

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO. 23

MINUTES OF THE

ANNUAL RATEPAYERS MEETINGS

**Held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 22, 2000 at
Ridgeview Central School, La Crete, Alberta**

PRESENT:

Bill Neufeld	Reeve
Walter Sarapuk	Deputy Reeve
Betty Bateman	Councillor
John Driedger	Councillor
Pat Kulscar	Councillor
Greg Newman	Councillor
Joe Peters	Councillor
Frank Rosenberger	Councillor
Wayne Thiessen	Councillor
Willie Wieler	Councillor

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Harvey Prockiw	Chief Administrative Officer
Eva Schmidt	Executive Assistant
Marco Braat	Superintendent of Utilities/Parks and Playgrounds
Rita Bueckert	Acting Manager of Road Operations - Administration
Paul Driedger	Director of Planning, Development, Community and Emergency Services
Chris Kelland	Agricultural Fieldman
Floyd Lafferty	Acting Manager of Road Operations – Field
Sheldon Robb	Director of Enforcement Services

Approximately 120 ratepayers

CALL TO ORDER

1. a) Call to Order

Councillor Wieler called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

1. b) Introductions

Council and staff introductions were made.

ELECT CHAIR

2. Chairperson Nominations

Councillor Wieler asked for Chairperson nominations.

1st call for nominations: Jake Froese nominated Jake Fehr

Jake Fehr accepted.

2nd call for nominations: No nominations were made

3rd call for nominations: Jake Fehr nominated Bill Wiebe.
Bill Wiebe declined.

Abe Harder moved that nominations ceased

MOTION

MOVED by Abe Harder

That nominations cease.

CARRIED

Jake Fehr took the Chair.

AGENDA:

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOTION RP00-

MOVED by Corny Teichroeb
Second Jake Driedger

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

4. Adoption of the Minutes from the 1999 Ratepayers Meeting

MOTION RP00-

MOVED by Jake K. Wiebe
Second Jake Neudorf

That the Minutes of the 1999 La Crete Ratepayers meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION
ITEMS:**

5. Information Items:

Chief Administrative Officer, Harvey Prockiw, presented the equalized assessment, mill rates, long term debt and where the debt is, expenses per capita, salaries per capita, reserves as compared with other rural municipalities in Alberta. The CAO also presented average mill rates compared with other villages and towns in Alberta with similar

population than the hamlets within the M.D. of Mackenzie No. 23. The capital projects approved for 2000 were presented.

Q Why are we paying \$100,000 for a fire truck for HL

A because of the OSB mill

Q are we paying 8,000 per year on the Zama road

A explained the three year phase and the reconstruction

Q the vehiclee replacemement reserve, is that only vehicles

A it should be vehicles and equipment

Will there be revenue sharing

A Council went with this model so there would not be revenue sharing, no

Q Would this affect the education system

A the answer is no, they are there a separate entity

Q what are we trying to gain

A to put this issue to rest

Q member of the northern municipality, part of the problem that Council vote by block

A this new council is block voting by 10, they are representing MD 23 not their own wards

A second part of the plebiscite is option 2 is on change of governance

Q is there any information on pros and cons

A no pros and cons drafted up, provide as much clear data leave the rest to the public

Q what will this do to affect efficiency

A at this time it is difficult to determine, administration would probably have to be two

Q what do you think

A my position is purely administratively, this is political, Council works together and am being allowed to do my job

Q why does AMA still has an OA in place

A ask the department, OA role confusion, still have an OA in Edmonton,

A Order in Council is why, she has withdrawn

Q has the Council got a preferred option

A it has not been displayed, Council is working well now, would like the ratepayers to decide

Q if it stays the same way will the Minister come in again

A answer the Minister

Q what is the Council doing about stoppin the plebiscit

A there is no direction to from last nights

Q if this MD Council works well together why the plebescitre

A because the ratepayers

Q how about the next election

A that is democracy, there are no certainties in life

Q plebiscite will be based on this boundary

A yes it is

Q in past two days contacted oil very few people realize what is going around here,

A MGA does not allow to the oil companies to vote, they receive very little services, so it does not matter where their tax dollars are going

Q we could be caught in infrastructure on 88 has that been considered

A no projected growth has been taken into consideration.

COUNCIL REPORTS: 6. Council Reports

Betty Bateman Zama Rec Board, Hutch Lake Committee, Hutch Lake Task Force, Special Places 2000, Regional Landfill, Restructuring Task Force,

Frank Rosenberger, Committees, plebiscite, want to get information out to the people, the people asked for the plebiscite, the Minister will have the final say

Willie Wieler, Rec Society, Highway 88 , lobby the government to pave, look for support from the public and the business community, it is our plan to have the road upgraded and paved. HL ratepayers have the perception that they are not getting their fair share

Walter Sarapuk, Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Committee have amended the land use bylaw for a 10 acre parcel and a second parcel out for poor ag land

Pat Kulscar Hutch Lake Committee, and Task Force, ARB, Alt Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, Restructuring Task force, Committee of the Whole, two regular Council meeting a month, hope to work on together to develop a resolution of lodge requisition.

Joe Peters, work together very nicely, is working smoothly, VAC 3rd vet but can't find one yet,

Greg Newman Mustus Lake Road Society, ASB, tri Council HL fire truck MD residents use town services we pay the towns for that and some revenue sharing.

John Driedger Mackenzie Housing and Highway 88

Wayne Thiessen ASB Chair, Revenue and Cost sharing with the Towns.

Bill Neufeld this council has been an excellent working , AI has taken over 697, Plebiscite the MD initiated so the AMA does not have to honour it,

Thanked the new Councillors for letting their name stand in the election.

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

Chairperson reconvened the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

QUESTIONS

7. Question Period

Q Why are the water rates up

A Bylaw put in place stating that to get to cost recovery, we have reviewed the water rates, we have allowed the cost to get out of control, are working on the new rates. Everyone pays the same price in all hamlets, costs are higher in different areas, the rates are equalized.

Q At Monday's meeting the water rates were on the agenda, has the rates been discussed and will they be changed rural rates

A Next Council meeting

Q Why are rural paying more

A Fixed cost, fixed per gallon of water, off site levies in town not in the rural

Q Should we not have to pay the same

A When we choose to live where we do that comes into play, have to pay for the expansion of the plant

Q Adjust the rate for lawn water so we don't pay for sewer on that vote

A We want input from you, could have sewer

Q Rocky Lane water is cheaper

A That is the Band

Q Blue Hills road is shuffled to lower on the list, road ban

A Consultant was hired and did a study, Council did not agree with this so did a road tour and came up with different list, doing a road count, Council has not yet had a chance to review this properly

Q Who maintains 88, and can the MD put pressure

A It is a primary highway, will be putting on pressure

Q Road ban should be enforced

A We have budgeted for scale with the intention of using them

Q Wood bin in town instead of going to FV

A Can look into that

Q Who is paying for the flowers

A Comes out of the MD budget, comes out of Parks and Playgrounds, will be looked at

Q Wadlin Lake MD bucks spent, no fishing

A Yes, will be revisiting

Q Recommend change the assessors, no rhyme or reason

A rules are set by the province, we have a contract when it expires Council will decide on it

Q about a year ago sharing of services with other Municipalities how is it going

A three with the Town, Council is allowing me to do my job, been assessing and reviewing each contract, Planning has been cancelled, terminated the employment of the Treasurer, third Bylaw enforcement, which is being assessed now want to be sure that the contract is equitable, in future I think it best to look at all options

Q was inequity a factor

A yes

Q when would we be if plebiscit goes ahead if HL comes into the MD do we have a say

A a town and village can disincorporate but the rural has no say

A chances if incorporating is very slim because our assessment is lower.

A if they disincorporate they would lose atonomy

Q graders, what do you base contracting or your own graders

A we present Council with options, consider costing,

Q will we get dust control on 99th Street, the industrial road

A no provisions this year, will bring forth the options, have a contractor on board who is a road engineer

Q can we oil with used oil

A in the newsletter on the issues of used oil

Q commercial properties and discretionary uses, has Council expanded anymore on that

A our LUB is very restrictive, it tends to turn away development, will revisit the LUB in the near future

Q why did the MD quit giving out permits from the gravel pit

A we have a very limited supply of gravel, if we issue permits we should monitor it

Q development permits would it not be possible to get 80 acres of land

A no problem if ratepayers are willing to pay, cost of roads

Q is the MD still locked in with Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency

A shared planning service with HL has ended which gave us some expertise, last meeting we with Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency

Q we do not have to take their advice

A there is always the appeal process

Q when property is built that devalues the property what is the MD stand on that

A Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, ultimately a legal process

Q is the MD now sending letters

A legally we have to advertise but they are being maile out now.

Frank Rosenberger how many people want to leave the MD as is? No hands went up

ADJOURNMENT

8. Adjournment

MOTION 00-

MOVED by David Froese

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this _____ day of _____, 2000.

Chairperson

Executive Assistant