



**TOWN OF ALTONA  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE ALTONA CIVIC CENTRE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town of Altona Council held on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Al Friesen, Deputy Mayor Glen Robinson, Councillors: Curt Letkeman, Joel Pankewich, Donna Rosling-Wolters, Harv Schroeder and Jordan Siemens.

Administration: CAO Dan Gagné

Gallery: Fred Dueck

Delegation: Border Land School Division Chair Craig Smiley, Vice Chair Patty Wiebe, Superintendent Krista Curry and Trustee Mark Krahn.

1. Call to order  
Mayor Al Friesen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Review of agenda & previous minutes
  - 2.1 Agenda

**RESOLUTION NO: 59-2019**

**Moved by: Glen Robinson**

**Seconded by: Jordan Siemens**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED.**

## 2.2 Previous Minutes

### **RESOLUTION NO: 60-2019**

**Moved by: Donna Rosling-Wolters**

**Seconded by: Harv Schroeder**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED.**

## 2.3 Absence approval – none

### 3. Delegations

#### 3.1 Border Land School Division – 6:30 PM

See later in the minutes.

### 4. Hearings

#### 4.1 2019 Financial Plan – 6:00 PM

See later in the minutes.

## **Committee Reports**

### 5. Works & Operations

#### 5.1 Resolutions – none

#### 5.2 Shared Services – no report

#### 5.3 Red River Basin Commission – no report

#### 5.4 Pembina Valley Water Coop – no report

#### 5.5 Altona Police Board

Councillor Schroeder reported that the start time for the next meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 will be moved to noon instead of 5 pm due to the Altona & District Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Gala.

#### 5.6 Compost Service Task Force

Councillor Siemens reported that the next meeting is on April 3, 2019.

6. Community & Social Development
  - 6.1 Resolutions
    - 6.1.1 Katie Cares grant

**RESOLUTION NO: 61-2019**

**Moved by: Joel Pankewich**

**Seconded by: Glen Robinson**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Katie Cares be granted \$750 in support of Katie's Cottage as reviewed and recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

**CARRIED.**

6.2 Manitoba Sunflower Festival

Councillor Pankewich reported that Theresa Figurski assumed the Chair's position at the most recent meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> and will be a very good addition to the Committee. Sponsorship request letters will be issued very soon.

6.3 South Central Regional Library

Councillor Siemens reported that the next meeting will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

6.4 Altona & District Health Care Centre Inc. – no report

6.5 Southern Health Altona & Area Stakeholders Group – no report

Mayor Friesen reported that the meeting of March 14<sup>th</sup> was postponed due to weather conditions and re-scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup>.

6.6 Immigration Coordinating Committee

Councillor Siemens reported that a decision on the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot application is not expected until April or May.

6.7 Accessibility Committee

Councillor Pankewich reported that the first meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> was a good start and the group is planning a downtown tour to identify accessibility issues. The group will be led by Wendy Friesen and will involve the use of different mobility devices and other devices to impair other

senses. Golden West has confirmed they will send a representative to the event. The next meeting is on March 28th.

- 7. Finance & Administration
  - 7.1 Resolutions
    - 7.1.1 Accounts Payable

**RESOLUTION NO: 62-2019**

**Moved by: Curt Letkeman**

**Seconded by: Harv Schroeder**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Altona accounts payable cheques #5780 - #5857 in the amount of \$175,750.92 be approved as reviewed and recommended by Committee of the Whole.

**CARRIED.**

7.1.2 Payroll

**RESOLUTION NO: 63-2019**

**Moved by: Curt Letkeman**

**Seconded by: Glen Robinson**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Altona approve payroll from January 27 to February 9, 2019 in the amount of \$89,471.60 as reviewed and recommended by Committee of the Whole.

**CARRIED.**

7.1.3 Summer meeting schedule

**RESOLUTION NO: 64-2019**

**Moved by: Curt Letkeman**

**Seconded by: Donna Rosling-Wolters**

WHEREAS the Council meeting schedule changes to one meeting per month for both the Committee of the Whole and Council meetings in July and August;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole and Council meetings in July and August be held on Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> as reviewed and recommended by Committee of the Whole.

**CARRIED.**

7.1.3 Tax levy By-Law no. 1772/2019 (first reading)  
See later in the minutes.

8. Planning – no report
9. Other Committee Reports
  - 9.1 Resolutions – none
    - 9.1.1 WISE Kid-Netic Energy Camp Grant

**RESOLUTION NO: 65-2019**

**Moved by: Curt Letkeman**

**Seconded by: Harv Schroeder**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Altona & District Chamber of Commerce be granted \$500 to cover the costs of rental fees associated with the WISE Kid-Netic Energy Camp as reviewed and recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

**CARRIED.**

- 9.2 Altona Community Development Corporation – no report
- 9.3 Altona & District Chamber of Commerce
  - 9.3.1 Awards Gala discussion  
Mayor Friesen discussed whether or not there was a need to purchase additional tickets. Council members discussed availability and it was determined the eight tickets purchased would be sufficient.
  - 9.3.2 March 22, 2019 media release  
For information only.
- 9.4 Central Manitoba Tourism
  - 9.4.1 Report submitted  
For information only.
- 9.5 Community Futures Triple R  
Mayor Friesen reported that Shelley Johnston was named the new manager.
- 9.6 RPGA Planning District – no report

#### 9.7 Supporting Entrepreneurs through Economic Development (SEED)

Councillor Donna Rosling-Wolters reported that at the recent meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> that the Board was encouraged with the activity of the Economic Development Officer. There was discussion about the need for the Town to develop and clarify its own incentive programs so the SEED Board understands the Town's offering.

#### 9.8 Pembina Valley Reeves And Mayors (PVRAM)

Mayor Friesen reported that an invitation was extended to James Heinrichs of the Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation to come to the next Shared Services meeting to share information about the corporation's experience with acquiring properties from Manitoba Housing.

#### 9.9 Growth Partnership Committee

Councillor Rosling-Wolters reported that the meeting was very beneficial in introducing the members to each other and getting a historical perspective of the issue. Preliminary discussions were held on the different models of tax sharing and what the group was trying to accomplish.

10. General Correspondence – none

11. New business

11.1 Attributes of a Functional Council

For information only.

12. Unfinished business

13. In-Camera – not required

4. Hearings

4.1 2019 Financial Plan – 6:00 PM

Mayor Friesen opened the public hearing at the appointed time and welcomed resident Fred Dueck to the proceedings.

Councillor Letkeman thanked Administration for its efforts in helping Council deliver a budget with the lowest municipal tax increase (1.7%) in the past five years. Council felt it was important to maximize value for citizens by extending the life of infrastructure and resources where possible. The next

few years will require limiting expenditures until certain agreements expire and debenture payments end.

Resident Fred Dueck asked if Council would consider participating in a project to improve the Trans Canada Trail section south of Altona. Council members confirmed that they have a section of the Trans Canada Trail within the Town's boundaries that it is responsible for but would not necessarily rule out discussing a partnership with the Municipality of Rhineland for the section within the municipality. Ultimately, Council recommended that a community group champion a project and discuss a proposal with Administration prior to bringing it for Council's consideration.

Mayor Friesen thanked Fred Dueck for attending and taking an interest in the Town's Financial Plan. Mayor Friesen closed the public hearing, seeing no other comments or questions from the gallery.

**RESOLUTION NO: 66-2019**

**Moved by: Curt Letkeman**

**Seconded by: Glen Robinson**

WHEREAS Subsection 162(1) of The Municipal Act provides that every Council must adopt a financial plan for each fiscal year;

AND WHEREAS the financial plan consists of an operating budget, a capital budget, an estimate of operating revenue and expenditures for the following fiscal year and a five year capital expenditure program;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Altona has prepared the 2019 Financial Plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Financial Plan for the Town of Altona for the year 2019 be hereby adopted as reviewed and recommended by Committee of the Whole.

**CARRIED.**

#### 7.1.4 Tax levy By-law no. 1772/2019 (first reading)

**RESOLUTION NO: 67-2019****Moved by: Curt Letkeman****Seconded by: Joel Pankewich**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Bylaw 1772/2019 for the 2019 Municipal Property and Education Tax Levy be given first reading.

**CARRIED.**

### 3. Delegations

#### 3.1 Border Land School Division – 6:30 PM

Mayor Friesen welcomed the delegation to the meeting at 6:20 PM. Seeing no other items on the agenda and most members of the delegation present, Mayor Friesen turned the meeting to BLSD Chair Craig Smiley.

Chair Craig Smiley indicated the Border Land School Division Board wanted to share information with Council about the education review currently taking place. Vice Chair Patty Wiebe reviewed contents of an information package provided for Council's reference. Council members were encouraged to make submissions to the commission by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Seven public consultations would be scheduled, unfortunately the closest locations to Altona would be Winnipeg or Steinbach.

The delegation that while it was not completely opposed to amalgamation, it should happen where it makes sense and the school divisions are open to it. A major concern is the loss of local taxation which has resulted in big changes in other jurisdictions. In the 1980's, the funding model saw the Province of Manitoba fund approximately 80% of education while local taxation covered the other 20%. Currently the ratio is closer to 60%/40%. In recent years, Provincial funding has dropped 1.9%. Health costs being downloaded to the education system are another area of increased expenditures. The Board was encouraged to hear that the issue of taxation is not subject of the current review and hopes that the focus will remain on education. There is concern however, with the commission's composition not representative of Manitoba's population and with the communication with the Minister's office so far. The Board will continue to meet with municipalities to create awareness and interest in participating in the education review.



14. Adjournment – 6:48 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO: 68-2019**

**Moved by: Glen Robinson**

**Seconded by: Harv Schroeder**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting is now adjourned and the next regular meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town of Altona Council Chambers.

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Mayor

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C.A.O.