

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Council
Of the Town Of Castor
Held Monday, December 11, 2017
Council Chambers, Castor Town Hall
Castor, Alberta**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Richard Elhard.

Councillors in Attendance:

Lonny Nelner, Rod Zinger, Travis Ryan, Brenda Wismer, Trudy Kilner, Tony Nichols.

Absent:

Also in Attendance:

Sandi Jackson – C.A.O.
Arjan Van Hienen – Foreman
Lynn Sabo – Castor Advance Correspondent
Emily Wheller – ECA Review Correspondent

Agenda:

255/17 MOTION: Councillor Ryan that the agenda be approved with additions.

CARRIED

Delegations/Interviews:

Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes of the November 27, 2017 Regular Meeting of Council.

256/17 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the Minutes of the November 27th, 2017 Regular meeting of Council be approved.

CARRIED

Accounts:

The Lists of Accounts was presented to Council for payment.

257/17 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that Account numbers 22421 to 22477 be approved for payment and that the list of Accounts be marked Schedule “A” and attached to these minutes of Council.

CARRIED

Cash Statement:

Council was presented with the cash statement for the month ending November 30, 2017.

258/17 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that the cash statement for the month ending November 30, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Budget Comparison: The Budget Comparison for the month ending October 31, 2017 was presented to Council.

259/17 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that the Budget Comparison to month ending October 31, 2017 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Water & Gas Comparisons:

Council was presented with the water and gas comparisons to month ending October 31, 2017.

260/17 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the water and gas comparisons to October 31, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Correspondence:

Order of Excellence: Council was asked to put forward names of “remarkable Albertans” that deserve to be considered for a nomination for the 2018 Order of Excellence.

Councillor’s will consider putting forward names.

ASCHA: Council received congratulations on a successful Municipal Election from ASCHA. An introduction as to what the association encompasses was included for Council’s information.

Old Business:

Coal Task Force Update: The C.A.O. updated Council on the latest Coal Task Force meetings. The CCTF grant application has been sent in to the Province.

New Business:

Recreation Report: Mayor Elhard and Councillor Ryan presented the Recreation Report.

- Castor Minor Sports has received their first installment of funds from the County for the Arena Renovation – these funds will be put into a savings account where they can be accessed as the project moves forward .
- 3C’s is adopting the Hockey Canada/Hockey Alberta policy/philosophy on bullying. In addition, if any player is suspended from any of the 3C’s arenas they will be suspended from all arenas.
- Skate-a-Thon is December 11th; prizes will be sought from the Ski Hill.
- This year is the arena’s 50th Anniversary; during Minor Hockey Weekend, January 19-21st there will be 7 games and we will purchase a celebratory cake.
- A job ad for an Arena Renovation Oversight Manager has been posted and will close on December 15th.
- The New Year’s Eve and Alumni Game fundraising is going well.
- Four pieces of Outdoor fitness park equipment have been purchased with funds from a Progressive Waste Grant and the Cancer Prevention Project.
- Rec Board will work with Men’s Night Out to purchase a new skate sharpener for the arena. Leo Bozek would like to purchase the old skate sharpener.

- Leanne is taking a new approach to her fitness classes whereby attendees must register and pay up front; if registration is not high enough classes will then be cancelled.

261/17 MOTION: Councillor Nelner that a 50th anniversary cake be purchased for Minor Hockey Days.

CARRIED

262/17 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the skate sharpener be put out for tender.

CARRIED

Alberta Environment
Report:

The phase III environmental site assessment of the former Home Hardware site is now complete. It is ready to go to Alberta Environment pending Council's approval.

Policy Review:

Brownlee LLP is offering a flat fee of \$1,500.00 plus disbursements and GST to review and update our current employment policies to ensure they comply with Bill 17. This would be worthwhile given the extensive changes to the Employment Standards Code that will be effective January 1, 2018.

263/17 MOTION: Councillor Ryan that Brownlee LLP be hired to update our employment policies to comply with Bill 17.

CARRIED

2018 Preliminary
Budget:

The C.A.O. presented Council with the 2018 preliminary budget for approval.

264/17 MOTION: Councillor Ryan that the 2018 preliminary budget be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Weseen Subdivision:

A letter was received from Barry and Mary Ann Weseen asking for approval from the Town to transfer up to six lots in the Weseen Acres development to Weseen Power Ltd.

C.A.O. will contact the lawyer

EC911 Report:

Councillors Nichols and Nelner attended the November 29th General meeting of EC911. They reported on the 2018 budget.

- Operating budget will remain at \$6.40/capita for 2018.
- EC911 are hoping to increase their membership.
- They continue to promote their "work alone" service to help member communities become compliant with Occupational Health and Safety guidelines and regulations.
- There continues to be radio issues. It will be a priority to resolve these issues.
- Other competitor service providers have been meeting in the area communities.

Water Reserve:

The C.A.O. requested that Council reserve \$12,000.00 in the water system this year for unspent money that was budgeted for water meters. This will be used in 2018.

265/17 MOTION: Councillor Zinger that \$12,000.00 be reserved in the water system and earmarked for water meters in 2018.

CARRIED

Infrastructure Update: The C.A.O. and the Foreman met with the engineers and discussed the 51st Street Infrastructure Project. The outstanding issue with the sidewalks along 51st Street from 50th Avenue to 51st Avenue was discussed at length. The C.A.O. will set up a meeting with the engineers and Council in mid January.

Committee Reports:

ECA Reporter:

- The decision has been made to break ground on the Museum project in the spring of 2018.

Councillor Ryan:

- Attended the AUMA Conference – the big issue was the legalization of cannabis. The plan is to under-cut the underground market. Legislation is still in the works.

Foreman:

- The crew is doing some sewer work.
- Sanding, larger chips were placed on the streets in hopes it would grab onto the ice – it is not gripping and the streets and alleys are very icy. The foreman has tried grading but that is proving difficult as well.

C.A.O.

- Reminded Council that the Alberta Carbon Levy will increase January 1, 2018 by \$.507/GJ bringing the new levy to \$1.51.
- Reminded Council of the Open House on December 15 from 2pm – 4pm in the chambers.
- Castor Community Network has paid to have the lights in Pals park fixed. Two more lights will be placed and power will go to the gazebo.

Mayor Elhard:

- Farmers market – sold 60 more tickets for the Ag. Society quad raffle. The draw was made at the Farmers market.
- Council all received an invitation to the volunteer appreciation supper on January 4.

In Camera Session:

Council moved to an in camera session to discuss the 2018 payroll grid.

The Advance and ECA Review reporters left the Council meeting at 8:47pm.

266/17 MOTION: Councillor Nichols to move to an in camera session to discuss the 2018 payroll grid.

CARRIED

Council moved to an in camera session at 8:49pm

Councillors Nelner and Ryan declared an interest and left the meeting at 8:52pm. The Town Foreman left the meeting as well.

267/17 MOTION: Councillor Zinger to return to the Regular meeting of Council.

CARRIED

268/17 MOTION: Councillor Nichols that the payroll grid not change for 2017.

CARRIED

Councillor Nelner and the Foremen returned to the regular Meeting at 9:35pm.

Adjournment:

269/17 MOTION: Councilor Wismer that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER