



**TOWN OF HINTON**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**September 3, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ian Duncan, Councillors Bill Bulger, Jane Macridis, Dale Currie, Lorraine Johnston-MacKay, Ryan Maguhn

**ABSENT:**

**SECRETARY:** Lil Wallace - Executive Assistant

**ALSO PRESENT:** Bernie Kreiner - Town Manager

Rhonda West - Legislative & Administrative Services Coordinator

Denise Parent - Director of Corporate Services

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**ORDER**

Mayor Ian Duncan called the Regular Council meeting to order. The time was 6:31 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**J. MACRIDIS - That the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting held August 20, 2013 be adopted as presented.**

**Carried**

**CITIZENS "MINUTE WITH COUNCIL"**

No one came forward wishing to speak to Council.

**DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Wild Animal Management in Urban Settings - Presented by Chris Watson, Fish & Wildlife Officer**

Todd Ponich was unavailable to speak to council so local Fish & Wildlife Officer Chris Watson spoke to council respecting cougar management in Alberta. He advised there have been 20 reported occurrences since April of this year. The cougar population has increased substantially since 1992, northward and eastward in the province. He suggested council could discuss the possibility of passing a bylaw to not feed deer near homes as this results in more conflicts with wildlife.

Mr. Watson also advised council of the following:

- In response to public calls, when it is a sighting they try to respond immediately and put up signs warning the public. He stated it is harder to catch a cougar than a bear as traps are not effective and it is difficult in timing to get a contracted houndsman with trained dogs to come out to the area since they are located in Drayton Valley and Mayerthorpe.

- How to identify a non-problematic cougar? Any cougar is a concern, especially where the deer are hanging around.

- What does the public do when there is a sighting? Call 1-800-642-3800 which is the Report-A-Poacher number as at least one officer is always on standby. The problem of response time arises when the officer could be in Drayton Valley and the call comes from Hinton. He needs time to travel here and needs to have a houndsman with dogs available also. There are limited officers and the area they cover is large.

- Private landowners must report cougar killings on their land

  
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Mr. Watson advised the “best practices” when encountering wildlife are:

- bears and cougars – judge our actions by their actions, if they approach, they are predatory so you want to fight back, stand tall, make yourself large, carry some means of defense such as a walking stick, whistle, bear spray; be aware of your surroundings, travel in groups, especially at dawn and dusk when animals are more active
- when bear charges, play dead
- There are signs located at Maxwell Lake and the bike park – read them for more information
- Google “cougars in Alberta” or “cougars management in Alberta” or “Bear Smart in Alberta” for more information
- pamphlets are available at the Fish & Wildlife Office
- use motion sensor lights on your property
- keep your dogs close by when walking the trails
- do not leave dog or cat food outside
- do not leave other foods (lettuce for bunnies, etc) outside to prevent attracting unwanted wildlife.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Watson for his presentation.

## **2. The Climate Reality Project - Presented by Ryan Maguhn**

Councillor Maguhn advised he was presenting this information to council as a private citizen, not as a councillor. Mr. Maguhn attended a training session during the summer in Chicago called the Climate Leadership Corps, presented by the Climate Reality Project. The project aims to develop action on climate change by encouraging education and support at the grassroots level by “everyday people”.

Mr. Maguhn asked Council to make a motion to enable administration to lend logistical guidance and support (where necessary) to see the implementation of a public presentation of his climate change presentation. Because Mr. Maguhn is a councillor, he wanted this dealt with in an open and transparent way and reiterated he is asking for this as a private citizen.

Mr. Maguhn advised tonight’s presentation was an overview only and his presentation to the public would be an up-to-date presentation of the work done, including slides that are licensed in their use.

Council felt that administration already provides this type of service for other non-profit groups and there is no need for a motion so no motion was made. The Mayor then thanked Mr. Maguhn for his presentation.

## **COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION**

1. Regular Meeting of Council Minutes - August 20, 2013

**J. MACRIDIS - That the Minutes listed above be approved as presented.**

Carried

## **ACTION ITEMS**

***Refer to the Regular Council Meeting Agenda package for 03 Sep 2013 for detailed background information on these decisions.***

1. **Memorandum of Agreement – West Yellowhead Regional Waste Management Authority, January 1, 2014**

**J. MACRIDIS - That Council approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement for the West Yellowhead Regional Waste Management Authority to become effective January 1, 2014.**

Carried

  
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## **2. Emergency Services Agreement with Yellowhead County**

Council was provided with a new Schedule "C" (replaces Page 78 in the agenda package) and Mr. Kreiner-apologized that the most current one was not attached to his report. See Attachment #1 to these minutes.

**R. MAGUHN - That Council approve entering into the attached Emergency Services Agreement with Yellowhead County.**

**Carried**

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Council Information Package #1 - previously circulated August 21, 2013
2. Council Information Package #2 - previously circulated August 28, 2013

Councillor Johnston-MacKay mentioned in package 2 there is an online survey on priorities for amateur sports. This is an opportunity for the public to have their say as to the future of amateur sports in Alberta.

Councillor Maguhn mentioned in package 2 there is a news bulletin from FCM re partnerships and housing; speaks well to our community that we are already creating these partnership opportunities.

**R. MAGUHN - That Council Information Packages #1 and # 2 be accepted for information.**

**Carried**

## **REPORTS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL, TOWN MANAGER**

### **1. Council Reporting (Training/Conferences/CEAC, Listening Teams, All Other Committees)**

**Councillor Lorraine Johnston-MacKay reported:**

- as the listener for culture she wanted to mention there is a great lineup of activities this winter: first date is Sept. 21 for 3 drama classes by Deb Bird;
- theatre group will be hosting 3 or 4 programs this winter
- attending the STARS Ambulance presentation tomorrow where they will showcase their newest helicopter.

**Councillor Ryan Maguhn reported:**

- Hinton Policing Committee very active next little while; will have booth at tomorrow night's registration fair; come and find out more about the Hinton Policing Committee;
- Hinton Policing Committee is starting their regular meetings again on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>
- Anyone interested in throwing their names in the ring for municipal elections, see Rhonda West for more information and good luck to all that are interested in running.

**Mayor Ian Duncan reported:**

- watched Hinton firefighters at the recent Edson firefighting combat event; had to agree it is the toughest 2-minutes in sports; very impressive and emotional, truly inspirational day to watch the firefighters do what they do every day;
- Hinton's new firefighting rehabilitation tent was on display and got lots of accolades from citizens and other firefighters;
- Sends a big congratulations to Deputy Fire Chief Mark Wyatt for taking home the gold for his age category and hats off to all our firefighters.

### **2. Town Manager Report**

**Town Manager Bernie Kreiner reported:**

- reminder about the information for potential candidates video conference scheduled for Sept. 16 from 6 to 9 pm for anyone interested; contact Rhonda West (780-865-6002) for more information;

- Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> after election nomination period closes citizens are invited to a BBQ at the Government Centre to celebrate Canadian's democracy rights;
- Highway 40 north the bridge contractor will have longer bridge closure times at night for the next month from midnight to 5 pm;
- Collinge Road repairs due to the recent rains, a water break discovered and water springs, begins this week (Thursday) and re-pavement will be done before freeze-up;
- Robb Road walkway damage due to rain has been repaired and re-pavement will also be done at the same time;
- Culture is being celebrated Oct. 7 and theme is "Hinton Loves Culture".

**MOVE IN CAMERA**

**J. MACRIDIS- That the Regular Council meeting move in camera.**

**Carried**

The time was 8:37 p.m. The Mayor called a short recess and the meeting reconvened at 8:50 pm.

**J. MACRIDIS - That Regular Council meeting revert to regular session.**

**Carried**

The time was 9:20 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**L. JOHNSTON-MACKAY- That the Regular Meeting of Council adjourn.**

**Carried**

The time was 9:21 p.m.

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Mayor

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Director of Corporate Services

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