

**SEPTEMBER 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

VILLAGE OF BITTERN LAKE

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

September 17, 2014 @ 7:00 pm in the Village Office.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Kerry Grettum  
Councilor Chuck Jarvis

Deputy Mayor Charlie Debnam  
CAO Theresa Fuller

CALL TO ORDER

#73/14

Mayor Grettum made a motion to call the meeting of council to order at 7:00 pm.

Carried.

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AMENDMENTS AND  
ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

#74/14

CAO Fuller informed council that PW Foreman Brattinga was unavailable to attend, consequently there would not be a Public Works report.

Deputy Mayor Debnam made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Carried.

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CONFIRMATION OF  
MINUTES

#75/14

Deputy Mayor Debnam made a motion to approve the August Meeting minutes as presented.

Carried.

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GUESTS

Mr. Rick Burden - Fortis Alberta  
Mr. and Mrs. Reay Gibson  
Mr. Jarred Booth  
Mr. and Mrs. Micky Salmond  
Mrs. Lesa Debnam  
Mr. Glen Lawes  
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Toms  
Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Steinwandt  
Mr. George Schielke  
Ms. Dora Grettum

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Debnam (Senior)  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cottingham  
Mrs. Sandy Bilyk  
Mr. and Mrs. James Lorente  
Ms. Bailey Debnam  
Mr. Sheldon Koczka  
Mr. Al Anger  
Ms. Marilyn Dease  
Ms. Shannon Olson

Mayor Grettum informed the group that the session was being recorded to track what is being said and to ensure that all issues are addressed.

Mayor Grettum proceeded with opening remarks. Mayor Grettum discussed the process that is followed when a municipality receives a petition. A copy is presented to council, a copy goes to Municipal Affairs; and then we are mandated to act by the provincial government.

Mayor Grettum quoted the section of the act (MGA) regarding development authority. Council does have the authority to make decisions, council is working with administration.

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Municipal Affairs addresses petitions. They have the authority to dissolve the council. When there is the potential loss of council, possibility exists that control could be allocated to the County. Currently, three council members are on the verge of resigning.

Bylaws can be changed through due process. Land use Bylaw #339 will be changed with the recommendations that have been presented. Issues are addressed in written form.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Canada Union of Postal Workers - Presented for information purposes

Canadian Legion Donation Request - Presented for consideration

Go East RTO - Presented for information purposes

Parkland Regional Library - letter and Budget Approval Request

WOR - Wall of Remembrance Donation Request - Presented for consideration

Fortis Franchise Agreement Renewal - Presented for consideration

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### 1. Bylaw 05.14 Electric Franchise Agreement - possible first and second reading.

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mr. Burden. Mr. Burden informed the group of a bit of the history in relation to Bittern Lake and Fortis's partnership.

#76/14

Deputy Mayor made a motion to proceed with first reading of Bylaw 05.14.

Carried.

#77/14

Councilor Jarvis made a motion to proceed with second reading of Bylaw 05.14.

Carried.

Mr. Burden departed the meeting shortly after he finished speaking.

#### 2. Development Issues Update - Land Use Bylaw changes - Mayor Grettum

Kerry proceeded to share the report with the group, everyone in attendance was supplied with copies of the proposed changes.

Electors are allowed to present their concerns with bylaw changes prior to the second and third readings. It is a difficult job to make the rules and abide/match with people's expectations.

This creates pressure on Council, bylaws do go out of date, many older towns still have hitching posts bylaws. We are unable to go through every bylaw for every word or circumstance. We simple work on amending them as issues arise.

#### 3. Information Provided by CAO on Development Issues - Mr. Reay Gibson

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mr. Gibson.

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Mr. Gibson proceeded to address the council and the group. He mentioned that he has talked to the Mayor privately prior to the meeting. Mr. Gibson expressed that he did not have an issue with council, the issue is the Land Use Bylaw section 11, subsection 8, addressing the variances.

Mr. Gibson read the topic from the petition that he was presenting to council.

The bylaw as it reads now, gives the Development Officer complete authority.

Mr. Gibson provided each council member and CAO Fuller with copies of the petition. He mentioned that one person has written a letter. (The letter was written by a County resident, abutting the village)

Mayor Grettum informed the group, the proposed amendments to the Bylaw will assign the discretionary authority to council, therefore correcting the situation.

The objection has been with the control of the discretionary issues.

Section 12 indicates that the building permit is void if construction of a building has not been started, Mr. Gibson requested that council take necessary actions to void the initial building permit for the garage.

There is an issue with voiding the development permit. Council cannot change the decision of the Subdivision and Appeal Board.

Mayor Grettum asked Mr. Gibson if he is satisfied the issues have been addressed.

Mr. Gibson did not provide an answer.

#### 4. Delegation Request - Mr. Jarred Booth

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mr. Booth. Mr. Booth expressed his appreciation of council, and explained how he did not want to see this village go to the county. He expressed his concern that the petition was not presented to everyone in the village; claiming it was presented to selective residents.

Mr. Booth explained how he was approached, and continued with mentioning he had a major issue with a petition that could harm the village.

Mr. Booth was visibly agitated, completed his comments and excused himself.

#### 5. Delegation Request - Mr. Micky Salmond

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mr. Salmond. Mr. Salmond expressed how upset he was about the petition, and Mr. Gibson's efforts.

#### 6. Delegation Request - Mr. and Mrs. Earl Debnam (Senior)

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mrs. Debnam. Mrs. Dale Debnam thanked council for their continued efforts. She continued saying they had come to the village 30 years ago. Mrs. Debnam expressed her discontent with the petition. She felt that a petition is to go around to everyone, not just selective residents.

## SEPTEMBER 2014 MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF BITTERN LAKE

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

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### 7. Delegation Request - Mr. James Lorente

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mr. Lorente. Mr. Lorente introduced himself to the group. He proceeded to thank council for their continued efforts. He also chatted about how he didn't want to see the village go to the county either.

Mr. Lorente expressed concerns with some of the culverts, and installation of additional racks over grates for the safety of the children in the village.

He talked about the petition, and how he wasn't informed/approached about it. Mr. Lorente expressed how he felt the list of petitioners was selective, and expressed his discontent about not being included.

He asked if there was a bylaw for people inhabiting shop space. He expressed how he felt all bylaws should be considered and enforced accordingly.

### 8. Delegation Request - Mr. and Mrs. Barry Toms

Mayor Grettum turned the floor over to Mr. Toms. Mr. Toms expressed his appreciation of council. He proceeded to express this view on the situation. He described the petition as an underhanded way to lay into the CAO. He continued to explain his speculation that most people on the petition possibly had an issue with the CAO and saw this as an opportunity to impact the situation.

Mr. Toms continued to explain how the appeal had delayed the progress on his garage, therefore an extension should be considered. Due process was followed and he will be proceeding.

Mr. Toms expressed concerns how the bylaw was enforced somewhat inconsistently, and this was creating issues. He concluded his comments with saying that council does a great job, and he is appreciative of their efforts.

Mrs. Wendy Toms, then spoke. She addressed Mr. Gibson saying that this is her and Barry's retirement, this is their life. Barry has crones disease and you are causing his health issues to increase. She continued saying that he could have talked to her and Barry with his concerns.

Mayor Grettum addressed the group, explaining it is good to have the discussions out in the open. He then opened the floor to comment from the other council members.

The other council members declined comment. Mayor Grettum reinforced that the Land Use Bylaw will proceed with amendments, and the public will have their opportunity to comment/provide feedback.

Mr. and Mrs. Reay Gibson, Mr. Glen Lawes, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cottingham, Mrs. Sandy Bilyk, Mr. Sheldon Koczka, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Steinwandt, Mr. George Schielke, Mr. Al Anger, Ms. Marilyn Dease, and Mrs. Shannon Olson departed from the meeting.

### 9. Public Works Report

PW Foreman Brattinga was unavailable to provide the report to council.

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10. Community Association Update

Deputy Mayor informed the group how things are just getting geared up after the summer break.

The first meeting will be happening in short order, darts will resume, the AGM is scheduled for October 15, 2014.

Zumba has continued, and remembrance day will also be coming up shortly. It will be nice to see a good turn out for the events. The hall board and Wendy continue to work hard to generate events.

11. Capital Budget Approval - request to table to October

The report was not ready for presentation to council . CAO Fuller requested to table to the next meeting.

Request approved.

12. TNT Canada Consultants 5 Year Service Agreement

Discussion progressed.

Deputy Mayor Debnam made a motion to approve the TNT Canada Consultants 5 year service agreement.

#78/14

Carried.

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13. Next Council Meeting Date - Confirm Date

Mayor Grettum informed the group that the next meeting is an organizational meeting, this is where the positions of council members may change. The Council members vote to determine who will be Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the remaining individual will be councilor.

Deputy Mayor Debnam made a motion to have the Organizational meeting on October 16, 2014 at 6:30pm, the regular meeting to follow at about 7:00 pm.

#79/14

Carried.

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NEW BUSINESS

1. Organizational Meeting - Book Date for October

Booked for October 16, 2014, 6:30 pm.

2. Canadian Legion Donation Request

Brief discussion occurred.

Councilor Jarvis made a motion to approve a business card sized ad for the price of \$250.00.

#80/14

Carried.

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3. Parkland Regional Library Budget Approval Request

Deputy Mayor Debnam made a motion to approve the Parkland Regional Library Budget.

#81/14

Carried.

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4. WOR - Wall of Remembrance Donation Request

Council has chosen to decline at this time.

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CAO REPORT

Brief discussion on report.

FINANCIAL

#82/14

Deputy Mayor Debnam made a motion to approve the financials as presented.

Carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

#83/14

Councilor Jarvis made a motion adjourn the regular meeting of council at 8:45 pm.

Carried.

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NEXT MEETING

Organizational Meeting October 16, 2014, 6:30 pm

October Regular Meeting October 16, 2014 - approximately 7:00 pm.

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Mayor Kerry Grettum

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CAO Theresa Fuller