# SUMMER VILLAGE OF WEST COVE

#### **MINUTES**

For a special meeting of the Council of the Summer Village of West Cove, scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 11, 2014, at 212 – 2 Street in West Cove, Alberta.

Present:

Mayor Don Henderson Councillor Lynne Worden Administrator Anita Blais

Call to Order

The mayor called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

1. Meet with RCMP: Sergeant MacKay and Graham reviewed their finding with council.

MacKay stated: There is no fraud because Council at the time approved the expenses and the expenses were there in black and white. That there was no formal approval process at the time for approval of expenses is an administrative issue and not a criminal issue. Ethics and morals have nothing to do with it. Councils only option to recover the money that was overpaid is to commence a civil action. Sergeant Guinchard from Stony Plain RCMP is the commanding officer.

Sergeant MacKay and Graham left the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

2. Civil litigation:

RESOL. 14-097

MOVED by mayor Henderson to go in camera at 10:41 a.m.

CARRIED

RESOL. 14-098

MOVED by councillor Worden to go out of camera at 11:30 a.m.

CARRIED

Council had sent a letter to the councillor(s) whose expense accounts were questionable, requesting an explanation of the expenses or to refund the money by September 30, 2014. Council did not receive any explanations or refund of the money, which leaves the current council no option except to commence legal action to recover the money.

## RESOL. 14-099

MOVED by councillor Worden to to forward the expense accounts of all councillors over the past 5 years to the auditors for review of expenses compared to the policy for expenses and upon receipt of the report from the auditor, pursue recovery of the money through the civil courts.

CARRIED

#### RESOL. 14-100

MOVED by mayor Henderson that since Ms. Muir has taken a determined campaign against the summer village, the councillors individually and the CAO, through various correspondence to various agencies and one individual, copying other agencies and individuals on her correspondence, containing false and defamatory allegations, and because she has failed to comply with the cease and desist order that was sent to her on August 26, 2014, Council moves to send Ms. Muir a letter from legal counsel demanding she retract her statements, cease and desist, and publicly apologize to Council and to each Council Member and the

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CAO, and further should Ms. Muir fail to respond the Summer Village will commence litigation for slander and defamation of character.

CARRIED

#### RESOL. 14-101

MOVED by councillor Worden to contact the witness to obtain a statement that he/she witnessed a ratepayer posting councils personal information. If the statement is obtained, council will file a complaint with the privacy commission.

CARRIED

# 3. By-Election

Due to correspondence from four ratepayers, implying litigation over the by-election, in order to protect the summer village from litigation council considered the following:

# Options:

- 1. Hire legal counsel to run the election, at an estimated cost from \$4,500 to \$6,000.
- 2. Hire an impartial person to observe and record the election proceedings at an estimated cost \$1,000 to \$2,000
- 3. Administration run the election and take the risk of litigation.

There was also a concern about storage of the ballot box from the advance poll.

## RESOL. 14-102

**MOVED** by mayor Henderson that while council has no concern about election tampering or improper handling of the ballot box from the advance poll, in order to protect the summer village from potential litigation, the summer village will hire a lawyer to work the advance poll and take personal control of the advance poll ballot box and deliver it to the polling station on election day.

Quotes for building maintenance shop

RESOL. 14-102

MOVED by councillor Worden to accept the quote from Jay-Kur Contracting.

CARRIED

**RESOL**. 14-096

MOVED by mayor Henderson to adjourn the meeting at 12:43 p.m.

Don Gen dessor

Administrator