

**THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF SILVER BEACH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD SATURDAY, JULY 19TH, 2008
AT MULHURST COMMUNITY HALL
MULHURST BAY, ALBERTA**

Present:

Council:
Allan Watt
Larry Hill
James Irving

Staff:
Wendy Nickel, CAO

---AND approximately 70 members of the general public

A. Call to Order

Mayor Watt called the Annual General Meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Mayor Watt explained that two Public Hearing would immediately follow the Annual General Meeting, with one on proposed changes to the Land Use Bylaw and a second on the annexation.

B. Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor Watt moved to adopt the Agenda as presented.

Carried Unanimously

C. Business Items

1. Constable Service Report

Mayor Watt advised that written reports were available for residents' perusal. He gave a brief overview of the Peace Officer Service operations, noting that Silver Beach hires peace officers and then contracts out hours to nine other surrounding villages. He also advised that we had lost one employee, but have since hired another, Christopher Henthorne, leaving the village with 3 full time peace officers, and one part time. He further advised that the village was looking to hire a fourth full time officer, but it has been a difficult task. There were only two applicants for the last position, and only one had the necessary requirements for the position. Mayor Watt also reported that the Peace Officer Service had been experimenting with providing midnight patrols, but at the moment these have been suspended due to a lack of available staff.

2. Silver Beach Road

Councilor Irving reported that Council had difficulties in finding interested contractors to undertake work to Silver Beach Road. In the meantime, estimates to pave the road have increased significantly. This year, several options became available to Council, and Council has now engaged Warren Crow to tear up, regrade and repack the road. The road will then be graveled and oiled, with the work to commence next week, but the completion time will also depend on the availability of oil.

Mayor Watt thanked those residents who had come forward with suggestions and potential solutions to the road issue. A resident inquired as to whether the oil would have any impact on the lake quality. Councilor Irving advised that the oil is not soluble and it would be no different than the use of asphalt. The oil will bind to the road surface and stay where it is intended. A resident inquired as to whether load limits are enforced, and Councilor Irving advised that the Peace Officer Service does have scales and that they do enforce road ban limits. Councilor Irving further noted that some vehicles, such as school buses, are excluded from road bans.

3. Parks

Councilor Hill reported that two summer students, Jackson Hill and Mary Rolf, have been hired as summer parks staff. He noted that the two applicants for the positions were unable to commence work until high school ended. Phyllis Radis commented that perhaps Council could engage a lawn service until the staff is able to start, and Council advised that it would look at this option for next year.

4. Financial Reports

Mayor Watt advised the residents that copies of the audited financial statements were available with the other handouts. He noted that the village's reserves are fully funded, and that the village has no debt. He further advised that any specific questions regarding the statements could be directed to the administrative office.

5. Boat Hoists and Lifts

Councilor Irving spoke regarding the recent change to federal government regulations for issuing permits for the placement of boat hoists and lifts on navigable waters. The federal government now requires a letter of permission from the upland owner. In the case where this is village property, the boat hoist and lift bylaw will be amended to require residents to apply for a no cost permit indicating that the permission letter has been granted. Councilor Hill noted that there are approximately 78 boat hoists

and lifts in Mulhurst Bay, and Silver Beach wants to maintain some control by granting permission to residents only.

Councilor Hill noted that the boat hoist and lift bylaw also regulates that these items cannot be stored on public property from May 30 to September 1. If there are lifts on public property they must be removed. He further advised that the village is not obligated to create storage space, and the village does not permit clearing of public areas to accommodate the storage of boatlifts. Councilor Irving advised that this would serve as notice to residents to remove any items stored on public property, and that any property not removed within seven days will be removed by the village.

Ernie Christman had asked about the designated swimming area. Councilor Irving advised that the north end of the park is used for boat lifts and the south end has been designated as a swimming area. Councilor Irving thanked residents for their cooperation in following usage rules. Mr. Christman commented that he would rather see the south side designated as the boat lift area as he trusts residents more than the general public to maintain good behaviour. Dave Bunnin noted that the swimming area was approved some time ago by Fisheries and Oceans. Mr. Lees noted that the buoys were placed late this year, and Council noted that they were in place by July 1st. Peggy Juchli suggested that with the unavailability of parks staff until later in the year, that the placement of buoys would present a good volunteer opportunity for residents.

Councilor Watt pointed out that the volleyball court has new posts and nets courtesy of Kelly Buchberger and that five loads of sand have been added by the village. He acknowledged and thanked Kelly Buchberger for his volunteer efforts and for spearheading the upgrade.

Councilor Watt introduced Peggy Juchli, who spoke on water quality issues on Pigeon Lake. She noted that the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association had set up a display for residents, and she encouraged residents to peruse the information provided. Mrs. Juchli spoke regarding how residents could modify their behaviour to lessen human impact on the lake. She noted that natural growth on the beach area is desirable, and in fact, this growth helps remove phosphorous and other leachates that would otherwise make their way into the water. She encouraged residents to allow a natural shoreline, and noted that many residents are allowing natural growth to occur. She reported on some of the other activities of the Association, including a "Living by Water" assessment program and shore-line clean up initiatives. Mayor Watt thanked Mrs. Juchli for her presentation.

Councilor Irving spoke briefly regarding a water diversion proposal to draw water from between Pigeon and Battle lakes for an oilfield operation. Councilor Irving advised that a letter has been sent to Alberta Environment expressing the village's concerns. The diversion is not a new use, but Council feels that the application should not be approved on a "grandfathered" basis, but that it should be viewed afresh in light of water concerns. Mrs. Juchli encouraged residents to check the Watershed Association's website and to write to Alberta Environment directly with any concerns.

6. Presentations

Councilor Irving presented a plaque to Mr. Ed Christopher on occasion of this 90th birthday. Mr. Christopher has been a long term permanent resident of Silver Beach and has contributed to the village by serving on its Council in past years.

Councilor Irving presented a plaque to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Manson, who have been active contributors to the communities in various ways throughout the years. Councilor Irving thanked the Mansons for their community spirit.

Councilor Irving also recognized Sonny and Phyllis Ouimette and Les and Jay Ouimette who have since moved away, but have been an integral part of Silver Beach's pioneering history. Plaques were also prepared, and they will be presented to the Ouimette families in thanks for their contributions over the years to the community.

D. Business Arising from the Floor

Jane Nagy expressed concerns that there are blind spots on a couple of corners on Silver Beach road because of tree growth. She noted that travelers use the middle of the road, which poses a safety hazard. Council will look into the issue.

E. Adjournment

As there were no further business items arising from the floor, Councilor Watt moved that the meeting adjourn.

Time of adjournment: 11:10 a.m.

Allan Watt, Mayor

Wendy Nickel, CAO