

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO. 23**

**Seminar Room in the Fort Vermilion School Division Central Office Building  
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

**Wednesday, March 22, 2000**

**Meeting Notes**

**PRESENT:**

Bill Neufeld	Reeve
John Driedger	Councillor
Pat Kulscar	Councillor
Greg Newman	Councillor
Joe Peters	Councillor
Frank Rosenberger	Councillor
Wayne Thiessen	Councillor
Willie Wieler	Councillor

**ABSENT:**

Betty Bateman	Councillor
Walter Sarapuk	Deputy Reeve

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Doug Plamping	Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Darlene Hardy	Treasurer/Assistant CAO
Dianne Pawlik	Recording Secretary
Paul Driedger	Manager of Emergency Services
Marco Braat	Superintendent of Utilities, Parks & Playgrounds
Dean Krause	Manager of Planning & Development
Floyd Lafferty	Acting Manager of Public Works, Outside
Rita Bueckert	Acting Manager of Public Works, Administration (arrived at 5:21 pm)
Sheldon Robb	Manager of Mackenzie Regional Patrol (arrived at 5:21 pm)

**CALL TO  
ORDER:**

**1. a) Call to Order**

Reeve Neufeld called the budget meeting to order at 10:10 am.

**2. a) Budget 2000**

Doug Plamping provided Council with an overview of the Budget and advised that approval was not being asked for at this time as the Linear Assessment has not been received.

Doug Plamping advised Council that Administration will be actively pursuing grants.

Councillor Wieler suggested that the M.D. of Mackenzie No. 23 work toward establishing reserves so that large ticket items do not have to be purchased over time.

Doug Plamping suggested that Administration look at a bylaw for Fire Protection Revenues.

Reeve Neufeld commented that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 should resolve the issue of tires. He further advised that the Tire Board should be accountable for the tires and pay the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 \$4 for each tire.

Doug Plamping advised that Administration bring a report back to Council regarding the costs for usage of the Waste Transfer Stations.

Doug Plamping suggested that a newsletter be sent out with the tax assessment notices.

Councillor Kulscar suggested that the Administration put together an information package advising special interests groups where to apply for funding.

Darlene Hardy suggested that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 establish some form of criteria for groups applying for funding.

Councillor Kulscar suggested that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 invest \$350 in the Canadian Book of Grants.

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 11:41 am.

Reeve Neufeld reconvened the meeting at 11:53 am.

Councillor Wieler suggested that a lump sum be made available to Recreation Boards for operating funds and that matching grants be provided for specific projects.

Doug Plamping suggested that recreation funds be placed into a recreation project reserve commencing this year.

Councillor Wieler advised that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 should leave this year as is but initiate the change for next years budget.

Darlene Hardy advised that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 can still apply for grants this year and reduce the amount in the operating budget and place the difference in reserve in case of need.

Doug Plamping suggested that the Recreation Boards be asked to seek grants for specific projects.

Paul Driedger was asked to provide copies of the study of Emergency Services for Council.

Doug Plamping suggested that a specific time be set aside for emergency services training twice a year to be more cost effective.

Councillor Kulscar suggested that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 revisit the policy for vehicle usage. Doug Plamping asked Council if they wanted the fleet size reduced to which Councillor Wieler responded yes, if it is more cost effective. Doug Plamping advised that Administration would provide a comparison report on private versus public use of transportation.

Reeve Neufeld recess the meeting at 1:12 pm.

Reeve Neufeld reconvened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

Rita Bueckert suggested that Torchinsky do a study regarding road deterioration. Rita Bueckert further advised that there is a need to look for new gravel pits and that current gravel pits need to be reclaimed.

There is a Muni 2000 grant approval of \$40,000 to do a local road study. This grant will classify roads and detail major connectors and minor connectors. The study is to give the government an idea what our roads are like. Doug Plamping advised that this study will probably be the foundation for the Alberta Government's future spending and may be used to hand out dollars for new programs.

There is an overlay of the runway required at the Fort Vermilion airport and a letter should be sent suggesting that Alberta Infrastructure pay for it.

Reeve Neufeld suggested that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 set standards for road construction with one standard for farm roads and another standard for high traffic roads.

Councillor Rosenberger advised that Fort Vermilion needs more street lights. Paul Driedger advised that Atco Electric has asked for staff to go around the Hamlets with them to assess the need for lighting.

Councillor Kulscar advised that there is a program for funding under crime prevention and will look for information to be forwarded to Darlene Hardy.

Doug Plamping suggested that the community should raise money for the rescue unit snowmobile and quad not the M.D.

Council suggested that Administration make a policy that all Rescue Units be cost shared.

Doug Plamping suggested that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 seek an independent consultant, other than Glentel, to do an assessment on the requirements for Regional Dispatching Equipment.

Dean Krause requested approval for an Engineering Copier with cost sharing with the Town of High Level. Councillor Kulscar said that the North Peace Tribal Council (Photo Gift Company) already has a colour Engineering Copier. Dean Krause advised that he would check out the cost per copy as opposed to purchasing one.

**NEW ROAD  
CONSTRUCTION:**

Councillor Wieler suggested that Administration have a Committee look at the road applications and see if they are still valid applications. Councillor Newman suggested that Administration have a committee formed to review policies and bring back to the board. Councillor Kulscar requested that Administration provide more explanation to Council regarding the cost and effects of road construction.

Councillor Kulscar suggested that two (2) hours be set aside at the second Council meeting each month for policy review.

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 4:00 pm.

Reeve Neufeld reconvened the meeting at 4:15 pm.

**GRAVEL  
EXPLORATION:**

Rita Bueckert further advised that there is a need to look for new gravel pits and that current gravel pits need to be reclaimed.

Doug Plamping suggested that the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 locate the gravel. It will not affect the current budget as gravel is an inventory cost.

**ROAD  
RECONSTRUCTION:**

Rita Bueckert suggested that the road construction projects be tendered and if the prices come in lower than budgeted for then they will proceed but if the tender comes in higher then the project will be put on hold until next year.

Floyd Lafferty advised that a drainage study needs to be completed to ensure that streets and sidewalks are above water drainage. The study would also include erosion on River Road.

Doug Plamping advised that Administration would redefine the request for curb and gutter for the next presentation.

Doug Plamping advised that the Runway Overlay in Fort Vermilion will only go ahead if it is 100% funded by government grants.

**DRAINAGE:**

Marco Braat advised that a study for Upgrades of Water Plants and Sewage

Systems needs to be pursued. Zama is experiencing problems now and repairs are costly in all the Hamlets. A study must be completed before we can apply for grant funding.

Roadside Spray Truck and Sprayer was referred to allow Chris Kelland to supply more information. Dextrase & Pietsch was tabled until Chris Kelland returns.

Doug Plamping suggested that the picnic tables be changed to steel frame with wood seats. Marco Braat is to check the price for concrete picnic tables and bring to the next meeting.

Councillor Newman suggested that administration address the Town of High Level on establishing a committee to deal with issues at Hutch Lake and bring a report back to Council.

Councillor Kulscar left the meeting at 6:19 p.m. so that Council could discuss monetary issues regarding the Northern Alberta Resource Society.

Councillor Kulscar returned to the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Councillor Newman suggested that a letter be written to the La Crete Seed Cleaning Coop advising that they approach the bank for funding. If they still require assistance after that then they could approach the MD again and provide more detailed information. Councillor Newman asked Administration to advise how much money the M.D. has put in to the Seed Cleaning Coop already.

A letter is to be sent to all Recreation Boards suggesting they apply for grant funding.

Reeve Neufeld stated that he would like to have a policy committee established.

**ADJOURN:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.