

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO. 23
COUNCIL MEETING**

**Council Chambers of the Provincial Building
High Level, Alberta**

Tuesday, January 14, 1997

PRESENT:

Betty Bateman	Deputy Reeve
Frank Rosenberger	Councillor
Elmer Derksen	Councillor
Ernest Dyck	Councillor
Jake L. Peters	Councillor
Bill Neufeld	Councillor
Bill Fedeyko	Councillor
Walter Sarapuk	Councillor
Reg Scarfe	Councillor

ABSENT:

Reuben Derksen	Reeve
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ALSO PRESENT:

Dennis Litke	Chief Administrative Officer
Eva Schmidt	Recording Secretary

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council for the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23, held on Tuesday, January 14, 1997 in the Council Chambers of the Provincial Building, High Level, Alberta.

CALL TO ORDER:

1 a) Call to Order

Deputy Reeve Bateman called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

b) Adoption of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 3 g) Zama Office
- 10 n) Ratepayers Meeting
- 6 c) Town of High Level Delegation
- Regarding 8 f) Industrial/Commercial Tipping Fees
- High Level Landfill

MOTION 97-001

MOVED by Councillor Rosenberger that the agenda be adopted with additions.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

2 a) Minutes of December 10, and 11, 1996 Council Meeting

The following changes were made to the December 10, and 11, 1996 Council Meeting Minutes:

Page 16, paragraph 14, "for the adjusters work" shall be replaced with "so the insurance should pay for damages"; Motion 96-782 "staff committee of Council" shall be replaced with "Councillors on the Staff/Council Committee"; and that the following wording be added to Motion 96-765 immediately following the word "debentures": "at approximately \$120,000 and secondly, that \$95, 060.27 plus interest and penalty be paid against debentures from operating reserves."

MOTION 97-002

Councillor Neufeld moved that the minutes of the December 10 and 11, 1996 Council meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

2 b) Minutes of December 11, 1996 Staff Committee of Council

The following changes were made to the Minutes of December 11, 1996 Staff Committee of Council:

“Staff Committee of Council” shall be replaced with “Councillors of the Staff/Council Committee”.

This item was presented for information.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

3 b) Lunch Policy

Manager Litke advised Council that, as a result of the Staff/Council Committee meeting held on January 7, 1997, he recommended that Council not proceed with the lunch policy but allow administration to handle the issue.

Deputy Reeve Bateman asked if business lunches would still be acceptable and was informed that the policy was meant to eliminate abuse and that business lunches would be accepted.

Deputy Reeve Bateman asked the Councillors if they were in favour of Manager Litke's recommendation. The consensus of the Councillors was that lunch claims be granted at the discretion of the Chief Administrative Officer.

3 c) Interim Budget

MOTION 97-003

Councillor Neufeld moved that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 adopt the 1996 Budget as the 1997 Interim Operating Budget.

CARRIED

3 e) High Level Airport Agreement

MOTION 97-004

MOVED by Councillor Rosenberger that the High Level Airport Operation Agreement be tabled to the next Council meeting.

CARRIED

Russell Friesen entered the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

3 d) 1996 Infrastructure Progress Report and 1996 Mowing Budget Report

Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Russell Friesen, advised Council that the Mowing Budget Report includes maintenance, ditches, weeds and small trees along the roads. There was no back sloping done but all the ditches were mowed between Fort Vermilion and La Crete. The project was completed in one month using two mowers. Mr. Friesen said that for 1997 he would like to change payment to a rate per mile with a possibility of the first time around being at a per hour rate. The trees taken down were from one to three inches in diameter. Mr. Friesen reported the ditches were in better condition than was anticipated. Russell Friesen asked Council to consider paying farmers for mowing their own ditches, payment could be made at a rate per mile basis just below the municipalities cost. Mr. Friesen said that rocks or garbage were

picked up in extreme circumstances only, however, all ditches should be cleared of rocks at some point. Due to rain and equipment breakdowns, almost \$25,000 in chemical was carried over.

Councillor Neufeld pointed out that due to the mowing, snowplowing costs are much lower this winter and suggested that the ditches along Highway 697 be mowed annually. Councillor Neufeld asked that Council consider the rock picking issue at the budget meeting.

Russell Friesen gave an Infrastructure Progress Report saying the Feller Buncher made a good job on larger trees but the brush piles were difficult to burn. All flood control areas were mowed by Hydro axing, starting at High Level north they continued on to mow the Heleport Road and areas with drifting problems. Due to rocks, they were unable to complete more than approximately half of the Child Lake Indian Reserve. The Tompkins area of Highway 697 was completed but by the time they got to the Blumenort area the snow was too deep and they had to shut down for the winter. At Zama the area surrounding the airport was widened and the spruce was salvaged and sold. They were unable to burn the brush. Mr. Friesen said the Zama airport is scheduled to be lengthened to Alberta Transportation and Utilities standards. This project must be done on frost. There will be approximately 50 trees salvaged. Brush mowing was completed along Beach Road and Tower Road. The program cost approximately \$45,000 in 1996.

Councillor Sarapuk asked if Alberta Power would consider doing some of the brush mowing and Mr. Friesen answered that Alberta Power will do some mowing under power lines.

Mr. Friesen suggested the M.D. have farmers put right of ways to use and suggested creating an "adopt a right of way" program.

Council asked Russell Friesen to attend the upcoming Road Tour.

Russell Friesen left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

3 f) Application for Senior Snowplowing

An application for Seniors Snowplowing service was presented and discussed.

Manager Litke read Bylaw 065/96 regarding the issue of Seniors snowplowing services. Council agreed that the Bylaw must be adhered to.

Katerina Wilson entered the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

3 g) Zama Office

Deputy Reeve Bateman asked Manager Litke to give an update on the proposed Zama Office.

Manager Litke reported that interviews had been stalled by the resignation of Hugh Dennis.

Deputy Reeve Bateman suggested that Manager Litke go to Zama to do the interviews and set up the office.

LITTLE RED AIR

Manager Litke reported that negotiations with Little Red Air to take over the Fort Vermilion airport are ongoing. In the meantime, the M.D. is charging Little Red Air for fees that are in place.

Manager Litke reported that Public Works Manager, Roger Borchert, is attending a Disaster Services Course just outside of Ottawa and that the Federal Government is paying for all his expenses from Edmonton.

3 a) **Manager's Report**

Manager Litke reported that the Assessors were in the La Crete area in December 1996, and will continue in January, 1997. The High Level South Flood Control Project is nearing completion. A second low level crossing was approved by the province so Manager Litke gave authorization to proceed on behalf of the M.D. A total of six applications were received for the Treasurer's position. For the interim, until a Treasurer is hired, Manager Litke said he is seeking the help of a consultant to close off the 1996 year end. Manager Litke reported on the house fire in Batt Settlement on January 7, 1997. A Housing Board meeting to review housing issues has been scheduled with Rob Martin, Reegan McCullough, and Barb Monita for January 21, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. to be held at the La Crete Council Chambers. In January the first draft of the 1997 budget, and the roads program proposal, were drafted.

Council entered into a discussion of the High Level South Flood Control Project. Manager Litke read a letter received from Jim Amirault stating his anticipation that the second low level crossing might be covered within the budgeted amount.

Councillor Rosenberger asked that Councillors be notified about issues arising in their wards.

Deputy Reeve Bateman recessed the meeting for lunch at 11:57 a.m.

Deputy Reeve Bateman reconvened the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

DELEGATIONS:

6. a) **Mike Poscente, District Superintendent**
Alberta Environmental Protection
RE: Green Zone/White Zone Boundary Review

Deputy Reeve Bateman welcomed Mike Poscente, Gerald Graw, and Joe Politeski to the meeting and introductions were made.

Gerald Graw reported that the M.D.'s white zone/green zone proposal is quite different than that of Alberta Environment. Mr. Graw stated that if the areas were kept in timber production they could be changed to agricultural land at a later date but once the areas are put into agriculture they cannot revert back to timber.

Mike Poscente informed Council that their department grants 20 year timber allocations, at which time they are reviewed. Therefore, the M.D. would have an opportunity to extract land every 20 years without paying penalties.

Council and the delegation entered into discussion on the white zone/green zone issues.

Deputy Reeve Bateman thanked the delegation and they left the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

Katrina Wilson entered the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

Clark McAskile and Henry Bueckert entered the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

DELEGATIONS:

8 f) **Industrial/Commercial Tipping Fees - High Level Landfill**
6 c) **Clark McAskile, Manager, Town of High Level**
Henry Bueckert, Deputy Mayor, Town of High Level

Deputy Reeve Bateman welcomed High Level Town Manager, Clark McAskile, and Deputy Mayor, Henry Bueckert, to the meeting.

Deputy Reeve Bateman stated that Mr. McAskile and Mr. Bueckert were invited to attend the meeting because of an ongoing problem the M.D. 23 waste contractor is experiencing due to not having access to the regional land fill site.

Deputy Reeve Bateman said that the M.D.'s contractor should have a key for the land fill site.

Deputy Mayor Bueckert said the Town of High Level realizes that there are problems with the land fill site. The Town has discussed various avenues to alleviate the problem, one being that the Town hire an employee who would monitor the site at all times. In the meantime, Mr. Bueckert said he would attempt to resolve the issue with the keys and report back to the M.D.

The issue was discussed further with Clark McAskile stating that there had been a plan in place where the M.D. would fund a weigh scale with money coming from a grant for that purpose. Mr. McAskile asked if Paul Driedger still had that information.

Deputy Reeve Bateman thanked the delegation and they left the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Gerry Hosey and Don Warman entered the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

DELEGATIONS:

6 b) **Gerry Hosey, President**
High Level & District Chamber of Commerce

Deputy Reeve Bateman welcomed Gerry Hosey and Don Warman to the meeting and introductions were made.

Gerry Hosey passed out a letter to each Councillor. The letter, written by the High Level and District Chamber of Commerce dated January 14, 1997, was addressed to the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 Councillors and focused on two major points. The first point was "procuring a new forestry related industry in this region." A few issues were raised on promoting the area with advertising in major newspapers and magazines at a cost of approximately \$5,000 and a video production at the cost of approximately \$10,000. The Chamber of Commerce, Town of High Level, and the Mackenzie Economic Development Corporation have combined their efforts in creating a home page for the Internet. The first draft of the pages should be on the Internet by Friday, January 17, 1997. The second point raised was the issues affecting the regions business success, both current and future. An example used was CN Rail. The Chamber is in the process of establishing a committee of concerned groups in the area. Mr. Hosey informed Council that the Alberta Chamber of Commerce is assisting the committee with getting started in the right direction.

Mr. Hosey stated that the Chamber is requesting the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 Council assist in funding these projects.

A discussion followed concerning where the proposed Aspen Mill should be located. Gerry Hosey said the Chamber's first concern is that the mill be built near High Level, but would support any site within reasonable distance of High Level.

Deputy Reeve Bateman thanked Mr. Hosey and Mr. Warman and they left the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

6 a) **Mike Poscente, District Superintendent**
Alberta Environmental Protection
RE: Green Zone/White Zone Boundary Review

MOTION 97-005

MOVED by Councillor E. Derksen that Reeve Derksen, Councillor Neufeld, and Councillor Sarapuk be appointed to meet with members of the Alberta Environmental Protection Forest Services and Public Lands to review the Green Zone/White Zone issues.

CARRIED

MOTION 97-006

Deputy Reeve Bateman moved to go in camera at 3:09 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION 97-007

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk to come out of camera at 3:35 p.m.

CARRIED

8 f) **Industrial/Commercial Tipping Fees - High Level Landfill**

MOTION 97-008

MOVED by Councillor Scarfe that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 Council revisit the issue of tipping fees after Manager Litke and the Town of High Level Manager, Clark McAskile, have resolved the conflict at the Regional Landfill Site.

DEFEATED

MOTION 97-009

Councillor Fedeyko moved that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 pay tipping fees to the Town of High Level for all domestic and light industrial waste generated within the M.D. boundaries effective January 14, 1997.

MOTION 97-010

MOVED by Councillor Scarfe that the issue of tipping fees be tabled until Council receives further information.

DEFEATED

Deputy Reeve Bateman brought Motion 97-009 forward for consideration.

MOTION 97-009

Councillor Fedeyko moved that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 pay tipping fees to the Town of High Level for all domestic and light industrial waste generated within the M.D. Boundaries effective January 14, 1997.

CARRIED

MOTION 97-011

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 redraft the entire waste hauling contract for the transfer stations before the new contract is tendered.

CARRIED

BYLAWS:

4 a) **By-Law No. 069/96 - To Approve an Agreement Between the M.D. of Mackenzie and the Town of High Level Respecting the High Level Airport Property**

MOTION 97-012

MOVED by Councillor Rosenberger that Bylaw 069/96 be tabled to the next Council meeting.

CARRIED

4 b) **By-Law No. 075/97 - To Amend By-Law No. 039/96 to Provide the Organizational and Procedural Matters of Council, Council Committees and Councillors**

MOTION 97-013
Bylaw 075/97
First Reading

MOVED by Councillor Dyck that first reading be given to Bylaw 075/97, to amend Bylaw 039/96 to provide the organizational procedural matters of Council, Council Committees and Councillors.

CARRIED

The following was a change made to Bylaw 075/97: "may be rotated" shall be replaced with "shall alternate".

MOTION 97-014
Bylaw 075/97
Second Reading

MOVED by Councillor Peters that second reading be given to Bylaw 075/97, to amend Bylaw 039/96 to provide the organizational procedural matters of Council, Council Committees and Councillors.

CARRIED

MOTION 97-015

MOVED by Councillor Scarfe to go to third reading of Bylaw 075/97, to amend Bylaw 039/96 to provide the organizational procedural matters of Council, Council Committees and Councillors, at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 97-016
Bylaw 075/97
Third Reading

MOVED by Councillor Peters that third and final reading be given to Bylaw 075/97, to amend Bylaw 039/96 to provide the organizational procedural matters of Council, Council Committees and Councillors, at this time.

CARRIED

FINANCIAL

5 a) **Cheque Listing for December, 1996**

Council asked Manager Litke to check with the Zama Fire Department to determine if an honorarium is payable for 1996.

MOTION 97-017

Councillor Peters moved that the December, 1996 cheque listing be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5 b) **Monthly Statement for the
Month Ending November 30, 1996**

Council asked for clarification of the cheque for \$299.04 paid to the La Crete Motor Inn and the cheque for \$829 for the La Crete Motel.

MOTION 97-018

Councillor Neufeld moved that the Monthly Statement for the month ending November 30, 1996 be adopted.

CARRIED

Katrina Wilson left the meeting at 4 p.m.

5 c) **Present Budget Document and
Set Date for Budget Meeting**

Manager Litke presented each of the Councillors with a copy of the 1997 Budget document.

The Budget meeting date was set for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 29, 1997 to be held in the meeting room of the Fort Vermilion Library in Fort Vermilion.

- 6 b) **Gerry Hosey, President**
High Level & District Chamber of Commerce
Re: Grant Request for \$10,000

MOTION 97-019

MOVED by Councillor Fedeyko that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 Council review the \$10,000 grant request made by the High Level and District Chamber of Commerce at the Budget meeting.

CARRIED

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

- 7 a) **Request Time Extension on Subdivision 95MK073**

MOTION 97-020

Councillor Neufeld moved that a time extension be granted on Subdivision Application 95MK073 to August 31, 1997.

CARRIED

- 7 b) **Request Time Extension on Subdivision 95MK072**

MOTION 97-021

Councillor Rosenberger moved that a time extension be granted on Subdivision Application 95MK072 to August 31, 1997.

CARRIED

Councillor Fedeyko requested that Development Officer, Kevin Smith, present a report at the next Council meeting on the status of the stockpile located on Paul Steffanson's property just north of High Level.

- 7 c) **Hillcrest School Access Road Maintenance Request**

This item was received for information and was referred to be included in the road maintenance budget.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- 8 a) **Council Road Requests**
This item was received for information.

- 8 b) **Set Date for Road Tour**

The annual Road Tour date was set for Thursday, February 6, 1997 (weather permitting) to start at 9:00 a.m. at the Fort Vermilion Office and will continue on Friday, February 7, 1997 if needed.

- 8 c) **Summary of La Crete Ferry Traffic Movement**
This item was received for information.

- 8 d) **Card Lock System - La Crete Truck Fills**

MOTION 97-022

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 proceed with the purchase and installation of the Card Lock system for the La Crete Truck Fill and the La Crete Water Treatment Plant and that application for funding thereof be made to Alberta Transportation and Utilities, and that this item be referred to the budget meeting.

CARRIED

8 e) **High Level South Flood Control**

Councillor Fedeyko asked Administration to clarify the following issues on the High Level South Flood Control at the next Council meeting: where is the funding coming from for the second low level crossing, who is the budget controller on this feasibility study and cost sharing, and if the contract goes out what assurance does the M.D. have that the project will not go over budget.

8 g) **Zama Access Road - Project II**

MOTION 97-023

Councillor Peters moved that the Engineering for the Zama Access Road Project II be awarded to Torchynsky Engineering to an upset amount of \$245,747.50.

CARRIED

8 h) **Regional Waste Management Workshops**

Councillor Rosenberger, Councillor Fedeyko, Councillor Bateman, and Councillor E. Derksen plan to attend the Regional Waste Management Workshop in Berwyn, Alberta on February 4, 1997.

OLD BUSINESS:

9 a) **Northwest Emergency 911 Committee**
This item was received for information.

NEW BUSINESS:

10 a) **Alberta Tourism Partnership**

MOTION 97-024

Councillor Fedeyko moved that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 buy a membership with Alberta Tourism Partnership at a cost of \$50.

CARRIED

10 b) **Local Authorities Pension Plan**

MOTION 97-025

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 write a letter to the Local Authorities Pension plan supporting the privatization of the Plan.

CARRIED

10 c) **Code of Ethics and Conduct**
This item was presented for information.

10 d) **Land Use Policies**
This item was presented for information.

10 e) **Municipal Viability Handbooks**

This item was presented for information at this time and will be reviewed at a future Council meeting.

- 10 f) Northern Alberta Development Council
Re: Rail Transportation Potential in the Northwest Corridor

MOTION 97-026

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 write a letter to the Northern Alberta Development Council supporting their recommendations and submission to the federal Task Force on the Northwest Transportation Corridor.

CARRIED

- 10 g) Northern Alberta Development Council
Accepting Applications for Membership for 1997-98
This item was presented for information.

- 10 h) Northern Coordinated Action for Recycling Enterprises Services to Municipalities
This item was presented for information.

- 10 i) Northern Coordinated Action for Recycling Enterprises
Re: Household Toxic Roundups

MOTION 97-027

Councillor Fedeyko moved that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 write a letter to the Minister of Environment requesting that funding for the disposal and treatment of wastes collected at household toxic roundups be reinstated.

CARRIED

- 10 j) Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Re: PFRA Rural Water Development Program (RWDP)
This item was presented for information.

- 10 k) County of Athabasca No. 12
Re: Natural Gas Transmission in Alberta

MOTION 97-028

Councillor Fedeyko moved that Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 write a letter to the Minister of Energy and M.L.A. Gary Friedel, encouraging the Province of Alberta to maintain the existing policy relating to tolls for the transmission of gas in Alberta.

CARRIED

- 10 l) Children's Services

Council asked Administration to write a letter to Children's Services encouraging them to hold public meetings whereby the entire community would benefit and Councillors could also attend.

- 10 m) Integration Team
This item was presented for information.

- 10 n) Ratepayer's Meetings

Manager Litke suggested to Council that the M.D. hold Open House meetings throughout the Municipal District instead of formal Ratepayer's meetings.

This would give ratepayers a better chance to speak to Councillors and staff on a one to one basis.

A discussion followed the suggestion by the Manager. Council decided to hold regular Ratepayer's meetings in 1997 but to ask the public if they would prefer the Open House approach in the future.

Tentative meeting dates for the 1997 Ratepayer's Meetings were set for the week of April 14-18, 1997.

This item to be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

MOTION 97-029

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk to go in camera at 5:19 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION 97-030

MOVED by Councillor Scarfe to come out of camera at 6:21 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION 97-031

MOVED by Councillor Scarfe to adjourn at 6:21 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this 30 day of January, 1997.


Reuben Derksen, Reeve


Dennis Litke, C.A.O.