REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 25, 2017

PRESENT
Doug Jones Mayor
Stacey Wiechnik Deputy Mayor
Kevin Brost Councillor
Trevor Hittel Councillor
Joseph Lazzari Councillor
Dennis Punter Councillor
Tom Tracy Councillor

ABSENT
None.

ATTENDING
Charmain Snell Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Tracy Wright Recording Secretary

CALLED TO ORDER
Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

AGENDA
C518(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Deputy Mayor Wiechnik that Council adopts the agenda governing the regular Council meeting of January 25, 2017 with the following changes:
Date changed to January 25, 2017
CARRIED

MINUTES
Regular Council Meeting held December 14, 2016

C519(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Punter that Council approves the minutes of the December 14, 2016 regular Council meeting as presented.
CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
Council Remuneration

C520(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Lazzari that Council amend Policy No. 03-07, Section 2 (B) Special Council Meeting rates to the following:
• 2 hours or Less $75.00
• 4 hours or Less $150.00
• 4 hours or More $200.00
CARRIED

WRITTEN and/or VERBAL REPORTS:
Public Works Foreman’s Report
The PWF provided a written report to Council on matters related to Public Works.

Recreation Director’s Report
The RD provided a written report to Council on matters related to Recreation.

C521(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Tracy that Council accepts for information the Public Works Foreman’s and the Recreation Director’s reports as presented.
CARRIED

Initials: ____________
Mayor

CAO
None.

NEW BUSINESS:
Calendars

Council was provided with an updated calendar of upcoming events and meetings for the period January, 2017 through March, 2017.

RESOLUTION by Councillor Hittel that Council accepts for information the calendar of upcoming events and meetings for the period January, 2017 through March, 2017 with the following changes:

1. January 26 – Big Country Medical Dental Board – Mayor Jones (Councillor Lazzari or Councillor Punter Alternates)
2. January 27 – Palliser Economic Partnership – Cancelled
3. January 27 – SE Mayors and Reeves Association - Cancelled
4. January 30 – Meridian Community Futures – Deputy Mayor Wiechnik (Councillor Hittel Alternate)
5. February 6 – Henry Kroeger Regional Water Commission – Councillor Tracy (Councillor Lazzari Alternate)
6. February 10 – Palliser Economic Partnership – Mayor Jones and Deputy Mayor Wiechnik
7. February 10 – SE Mayors and Reeves Association – Mayor Jones and Deputy Mayor Wiechnik
8. February 16 – Meridian Community Futures – Deputy Mayor Wiechnik (Councillor Hittel Alternate)
9. February 27 – Oyen & District Family and Community Support Services – Deputy Mayor Wiechnik (Councillor Punter Alternate)
10. March 9 – Oyen & District Family and Community Support Services – Cancelled
11. March 22-24 – Alberta Senior Citizens Housing Association Conference – Councillor Punter

EMS Service Transferred to Red Deer

Ambulance service for our region is currently dispatched out of the City of Calgary center. Effective, April 1, 2017, under a new agreement, AHS will be taking over the role of dispatching calls from 77 municipalities that are currently served by the City of Calgary. It is the recommendation of Glen Durand, the Special Areas Fire Chief, with the support of the other Fire Chief’s in this region that we take this opportunity to request that our EMS dispatch service be transferred to Red Deer where our current 911 service for Fire is dispatched through. The Red Deer facility is an approved satellite dispatch centre that is run by the City of Red Deer. If we move our EMS service all of our emergency services would then be dispatched out of the same facility. This would improve communication and ultimately patient care.

RESOLUTION by Councillor Brost that Council support the transition of our EMS service to the satellite dispatch centre in Red Deer as per the recommendation received from Paul Lijdsman, Fire Chief for the Town of Oyen and Glen Durand, Fire Chief for the Special Areas; and further direct Administration to communicate this support to Alberta Health Services.

CARRIED

Initials: __________
Mayor
CAO
Purchase to Olympia Resurfacer

A quote was received from Big Hill Services for the purchase of a 2017 Olympia Millennium Model H. Big Hill Services is the only distributor of Olympia ice resurfacers in Alberta and Saskatchewan; they have provided the Town with a quote for the purchase of a new machine for a total of $117,188 plus GST.

Council requested that Administration bring forward additional information to the next regular Council meeting.

Maintenance/Repairs to the 2003 Elgin Street Sweeper

The 2003 Elgin Street Sweeper was purchased in 2010 and has never been sent for service to ensure the proper functioning of the unit. The street sweeper has been sent into Joe Johnson Equipment in Calgary and they have gone over the unit and identified what repairs and maintenance are currently required.

C524(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Lazzari that Council request for the Public Works Committee to meet with the Public Works Foreman to review the quote that was received and bring a recommendation of the necessary repairs and costs forward to the next regular Council meeting. CARRIED

Engagement of Auditor

As per Council Resolution C456(16/09/14) Administration was directed to prepare for distribution Request for Proposals for the positions of Auditor, Civil Engineer and Legal Council. This process is not yet complete. The 2017 Operating and Capital Budgets and our 2016 financial reporting cannot be completed until our 2016 financial records can be audited and financial statements prepared.

C525(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Deputy Mayor Wiechnik that Council engage Jeff Benson of Johnson Morrison Hunter & Co. to audit the 2016 financial statements of the Town of Oyen. CARRIED

Transfer of Credit AgriCard

The Town has a current credit agreement with AgriCard, which allows the Town to make purchases from John Deere, that is still in the names of Debbie Kovitch and Darcy Dobrosky. AgriCard will not change the authorized representatives without a resolution from Council.

C526(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Punter that Council approve the change in the authorized representatives for the AgriCard from Debbie Kovitch and Darcy Dobrosky to Charmain Snell and Michael Potter. CARRIED

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Mayor and Council submitted verbal reports on activities and meetings since the December 14, 2016 regular Council meeting.

C527(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Tracy that Council go in Camera at 7:36 p.m. CARRIED

C528(17/01/25) RESOLUTION by Councillor Punter that Council comes out of camera at 7:44 p.m. CARRIED

Initials: __________
Mayor

_________________ CAO
RESOLUTION by Councillor Tracy that Council direct Administration
to purchase a retirement gift for Heather Norris and approve
spending not to exceed $150.00.  

CARRIED

RESOLUTION by Councillor Lazzari that Council go in Camera at 8:05
p.m.  

CARRIED

RESOLUTION by Councillor Lazzari that Council comes out of camera
at 8:09 p.m.  

CARRIED

RESOLUTION by Deputy Mayor Wiechnik that Council accept for
information the verbal Councillor reports received on activity and
meetings that were attended since the December 14, 2016 regular
Council meeting.  

CARRIED

The CAO and Project Manager provided written reports with verbal
updates to Council.

RESOLUTION by Councillor Brost that Council accepts for
information the CAO and Project Manager’s reports as presented.  

CARRIED

The CAO presented the Budget Performance Report for the Year-to-
Date Period ending December 31, 2016.

RESOLUTION by Councillor Brost that Council accepts for
information the Budget Performance Report as presented.  

CARRIED

Email received from Maryann Chichak, Mayor of Whitecourt re:
Carbon Tax

Fourth Quarter Crime Statistics – Oyen RCMP Detachment

Letter received from Seniors re: Garages

Message from the Minister of Municipal Affairs

Letter from the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission re:
Input into Alberta’s Electoral Boundaries

Information regarding the Implications of Taxing Employer-Paid
Benefits Plans

Letter from Big Country Victim Services Association re:
Information on how the Association Performs its Duties

RESOLUTION by Councillor Tracy that Council direct Administration
to prepare for the Mayor’s signature a letter to Premier Rachel
Notley addressing the Town’s concern with regards to the Carbon
Tax Levy.  

CARRIED

RESOLUTION by Councillor Hittel that Council direct Administration
to prepare a response to the Seniors’ regarding the complicated
issues regarding the construction of the proposed garages and
Council desire to provide a feasible solution to the project.  

CARRIED

RESOLUTION by Councillor Punter that Council direct Administration
to prepare for the Mayor’s signature a letter Kevin Sorenson, MP for
Battle River – Crowfoot regarding the implications for the Town of
Oyen if Parliament imposes taxes on employer-paid health and
dental benefits.  

CARRIED
RESOLUTION by Councillor Brost that Council receives for information the balance of the correspondence presented at the January 25, 2017 regular Council meeting. CARRIED

RESOLUTION by Councillor Tracy that Council change the date of the March regular Council meeting from March 8th, 2017 to March 6, 2017. CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Jones adjourned the regular Council meeting on January 25, 2017 at 9:39 pm.