

**THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF SILVER BEACH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD SATURDAY, JULY 28th, 2007
AT SAINT JAMES UNITED CHURCH
MULHURST BAY, ALBERTA**

Present:

Council:
Norm Majeski
Allan Watt
James Irving

Staff:
Wendy Nickel, Administrator
Ron Smith, Chief Constable, PLPS
Blaine Alexander, Development Officer

-- AND --

Approximately 40 ratepayers of the Summer Village of Silver Beach

A. Call to Order

Mayor Irving called the Annual General Meeting of July 28, 2007 to order at 10.00 A.M.

B. Business Items

1. Nominations

The Administrator reported that nominations had closed, and that three nomination papers had been received. Allan Watt, James Irving, and Larry Hill were declared elected to Council by acclamation.

2. Peace Officer Services

Councilor Watt reported on the Peace Officer Services. Highlights of his report included:

- The Peace Officer Act brought into force on May 1st, 2007 has resulted in several changes to the former constable service, including a name change from “constable” to “peace officer”. The Act also sets out new standards for uniforms and vehicle markings. The village has met all of the requirements of authorized employers under the new Act.
- A third fulltime peace officer had been hired, resulting in increased service hours to all of the participating villages.

- Silver Beach is currently in the process of signing new service agreements with the villages that contract for services from Silver Beach
- A new vehicle was purchased from the Protective Services reserve, and it was outfitted with a light bar and radar purchased with Municipal Sponsorship grant funds.
- A wage and benefits review was undertaken, resulting in a new salary grid for the protective services staff. Council is currently reviewing a new personnel policy.

Chief Peace Officer Smith also addressed the attendees and answered several questions and handed out annual reports. Lee Alstrom asked if the bylaw tickets issued are enforced. Peace Officer Smith noted that 85% of the tickets are paid, while the small minority require follow-up. Connie Bunnin asked how many radar traps are set in Silver Beach on an annual basis. Peace Officer Smith did not have the statistics with him on the exact number of traps set over the year. A resident suggested that speed bumps be installed on Silver Beach road to deter speeders and that perhaps a letter could be sent to the Girl Guides to have them remind those that rent their facilities not to speed on the village road to the camp. Peace Officer Smith noted that the village is patrolled twice a day. Mrs. Ryan suggested that residents remind their guests to keep their dogs leashed.

3. 2006 Financial Statements

Councilor Majeski reviewed the 2006 audited financial statements for those present. He noted that the reserves of the village are fully funded by cash. Silver Beach showed an operating surplus of \$1,017 for the 2006 fiscal year. Councilor Majeski also reported on the grants that have been received by the village.

4. Parks

Councilor Majeski reviewed several items related to the parks operations. Highlights of his report:

- New signage had been placed to keep motor homes and holiday trailers from parking in the public parking lot at the beach.
- A bylaw requiring all boat lifts and hoists to register for tags had been passed.
- Buoys have been replaced.
- Several trees that were posing potential safety hazards were removed at a cost of \$4,000.

- Silver Beach has hired two summer students under the Summer Temporary Employment grant program.

A resident asked if the trees that were removed would be replaced. Councilor Majeski advised that Council did not intend to replace the poplars that were removed. Mary Knights (#125) noted that boat lifts and hoists are encroaching into the swimming area, and she asked if the swimming area should be staked out. Councilor Majeski noted that there is signage on the beach related to the swimming area. A resident commented that people buying lots are bulldozing down the trees and affecting the natural setting of the village. Councilor Majeski noted that Council did not have control over the landscaping done on private lots.

A resident thanked Councilor Majeski for all of his hard work done to keep the parks maintained. Councilor Majeski noted that he had help from a number of neighbours, and that the summer students are doing an outstanding job in maintaining the parks.

5. Garbage

Councilor Watt gave an overview of the process by which the village had come to change contractors for garbage pickup services after the previous contractor served notice that it would no longer be able to provide door-to-door pick-up after December 31, 2006. He noted that there was but one option available for continued door-to-door pick-up, and that there were no bids from contractors willing to pick up loose garbage, therefore Council had no option but to choose a contractor that utilizes an automated pick-up system.

A resident asked if villagers would be allowed to use their own tote carts, or if they have to be purchased from the contractor. Another resident commented that extra bins purchased appear to be of better quality than the ones originally provided to residents. Mayor Irving said that Council would investigate these matters.

A resident asked if those who live at the beach full time could be neighbourly, and pull carts back onto their neighbour's property after they have been emptied if that neighbour is not at the beach to do it themselves. Councilor Majeski noted that the summer students have been putting the tote carts back for those who are unable to do so.

A resident asked if those with old garbage receptacles on their property could dispose of them now that the village is using the tote

carts. Another resident suggested that villagers should be using one bin for garbage and that villages should be encouraged to recycle to cut down on the amount of household garbage generated.

Peggy Juchli (#127) noted that the concrete bins at the park are causing a mess, and she suggested that they be removed and replaced with tote carts.

6. Silver Beach Road

Mayor Irving reported on Silver Beach Road, noting that Council is aware that it is in poor condition. He noted that the road had been rebuilt nine years ago, and that Council had undertaken patchwork every year since. He also noted that nothing had come of Council's efforts to lobby the province for additional funds for a road rebuild. The cost of roadwork has escalated substantially over the past few years, but the main problem at the present is a lack of interested contractors to undertake any roadwork. Mayor Irving advised that Atco Gas would be replacing the gas line servicing the village, and although this will be noisy and inconvenient, Council is glad to see the work being done. Ken Morris (#103) asked if the gas line capacity would increase as a result of the work, and Mayor Irving advised that it would. A resident asked where the gas line would be going, and whether Atco gas would be contributing to the cost of a road rebuild. Mayor Irving noted that Atco gas would be installing the line along side the road, and that they are aware of Council's expectations that Atco repair any road disturbances they may cause. Mayor Irving noted that Atco gas is a good company to deal with, and he did not foresee any problems.

Dave Bunnin suggested that the road be rotovated and maintained as a gravel road. Mayor Irving said that this was one possible avenue, but that the availability of rotovaters was still a problem.

7. Annexation

Mayor Irving gave a report on the status of the potential annexation of the Schwindt property at the south end of the village. He advised that no formal steps had yet been taken towards annexation, but that Council and the Schwindts are currently in informal discussions. Mayor Irving advised that a number of years ago, Mr. Schwindt had approached Council to request that the village annex his land, but that was not done at the time as the development options relied on road access from the village. Legal advice at that time indicated that a Controlled Streets Bylaw could prevent road

access, however, it is now apparent that the village can control road access, but not actually prevent it. The County is not opposed to annexation if the village provides the road access to the annexed lands. Council is of the opinion that it would be better for the village to annex the lands so that any development would be controlled by the village, rather than the county. At the present time, the development proposed would involve 13 back lots, with an additional 4 lots on the point. If a satisfactory development agreement can be reached between both parties, then Council will proceed towards annexation. Mayor Irving stated that it will be inevitable that the parcel will be developed, and that it would be in the village's best interests to proceed towards annexation provided that a binding agreement on the proposed development can be drawn up to the satisfaction of both parties.

A resident asked for clarification on road access for residents of the development. Mayor Irving reiterated that the existing public road would provide access. He noted that correspondence from Alberta Municipal Affairs indicated that Silver Beach could not deny road access to the development.

Jack Manson asked which party would be responsible for any required environmental costs and studies. Mayor Irving advised that water and sewer services would be negotiated between the developer and the North East Pigeon Lake Services Commission. Any water or other required studies would be the responsibility of the developer. Ken Morris asked if the development would tie in to Silver Beach's sewer system, and Mayor Irving replied that it would.

A resident asked if the developer would be expected to contribute to the cost of rebuilding Silver Beach road. Mayor Irving advised that Council and the developer are not that far into any negotiations yet.

A resident asked what the process would be now. Mayor Irving stated that Council and the developer will continue discussions to come to a mutually agreeable understanding of the proposed development to take place. Council is proceeding towards an annexation if a satisfactory agreement can be reached.

C. Business Arising from the Floor

Mrs. Ryan noted her concerns regarding the quality of lake water at Pigeon Lake. She wondered whether the lake water was being tested on a routine basis. Council advised that Alberta

Environment is responsible for water testing at Pigeon Lake, and that it is routinely tested. Jim Webb (#101) advised that 28 individuals have started the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association, a volunteer action group concerned with lake water quality. Mr. Webb noted that he had brought handouts pertaining to the group for anyone looking for more information. Council advised that it is considering passing a bylaw prohibiting the use of fertilizers containing phosphorous.

Peggy Juchli (#127) spoke briefly regarding the volunteer group that had undertaken a clean up of the beach and shoreline at Silver Beach. This volunteer group has amalgamated with the watershed group. Mrs. Ryan thanked Jim Webb and Peggy Juchli for their efforts on behalf of the village.

D. Adjournment

Mayor Irving asked if there was any further business. As there was none, Mayor Irving thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting.

Time of adjournment: 12:05 P.M.

James Irving– Mayor

Wendy Nickel – CAO