

ITEM 205

5.1 UTILITIES VACATION STATUS

The following is a summary of the discussion between administration and Council regarding the Utilities Vacation Status Policy:

- ⇒ The Town has a policy that provides for residents to put their utility services on vacation status if they are gone for an extended period of time.
- ⇒ There are costs involved in delivering the service and there are continuing infrastructure costs.
- ⇒ The program is frustrating to manage.
- ⇒ Not all people that use the service are responsible.
- ⇒ The staff has to manually monitor the program as the computer systems can't.
- ⇒ If people are gone for the winter then there is no data to set the winter average for sewer usage; accounts are then charged a minimum 18 cubic metres discharge as a standard number.
- ⇒ The Town monitors the vacation status accounts manually.
- ⇒ There are about 30 people a year that use the program.
- ⇒ The Town still has to pay for fixed fees such as infrastructure.
- ⇒ Putting an account on vacation status ceases the water usage charges.
- ⇒ If a resident is away from their house there shouldn't be any usage anyways.
- ⇒ The only item on the billing that the Town saves is the tipping fees of \$2.00/month.
- ⇒ Fixed rates should still be charged to the users.
- ⇒ There have been a number of instances when people asked for their service to be put on vacation status and then there is quite a bit of usage while they are gone; this could be someone caring for their home using the water to clean and water plants or grass and this can add up quickly.
- ⇒ The City of Lethbridge no longer provides the vacation status service for many of the same circumstances.
- ⇒ People could disconnect their services if they are going to be away for a \$20 fee and then when they return pay the \$20 to hook back up.
- ⇒ The fee is sufficient to cover staff costs incurred to provide the service.
- ⇒ Residents should have one month's notice of any changes to the program.
- ⇒ The changes would require a bylaw amendment which would be returned to Council for consideration and a date of implementation could be included.
- ⇒ Option A would eliminate the vacation status provision and would require amendments to the policy as well as the Utility Bylaw.

MOTION 265.10 *Councillor Martens moved administration incorporate option A with necessary amendments to the Utility Bylaw and Vacation Status Policy as discussed.*
5-0 **CARRIED**

ITEM 206 **5.2 BANK RECONCILIATION - APRIL 2010**

MOTION 266.10 *Councillor Duda moved to accept the Bank Reconciliation for April 2010 as presented.*
5-0 **CARRIED**

ITEM 207 **5.3 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHEQUE LISTS - MAY 2010**

MOTION 267.10 *Councillor Wentz moved to accept the Accounts Payable Cheque Lists for May 2010 as presented.*
5-0 **CARRIED**

ITEM 208 **5.4 CHINOOK COUNTRY TOURIST ASSOCIATION BOARD APPOINTMENT**

The Town of Coaldale are members of the Chinook Country Tourist Association and Ms. Farries was nominated for a position on the Board of Directors.

Council asked if Ms. Farries could keep track of her hours over the course of a year and provide Council with a report.

MOTION 268.10 *Councillor Chapman moved to approve the election of Ms. B. Farries, Director of Community Services to sit on the Chinook Country Tourist Association Board of Directors for the 2010-2012 term.*
5-0 **CARRIED**

ITEM 209 **5.5 POST COUNCIL MEETING ASSIGNMENTS**

MOTION 269.10 *Councillor Martens moved to receive and file the post Council meeting assignment report as presented.*
5-0 **CARRIED**

It was noted that the Gem of the West Museum may have set aside the land purchase they were looking at last year and they should be contacted to see what their status is on the issue.

MOTION 270.10 *Councillor Chapman moved to forward a letter to the Gem of the West Museum requesting a status update on the land purchase and a copy be forwarded to Rehoboth Christian Ministries.*

5-0 CARRIED

ITEM 210 5.6 2010 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The following is a summary of the discussion between Council and administration regarding the SIP funding and projects:

- ⇒ There are \$2.2 million in projects that can proceed and the Town is awaiting AMIP and Gas Tax funding to come through.
- ⇒ There is also \$1.5 million in MSI Capital funding available.
- ⇒ The projects have been discussed by Council and it is advised that rather than lose the construction season, it may be expedient to move forward with them this year.
- ⇒ There will be no debenture to complete the projects.
- ⇒ The AMIP and Gas Tax funding are both entitlement grants that will most likely be approved.
- ⇒ The Minister of Transportation has to approve the grants; the projects are all excellent candidates for funding.
- ⇒ The projects include: 18 Avenue reconstruction from 20-24 Ave, 23 Street from 17A - 18 Ave, 8 St rehabilitation, 30 Ave cold mix from 13-20 Ave, rear lane repair on the south side of 20 Ave from 17-20 St and 13 St top lift from 20-25 St.

MOTION 271.10 *Councillor Wentz moved that administration move forward with the tendering process for the noted projects as discussed.*

5-0 CARRIED

**ITEM 211 11.1 LETTER OF SUPPORT - “PRODUCT OF CANADA”
AMENDMENTS**

Some concerns were brought up at the Mayors & Reeves of Southwest Alberta meeting regarding the amendments to the “Product of Canada” guidelines. Currently a product must be 98% Canadian content to use the label “Product of Canada”, allowing for 2% of the ingredients to be from elsewhere. There is an amendment being proposed that would change that formula to give some leeway for use of the label. Mr. Hayden, Minister of Agriculture & Rural Development feels that this threshold should not be changed for the sugar industry. It is important that consumers get meaningful information.

MOTION 272.10 *Councillor Martens moved to provide a letter of support to Mr. Ritz, Minister of Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and Minister J. Hayden, Minister of Agriculture &*

Rural Development with regards to their position on the "Product of Canada" guidelines as it pertains to the sugar industry.

5-0 CARRIED

ITEM 212

11.2 RETURNING OFFICER FOR 2010 ELECTIONS

The following is a summary of the discussion regarding the 2010 Elections process between Council and administration:

- ⇒ Civic Solutions Inc will recruit their own volunteers to work at the elections.
- ⇒ The company is from Lethbridge and knows the area.
- ⇒ The 2007 elections costs were estimated at \$9,700 and it is not expected to be much more this year.

MOTION 273.10

Councillor Duda moved to approve the attached contract for Returning Officer services with Civic Solutions Inc and appoint Ms. Lavinia Henderson as Returning Officer and Ms. Melissa Rhodes as Presiding Deputy for the 2010 elections.

4-1 CARRIED

ITEM 213

11.3 WASTE TO ENERGY ALLIANCE

The following is a summary of the discussion regarding the SAEWA request for funding:

- ⇒ SAEWA is asking for a \$0.52/capita levy to get a technical report prepared.
- ⇒ The Town's total investment would be \$3,610.36.
- ⇒ The region needs to start looking into alternative waste disposal programs.
- ⇒ Vulcan and Vulcan County are already heavily invested in the project and they have done a lot of ground work on the project already.
- ⇒ The MLA's are excited about the process and are supportive of the work being done.
- ⇒ Regulations need to change and a lot of lobbying will need to be done to get the project up and running.
- ⇒ Municipalities should have a minimum financial commitment to the project.
- ⇒ SAEWA also wants to implement a membership fee in 2011 but they have not provided any dollar values as of yet.

MOTION 274.10

Councillor Wentz moved to approve the 2010 Southern Alberta Energy to Waste Alliance levy request of \$0.52/capita as discussed.

5-0 CARRIED

ITEM 214

11.4 LETTER TO MINISTER - ASSISTED LIVING

Over the years many promises had been made regarding DAL services in Coaldale and now with the changeover to Alberta Health Services, those promises are being put on hold with no timeline for resolution. All contracts for DAL have been put on hold for an indefinite period of time. Picture Butte had some similar issues and it wasn't until a letter was forwarded to the Minister of Health that any meaningful headway was made.

In May 2008 it was indicated that DAL service was a go and so the building renovation at Sunny South Lodge was designed and the AHS received the specifications for review. It was promised that the project would move ahead, but that promise was not followed through on.

AHS has not signed the contracts with Green Acres and a letter to the Minister for support of those contracts being finalized would be helpful. The money was committed to the project but has not been finalized to date and that is a problem.

MOTION 275.10

Councillor Martens moved to forward a letter to Alberta Minister of Health & Wellness, Gene Zwodesky, with a copy to MLA B. McFarland, encouraging him to provide the needed authorizations for Green Acres Foundation DAL accommodations at the Coaldale Sunny South Lodge as requested.

5-0 CARRIED

ITEM 215

12.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

MOTION 276.10

Councillor Wentz moved to receive and file the following information items as presented:

12.1 Development Statistics

12.2 Ambulance Report - May 2010

12.3 Fire Report - May 2010

5-0 CARRIED

MOTION 277.10

Councillor Wentz moved Council enter into an in camera session at 6:50 pm.

5-0 CARRIED

Councillor Mensch arrived at the meeting at 6:55 pm.

Ms. Overbeeke left the meeting at 6:58 pm.

Mr. A. Van Rijn arrived at the meeting at 8:48 pm and left at 9:05 pm.

Councillor Duda left the meeting at 8:48 pm.

