

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MARCH 8, 2016

Present: Mayor D. Richards, Councillors M. Fischer, D. Bachman, W. Brown, A. Campbell, S. Nolls & K. Sernecky

CAO G. Switenky
Assistant CAO S. Gerlitz
Director of Planning and Development L. Graham
Parks and Leisure Foreman A. King

Absent: None

Call to Order: Mayor D. Richards called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

1. Agenda Additions/Deletions

- (a) BOT Survey
- (b) Skatepark

2. Agenda Approval

Moved by Councillor Bachman that the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

4. Solar Pathway Initiative (Atco Electric)

Mayor Richards welcomed A. Gano, and B. Sanders representing Atco Electric to the meeting. Mayor Richards highlighted the great ongoing partnership Atco Electric has with the Town of Stettler.

CAO G. Switenky advised that the Town of Stettler Strategic Planning Goals for 2016 included a solar power initiative in West Stettler Park, and \$50,000 has been approved for the initiative through the 2016 Capital Budget. A. Gano and his team from Atco Electric met with Administration to discuss a variety of solar options within West Stettler Park including; stand-alone solar light fixtures, banks of solar panels including batteries to supply energy to lights along the pathway and a solar array that would supply power to the grid. The Solar pathway light initiative will provide some pathway light important for security reasons, but also remain environmentally conscious by maintaining the peaceful natural look of the park and its skyline.

A. Gano advised Council that Atco is considering various cogeneration options including solar energy and are looking for a community to partner with that is interested in a solar initiative. A. Gano presented an option to Council that would make solar energy available to the provincial power grid. This would be done by a array of solar panels. Working with Town Administration, Atco would then supply LED pathway lights to West Stettler Park. Signs can be put up at the park indicating that these pathway lights are powered through the solar initiative. More investigation into the costs, lighting options, expansion, ongoing operations and maintenance would have to be determined. The array of solar lights can be done somewhere in Stettler

that has direct access to the power grid, or can be situated at West Stettler Park in a highly visible place. Council agreed that the Atco partnership presented a great opportunity for the Town of Stettler.

CAO G. Switenky reviewed the next steps – Council agreed that Town Administration will continue to pursue a solar initiative partnership with Atco that will include various options to supply a solar array that will supply power to the provincial grid system while considering various location, security, expansion capabilities and pathway lighting systems that can be presented to Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Richards thanked A. Gano and B. Sanders for introducing this great environmental and sustainable opportunity for the Town of Stettler and the opportunity to partner with Atco on a green, solar initiative that will provide a great benefit to the residents of Stettler.

A. Gano, B. Sanders and A. King left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

3. Community Peace Officer/Enforcement Officer

CAO G. Switenky advised Council that 10 years ago the Town of Stettler had no formal bylaw / animal enforcement services and Council of the day felt it was necessary to implement enforcement on a part time contractual basis. Alberta Animal Services Ltd. was contracted by the Town of Stettler with the initial direction being to educate. Following the expiry of the first contract, Council further felt it was necessary to enhance enforcement (to full time) for part of the year. Currently the Town of Stettler is under contract with Alberta Animal Services (Red Deer) for general bylaw enforcement of Town bylaws and animal control.

Highlights of the Agreement include:

- Current 5 year agreement – March 1, 2011 to April 30, 2016
- General bylaws enforcement – including weed, unsightly property and animal control bylaws including priority driven and public education as well as reactive (complaint driven) bylaw enforcement service

CAO G. Switenky highlighted the various types of bylaw enforcement available to municipalities within the province:

- o Municipal Bylaw Enforcement Officer – Municipal authority
- o Community Peace Officer Level 1 – Provincial authority
- o Community Peace Officer Level 2 – Provincial authority

Various bylaw enforcement options were presented to council for consideration:

Summary of Options

A	Status Quo – Contract – Bylaw Enforcement Officer – Municipal Bylaws and Animal Control and Housing - Alberta Animal Service – Current Agreement expires April 30, 2016	Current cost (expires April 30, 2016) - \$117,600 + special trip requests and court costs) / 2016 Budget – \$140,000 - costs to be negotiated
B	Tender – Contract for Bylaw Enforcement Officer – Municipal Bylaws and Animal Control and Housing	Cost – unknown

C	No municipal bylaw enforcement / No animal control services	No added cost
D	No municipal bylaw enforcement / Pursue agreement with local community organizations or local veterinary service to house stray animals that are brought in (impounded – no bylaw enforcement- animals running at large, noise, unsightly property, weeds etc)	\$23,209 - minimum costs per year
E	No municipal bylaw enforcement / RFP animal control services to private organizations (including patrols, pick-up, housing and claim or adoptions options)	\$21,125 - minimum cost per year / 8 patrols per month from March 1 to October 31 / 4 patrols per month from November 1 to February 28
F	Hire Municipal Bylaw Officer / No Animal Control Services	\$126,392 - minimum estimated cost per year - (1 st year startup) / \$86,392 to \$105,101 ongoing - No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration
G	Hire Municipal Bylaw Officer / Pursue agreement with local community organizations or local veterinary service to house stray animals that are brought in (impounded – no bylaw enforcement- animals running at large, noise, unsightly property, weeds etc)	\$149,601 - minimum estimated cost per year - No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration
H	Hire Municipal Bylaw Officer / RFP Animal control services (catcher and kennels)	\$147,517 - total estimated cost per year 8 patrols per month from March 1 to October 31 / 4 patrols per month from November 1 to February 28
I	Hire Municipal Bylaw Officer with animal control services as part of roles and responsibilities / Town owned and staffed kennels	\$449,242 - minimum estimated cost per year - No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration

J	Hire Community Peace Officer Level 1 – Municipal / Provincial Bylaw Enforcement / No Animal Control Services	\$173,606 - minimum estimated cost - No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration
K	Hire Community Peace Officer Level 1 – Municipal / Provincial Bylaw Enforcement / Pursue agreement with local community organizations or local veterinary service to house stray animals that are brought in (impounded – no bylaw enforcement- animals running at large, noise, unsightly property, weeds etc)	\$196,815 - minimum estimated cost - No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration
L	Hire Community Peace Officer Level 1 – Municipal / Provincial Bylaw Enforcement / RFP Animal Control Services (catcher / kennels)	\$194,731 - minimum estimated cost / No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration / / 8 patrols per month from March 1 to October 31 / 4 patrols per month from November 1 to February 28
M	Hire Community Peace Officer Level 1 – Municipal / Provincial Bylaw Enforcement with animal control services as part of roles and responsibilities / Town owned and staffed kennels	\$491,456 - minimum estimated cost / No vacation, sick, court time back-up - Municipal employee - extra costs associated with supervision, salary and benefits, safety, training, grievances, and administration
N	Pursue a Municipal Partnership with the County of Stettler No 6. to hire another Community Peace Officer Level 1 to be shared between the Town and the County. No animal control or enforcement	interest and costs unknown
O	Pursue additional RCMP Officer / no animal control	\$109,000 - minimum estimated cost (\$155,714.29 x 70%)

P	Pursue additional RCMP Officer / Pursue agreement with local community organizations or local veterinary service to house stray animals that are brought in (impounded – no bylaw enforcement- animals running at large, noise, unsightly property, weeds etc)	\$132,209 - minimum cost estimate
Q	Pursue additional RCMP Officer / RFP Animal Control Services (catcher and kennels)	\$130,125 - minimum cost estimate / 8 patrols per month from March 1 to October 31 / 4 patrols per month from November 1 to February 28

Mayor Richards led the discussion by asking each Councillor what they would like to see in terms bylaw enforcement for the Town of Stettler. Council was happy with the level of bylaw enforcement and animal control service and was also encouraged with the increased presence of RCMP patrols around the Town.

CAO G. Switenky summarized the next steps that Town Council agreed that Administration be authorized to continue to negotiate a bylaw enforcement and animal control contract with Alberta Animal Service Ltd. from Red Deer, Alberta has a Sole Sourcing contract as per Purchasing of Goods and Services Policy VII- 4. (only municipal bylaw enforcement agency in immediate region that has the ability to provide municipal bylaw enforcement and animal control with ability to pick-up and house animals in kennels waiting to be claimed, or adopted and provide administration to provide that type of service to municipalities. The agreement will be presented to Council at a future meeting.

5. Correspondence

- a. None

6. Additions

- a. Skatepark

Council Campbell reported that he has noticed individuals trying to clean the ice away from the skateboard park. Council is encouraged by the continued and increasing use of the skatepark and the safety aspect of the ice. Council directed Administration to see if something could be done with the ice.

- b. Stettler Board of Trade (BOT) survey.

Council received an update on a survey the Stettler Board of Trade (BOT) will be sending to its members, through survey monkey, with regards to night time security. General discussion took place to include the most recent RCMP statistics that were presented to Council by Detachment Commander P. Penny on March 1 with the survey email. It was noted that the RCMP Statistics are available on the Town website. Council was encouraged by the formation of the loss prevention business group and the ongoing return of the Citizens on patrol (COP) program in Stettler.

Councillor Fischer left the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

It was the consensus of Council to have the CAO work with the BOT Executive Director on the wording within the survey questions.

7. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Campbell that the Committee of Whole Meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous at 6:04 p.m.

Mayor

Assistant CAO