis, and this authorizing request need not necessarily come to Council unless travel costs, under the circumstances, are expected to exceed annual budget allocations.

Motion 15:08:03

Moved by Councillor Fischer that the Town of Stettler Council supports send Robert Spencer, Chair of the Stettler Community in Bloom Committee and Spouse, to the Communities in Bloom 2015 National Symposium and Awards Ceremony to take place September 30 to October 3, 2015 in Kamloops, BC with funding to come from the existing HBC – CIB Travel and Subsistence Account in the 2015 Operating Budget.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(b) Atco Electric Tree Maintenance

CAO G. Switenky advised that L. Penner, Director of Parks and Recreation has been working with Atco Electric regarding tree maintenance within the Town boulevards at a couple of locations.

Given recent fires causing extended local power outages due to tree foliage contacting high voltage lines, Atco has implemented an immediate and aggressive tree pruning/removal program, at their cost, to address potential conflicts.

It was reported that every effort will be made by the Town Director of Parks and Leisure Services and Atco Electric to communicate options to adjacent residents/owners and determine a mutual consensus as to whether a mature tree within the Town's boulevard should be severely pruned or removed, under the individual situation.

Discussion ensued regarding the sensitivities of removing mature trees verses the resulting severity of pruning verses the unacceptable local impacts relating to power outages being caused by tree foliage.

This item was presented for information purposes only.

(c) Safety Code Council – Uniform Quality Management Plan

CAO G. Switenky reported that the Safety Codes Council has advised that a mandatory amendment to the Uniform Quality Management Plan (QMP) is required.

The amendment includes the following: Annual Review Internal reviews will be carried out annually by the QMP Manager or the Manager's delegate to evaluate whether or not compliance of the QMP is being achieved. At the conclusion of the internal review, the QMP Manager will provide, to the Safety Codes Council, a letter of QMP compliance that has been signed off by the municipality's executive authority. The letter must be comprised of all findings of the review including any successes, areas for improvement and the methodology used to achieve improvement or correction as it relates to the approved QMP. This is a mandatory requirement and failure to comply may result in cancellation or suspension of a municipality's accreditation designation. All findings for the annual internal reviews are due to the Safety Codes Council no later than the last day of March of the following year that is being reviewed.

Motion 15:08:04

Moved by Councillor Nolls that the Town of Stettler Council approves the amendment to the Uniform Quality Management Plan to include the following: Annual Review Internal reviews will be carried out annually by the QMP Manager or the Manager's delegate to evaluate whether or not compliance of the Quality Management Plan is being achieved.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(d) Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, August 18 – Council Meeting
- Tuesday, September 1 – Council Meeting
- Tuesday, September 8 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Wednesday, September 9 – Joint Town/County Council re: Regional Drainage/Storm Master Plan – 7pm at the County Office
- Tuesday, September 15 – Council Meeting
- Wednesday, September 16 – Public Open House re: Regional Drainage Storm Master Plan 5-7pm at the County Office
- Wednesday-Friday Sept 23-25 – AUMA Convention in Calgary
- Thursday, September 24 AUMA Convention Meeting with AB Transportation 2:15-2:45 – Chinook Room #2
- Thursday, September 24 AUMA Convention – Council Supper – 6:30pm Japanese Village
- Tuesday, October 6 – Council Meeting
- Tuesday, October 13 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Tuesday, October 20 – Tax Sale
- Tuesday, October 20 – Council Meeting

(c) CAO Report

CAO G. Switenky provided departmental highlights of the monthly organizational report to Council.

Motion 15:08:05

Moved by Councillor Nolls that the Town of Stettler accept the CAO Report for the month of July.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(d) Accounts Payable in the amount of \$376,999.80

Motion 15:08:06

Moved by Councillor Fischer that Accounts Payable in the amounts of \$13,747.40 and \$363,252.40 for the period ending July 31, 2015 for a total amount of \$376,999.80 having been paid, be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

5. Delegations:

(a) 6:45 P.M. – Stettler RCMP Acting Detachment Commander Corporal Cam Russell re: Municipal Enforcement Issues

Stettler RCMP Acting Detachment Commander Corporal Cam Russell and Corporal Ryan Koehli entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Richards welcomed delegation members to the meeting and initiated Council Member introductions.

Cpl. C. Russell formally introduced new detachment Cpl. Ryan Koehli to Members of Council.

Mayor Richards welcomed Cpl. R. Koehli to the community and invited Cpl. R. Koehli to provide some relevant background information relating to his previous RCMP work history.

Mayor Richards clarified the intent of requesting Cpl. C. Russell's attendance at Council tonight to provide Council Members with an opportunity to identify and discuss any relevant localized policing matters, initiatives and priorities given the retirement/vacancy of the Stettler Detachment Sergeant earlier in the year.

Members of Council collectively identified the following policing priorities from a localized perspective:

- Unnecessarily loud mufflers and related driving habits.
- Speeding on residential streets.
- Enhanced proactive visibility during certain times of day with a focus on school zone/area patrolling to improve poor driving patterns/habits.
- Senseless vandalism after dark.

Roundtable discussion ensued regarding various policing initiatives and manpower utilizations.

Cpl. C. Russell provided Council with the greatly improved overall level of staffing at the Stettler Detachment including Urban, Rural and Highway Traffic positions.

It was noted and appreciated that Mayor Richards and Council have supported and championed improved equitable staffing within the Stettler RCMP Detachment while attending previous AUMA conventions.

Cpl. C. Russell requested whether Members of Council were interested in meeting again with RCMP Senior Staff while attending AUMA Convention later in September.

Mayor Richards with the mutual consent of Council respectfully advised Cpl. C. Russell to request a meeting at AUMA Convention with Senior RCMP Staff, and further stated that these meetings have been very productive and beneficial over the past few years.

Mayor Richards thanked Cpl. C. Russell and Cpl. R. Koehli for their informative presentation/consultation.

Delegation members departed the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

(b) 7:15 P.M. – Stettler Gymnastics Club

Councillor Sernecky temporarily excused herself from the Council Table to represent the newly formed Stettler Gymnastics Club.

Karen Sernecky and Sarah Halverson entered the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Richards welcomed delegation members to the meeting.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Club has recently been incorporated as a non-profit organization in Alberta.
- Organizers are very encouraged based upon strong supportive feedback from many interested local parents/kids.
- Club is currently engaged in a fundraising campaign on Facebook.
- Club has solidified an affordable lease space in the industrial area with the hopes of starting classes in the fall of 2015.
- Club is in the process of setting rates based upon class/age groupings as soon as possible so as to participate in the up-coming community registration nights.
- Club has identified and contacted interested qualified coaches for the year.
- Club is now in critical need of some immediate funding to purchase start up equipment to offer programs to the kids.
- With the assistance of Town staff the Club is nearing completion of provincial grant application(s) appropriate for start-up sport groups in communities. It was noted that these grant require matching funds.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- The availability of existing used equipment, if any.
- The mutual understanding that this request for initial financial support is a timing challenge based upon the Club desiring to start programming this fall.
- It was identified and understood that coaches are required to be certified and therefore are paid, not volunteers. It was noted that not all sport programming is fortunate to be able to have volunteer coaching.

- The funding request is related to purchasing necessary equipment and not for operational costs like: rent, coaching and utilities. It was estimated that approximately \$30,000 would be necessary to purchase the minimum amount of new equipment necessary to start some programming in the fall.
- The success of initial fundraising activities and potential corporate sponsorship/donations remain in progress at this time.
- It was noted that the Town, many years ago, delivered a gymnastics program utilizing school gyms.
- Delegation members clarified that it is their goal is that fundraising activities currently underway will allow the Club to cover all initial equipment purchase start-up costs without any interim financial support being necessary from Council.

It was mutually agreed that a vibrant gymnastics program in Stettler would certainly contribute to the "High Quality of Life" desired within the Town's Mission Statement. The challenge facing Council relates to the fair treatment of this funding request in relation/context to the existing/historical treatment of other similar youth sport organizations/facilities within Stettler.

Mayor Richards concluded discussion by informing everyone that normal Council procedure precludes Council from making decisions based only upon delegation presentations and resulting discussions. It was mutually accepted that this item be brought back to Council at either the August 18th or September 1st regular meeting for further consideration based upon updated fundraising/registration information being available from the Club's organizers.

Mayor Richards thanked delegation members for their informative presentation, dedication to organizing a new gymnastics program for the interested youth of the community, and wished them well in their fundraising endeavors.

Delegation members departed the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Councillor Sernecky returned to her seat at the Council Table.

7. **Council:**

Mayor and Councillors outlined highlights of meetings they attended.

(a) Mayor Richards

- July 21 - CIB Meeting and Greetings at Boston Pizza.
- July 22 - CIB Welcome at Town Office.
 - CIB Luncheon at the Museum.
 - CIB Supper at Brenda's.
- July 24 - Town Office cheques.
- July 29 - Meeting with CAO and RCMP.

(b) Councillor Bachman

- July 21 - Met CIB Judges at Boston Pizza.
- July 22 - CIB Supper at Brenda's.

(c) Councillor Brown

- No report – absent from meeting.

(d) Councillor Campbell

- July 21 - Met CIB Judges at Boston Pizza.

(e) Councillor Fischer

- July 13 - Met with L. Penner re: citizen concern on empty lot and alley.
- July 22 - Met with L. Penner & Allan re: Klea Harris Family Community Project.
 - CIB welcome, lunch and awards supper.
- July 23 - Chauffeured CIB judges to Calgary Airport.
- July 26 - AB Prairie Steam Tours trip to Big Valley – concern on lack of steam locomotive approval.
- July 28 - Klea Harris family bench assembly for Town.

(f) Councillor Nolls

- July 20 - Stettler Town & Country Museum Meeting.

(g) Councillor Sernecky

- July 21 - CIB Judges at Boston Pizza.
- July 22 - CIB Judges Welcome at Town Office.
 - CIB dinner at Brenda's Cozy Café.
- July 23 - Gymnastics Meeting re: applications.
- July 24 - Worked a casino shift for the Hospital Foundation.
- July 28 - Meeting with R. Dyck re: gymnastics building final agreement.
- July 29 - Picked up items for gymnastics online auction.
 - Meeting with Board of Trade Director and Dr. Kim Chapman re: Stettler position, start date and commitment letter.
- Aug 4 - Gymnastics Meeting.
 - Details for gymnastics bank account.
 - Met with resident re: potential home for new doctors coming to Canada in January 2016 (Anja & Willem Pretorius).

8. Minutes: (a) None

9. Public Hearing: (a) None

10. Bylaws: (a) None

11. Correspondence: (a) AUMA re: Province Reduces Some Highway Maintenance Activities

Motion 15:08:07

Moved by Councillor Nolls that correspondence items 11(a) be accepted for information.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

12. Items Added: (a) None

13. **In-Camera Session:** (a) Legal – Unsightly Property

Motion 15:08:08

Moved by Councillor Fischer that the Town of Stettler Council proceed into an In-Camera Session with the CAO present to discuss the In-Camera items.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 8:10 p.m.

Motion 15:08:09

Moved by Councillor Bachman that the Town of Stettler Council return to the regular meeting.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 8:12 p.m.

Motion 15:08:10

Moved by Councillor Nolls that the Town of Stettler Council award the 5013-50 Avenue Demolition Contract to Wally's Backhoe Service in the amount of \$16,500.00 with funding to come from the Bylaw – Legal Account in 2015 Operating Budget.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

14. **Adjournment:**

Motion 15:08:11

Moved by Councillor Campbell that this regular meeting of the Town of Stettler Council be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 8:14 p.m.

Mayor

Assistant CAO