

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF STETTLER COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2004 IN THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present: Deputy Mayor Jim Hunter

Councillors A. Campbell, S. Hurley, G. Majeran, R. Peeples &
D. Richards

Town Manager R. Stoutenberg
Secretary-Treasurer R. Kutt

Absent: Mayor Keith Ryder

Call to Order: Deputy Mayor J. Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:31
p.m.

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

Motion 04:01:15 Moved by Councillor Peeples to approve the agenda as
presented with the following additions:

12(a) Memo re: Municipal 2000 Sponsorship Program
Emergency 911 Dispatch Communication Link

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

3. **Confirmation of Minutes:**

(a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held January
6, 2004

Motion 04:01:16 Moved by Councillor Richards that the Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of Council held on January 6, 2004 be
approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(b) Business Arising from the January 6, 2004 Minutes

None

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

5. **Delegations:** (a) None

6. **Administration:** (a) Memo re: Property Assessment for Paragon Place

Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg explained that the
County of Stettler Housing Authority appealed their 2003
assessment. The Town Assessor recommended that the
Housing Authority assessment exemption be increased
to 69%, which Town Council approved. On December
3, 2003 the Housing Authority sent a letter to Town
Council requesting a 100% assessment exemption and a
2003 tax refund in this regard.

Administration is recommending that a 2003 tax refund
not be granted and that the Town work with the Housing
Authority in 2004 to resolve this issue. Discussion ensued.

Motion 04:01:17

Moved by Councillor Majeran that the Town of Stettler write a letter of reply to the County of Stettler Housing Authority advising that there will be no change in tax status for 2003.

In Favor: Deputy Mayor Hunter,
Councillors Majeran, Hurley,
Richards & Campbell

Opposed: Councillor Peeples

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Policy X-1(j)(a) – Swimming Club Fees

Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg noted that the proposed increase of Swimming Club Fees would bring them up to the required 50% of the normal hourly fee. This increase would not come into effect until July 1, 2004.

Motion 04:01:18

Moved by Councillor Campbell that the Town of Stettler Council accept Policy X-1(j)(a), being the Swimming Club Fees as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(c) Memo re: Red Willow Creek Culvert

Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg reported that Alberta Transportation have scheduled the replacement of their section of the Red Willow Creek culvert for 2007. The Town also has to replace a section of this culvert at an estimated cost of \$375,000. Alberta Transportation advised that they would not provide any financial assistance for culvert replacement on non-provincial property.

It was noted that Red Willow Creek is a designated waterway. A Red Willow Creek culvert adjacent to the Stettler Town boundary was replaced by Alberta Transportation. Also, bridge and culvert replacement grants are available in rural municipalities. Considering the special circumstances the Town may pursue Alberta Government financing in this regard. Discussion ensued.

Motion 04:01:19

Moved by Councillor Hurley that the Town of Stettler pursue special grant options with the Provincial Government for the proposed Red Willow Creek Culvert Replacement Project.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(d) Memo re: Gas Vs Diesel Engine for Dump Truck

- (e) Electric Franchise Agreement Renewal/Franchise Agreement Memo & Bylaw 1886-04

Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg informed Town Council that the Electric Franchise Agreement needs to be renewed. Atco Electric is proposing to renew the existing contract for another ten years.

One significant change is the Electric Franchise fee payment mechanism. It is now 7.5% of the delivery component and may be adjusted upward each year to a maximum of 20%. Discussion ensued.

Administration was requested to find out what the procedures are for non-payment of a power bill.

Bylaw 1886-04

Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg explained that if Town Council is in favor of accepting the Electric Franchise Agreement than first reading of Bylaw 1886-04 is required. Following this, the Bylaw is sent to the Alberta Energy & Utilities Board before second and third reading.

Motion 04:01:20

Moved by Councillor Majeran that the Town of Stettler Council give first reading to Bylaw 1886-04.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

- (f) Mayor's Detailed Report – December 20, 2003

Motion 04:01:21

Moved by Councillor Richards that the Town of Stettler Council accept the Mayor's Detailed Report for information.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

- (g) Stettler & District Ambulance Association 2004 Requisition

Town Council reviewed a letter from the Ambulance Association regarding the 2004 Per Capita requisition. The per capita amount of \$12.50 is the same as last year.

Motion 04:01:22

Moved by Councillor Hurley that the Town of Stettler Council approve the Stettler & District Ambulance Association 2004 Per Capita Requisition of \$12.50 for a total requisition of \$65,325.00.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

- (h) County of Stettler Housing Authority 2004 Requisition

Town Council reviewed a letter from the County of Stettler Housing Authority regarding their 2004 requisition. The Town's 2004 requisition amount is 21% higher than last year. Discussion ensued.

Motion 04:01:23

Moved by Councillor Peeples that the Town of Stettler Council approve the County of Stettler Housing Authority 2004 Requisition of \$126,447.00.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(i) 2004 Capital Budget

Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg reviewed and discussed with Town Council specific items contained in the 2004 Capital Budget.

Motion 04:01:24

Moved by Councillor Peeples that the Town of Stettler Council approve the 2004 Capital Budget as presented and that the Town proceed with the studies as noted.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(j) February Newsletter Items

- Snofest Celebrations – February 15, 2004
- Kinette Ladies Night Out – February 27, 2004
- Country Music Jamboree – March 27, 2004
- Reminder to Residents to Clear Snow & Ice from Sidewalks

(k) Bank Reconciliation as of December 31, 2003

Motion 04:01:25

Moved by Councillor Campbell that the Bank Reconciliation as of December 31, 2003 be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

(l) Accounts Payable in the amount of \$124,897.46

Motion 04:01:26

Moved by Councillor Hurley that Accounts Payable for the period ending January 14, 2004 in the amount of \$124,897.46 having been paid, be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

7. **Council:**

Mayor and Councillors outlined highlights of meetings they attended.

(a) Mayor Ryder

-No report – absent from meeting.

(b) Councillor Campbell

- Jan 8
 - Marketing Corporation Meeting.
 - Heartland Beautification Meeting.
- Jan 13
 - Capital Budget Meeting.
- Jan 14
 - Chamber of Commerce Meeting.

- Jan 19 - Pool Tour to Rocky Mtn. House, Lacombe, Sylvan Lake & Red Deer.

(c) Councillor Hunter

- Jan 12 - Pool Tour to Strathmore, Didsbury, Three Hills & Olds.
- Jan 13 - Capital Budget Meeting.
- Jan 16 - Deputy Mayor duties at Town Office re: signing cheques.

(d) Councillor Hurley

- Jan 7 - Ag. Society Meeting.
- Jan 13 - Capital Budget Meeting.
- Jan 19 - Pool Tour to Rocky Mtn. House, Lacombe, Sylvan Lake & Red Deer.

(e) Councillor Majeran

- Jan 13 - Capital Budget Meeting.
- Jan 15 - County of Stettler Housing Authority Meeting.

(f) Councillor Peeples

- Jan 13 - Meeting with Peggy Heronomeus & Dr. Drummond re: discussed Doctor recruitment, assisted living facility and other health matter.
- Capital Budget Meeting.
- Jan 19 - Pool Tour to Rocky Mtn. House, Lacombe, Sylvan Lake & Red Deer.

(g) Councillor Richards

- Jan 8 - Marketing Corporation Meeting.
- Jan 12 - Pool Tour to Strathmore, Didsbury, Three Hills & Olds.
- Jan 13 - Capital Budget Meeting.
- Jan 18 - Opening ceremony for Minor Hockey Week – attended with County Reeve Janet Fletcher.

8. **Minutes:**

- (a) Marketing Corporation Meeting of January 8, 2004
- (b) Heartland Beautification Committee Meeting of January 8, 2004

Motion 04:01:27

Moved by Councillor Peeples that the Minutes, items 8(a) & 8(b) be accepted for information.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

9. **Public Hearing:** (a) None
10. **Bylaws:** (a) 1885-04 re: Business Tax Bylaw
- Motion 04:01:28** Moved by Councillor Campbell that the Town of Stettler Council give first reading to Bylaw 1885-04.
- MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous
- Motion 04:01:29** Moved by Councillor Hurley that the Town of Stettler Council give second reading to Bylaw 1885-04.
- MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous
- Motion 04:01:30** Moved by Councillor Richards that the Town of Stettler Council give permission for third and final reading to Bylaw 1885-04.
- MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous
- Motion 04:01:31** Moved by Councillor Hurley that the Town of Stettler Council give third and final reading to Bylaw 1885-04.
- MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous
- (b) Bylaw 1886-04 re: Electric Franchise Agreement Renewal
- This item was dealt with under 6(d).
11. **Correspondence:** (a) Stettler & District Music Festival Scholarship Committee
- Motion 04:01:32** Moved by Councillor Peebles that the Town of Stettler Council donate a scholarship for the upcoming 2004 Music Festival in the amount of \$250.00.
- MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous
- (b) Non-Smoking Bylaw in Restaurants
- Motion 04:01:33** Moved by Councillor Richards that correspondence item 11(b) be accepted for information.
- MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous
12. **Items Added:** (a) Memo re: Municipal 2000 Sponsorship Program Emergency 911 Dispatch Communication Link
- Town Manager, R. Stoutenberg informed Town Council that the Municipal 2000 Sponsorship Program was approved at \$181,000 to provide an Emergency 911 Dispatch Communication Link from Stettler to Red Deer. To date \$157,747 has been spent.

The Town and County Fire Chiefs are requesting approval for three projects totaling \$23,115. This would bring the grant expenditures to \$180,862. Discussion ensued on the projects. It was noted that any Communication Link grant money not spent would have to be returned to the Provincial Government.

Motion 04:01:34

Moved by Councillor Majeran that the Town of Stettler Council approve the Municipal 2000 Sponsorship Program expenditure items for the Emergency 911 Dispatch Communication Link in the amount of \$23,115 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

Deputy Mayor Hunter recessed the regular meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Hunter reconvened the regular meeting at 8:10 p.m.

13. **In-Camera Session:** (a) Personnel Matters

Motion 04:01:35

Moved by Councillor Peeples that the Town of Stettler Council proceed into an In-Camera Session with the Town Manager and Secretary-Treasurer present to discuss the items as presented on the In-Camera Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 8:10 p.m.

Motion 04:01:36

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

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 8:25 p.m.

Motion 04:01:37

Moved by Councillor Hurley that the Town of Stettler Council accept the resignation from Dave Dennis as presented and that the Town of Stettler enter into an employment contract with Dave Dennis with a termination date of June 30, 2004, plus or minus 30 days, and that a per day rate be negotiated with Dave Dennis following the termination of the employment contract.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

14. **Adjournment:**

Motion 04:01:38

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

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 8:28 p.m.

Mayor

Secretary-Treasurer