

The regular meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Blucher, #343 was held in the Municipal Office, 34 Struan Street, Village of Bradwell, on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 commencing at 8:00 a.m.

Those in attendance were Reeve Cummins, Councillors Nicole DeCorby, Quintin Senger, Jim Appelt, Dale Chysyk, Robin Wilson, Francis Boehm and Chief Administrative Officer R. Doran Scott.

Minutes 293-2024 - Appelt
That the minutes of the previous regular meeting held October 9, 2024 be adopted as distributed.

Carried.

Discussion Arising out of Minutes & Emergent Requests

- ◆ Elstow Meter Reader – Janis Dale??
- ◆ Elizabeth Doerksen Fence Letter

Monthly Financial Statements 294-2024 - Boehm
That the statement of Assets, Liabilities, Revenues and Expenditures for the month of October, 2024 be approved as distributed and that we also acknowledge the submission of the October, 2024 bank reconciliations.

Carried.

Bills and Accounts for Payments 295-2024 - Chysyk
That we approve for payment, the bills and accounts as attached to these minutes.

Carried.

Interviews

- ◆ Don Pogoda – Subdivision Access

Chief Administrative Officer's Report

- ◆ Elstow North Water Utility - Arrears
- ◆ SARM Annual Convention – March 11 – 13, 2025 – Saskatoon – do we book rooms? – Yes book 3 rooms
- ◆ Municipal Potash Tax Sharing Distribution for 2024 – next year
- ◆ Viscount Central School – generally match funding
- ◆ Asbestos Testing
- ◆ Village of Zelma – Request to Join Fire District – get rolling
- ◆ Tax Abatement
- ◆ Animal Control Bylaw - table
- ◆ LaFarge Road Sale
- ◆ SSA Elstow Water Treatment Plant Operator report
- ◆ Snow Plow Agreements
- ◆ SARM 2024 Property Self Insurance Program
- ◆ SARM 2024 Liability Self-Insurance Plan
- ◆ SARM 2024 Excess Liability Insurance
- ◆ SARM 2024 Fidelity Bond

- ◆ SARM 2024 Disability Benefits
- ◆ SARM 2024 Rates and Renewal Reports
- ◆ 2024 Office Christmas Hours
- ◆ District Board of Revision for 2025 - Table
- ◆ Development Appeals Board for 2025 - Table
- ◆ 2025 Custom Work Rates - Table
- ◆ 2025 Committees of Council - Table
- ◆ 2025 Council Meeting Dates - Table
- ◆ 2025 Deputy Reeve - Table
- ◆ 2025 Signing Authority - Table

296-2024 - DeCorby
 Elstow North Rural Water Utility Charges Pursuant to Resolution 47-99, and as requested by the Elstow North Rural Water Utility, that we add the following charges to the tax roll effective November 6, 2024 and remit payment for these charges less any applicable tax discount to the Elstow North Rural Water Utility:

- ◆ Kelly Kasahoff (Charlie Denis) – PCL A SE 2-36-1 W3 \$1,157.86
 - ◆ 102011043 Sask Ltd – New Beginnings – PCL A SW 24-35-1 W3 \$1,347.72
- Carried.

297-2024 - Wilson
 Asbestos Testing That we do accept the quote for asbestos testing from Axiom Asbestos for an estimated cost of \$30.00 per sample.

Carried.

298-2024 - DeCorby
 Tax Abatement That we do abate a portion of the taxes on Rena Pilon’s land, Lot 18, Block 2, Plan G5550 Roll No. 2161 000 due to the assessed improvement being overvalued. And further;
 That the amount of the abatement shall be as follows:

- ◆ Municipal - \$350.00

Carried.

299-2024 - Wilson
 Lafarge Road That we do authorize the Reeve and Administrator to sign the road purchase agreement with Lafarge Ltd.

Carried.

300-2024 - DeCorby
 Snow Plow Clubs That for 2024-2025, when requested by the Municipality, we pay snow plow clubs \$75.00 per hour, to a maximum of \$750.00 per mile per year for the entire winter, for snow removal on municipal roads, providing the snow plow club enters into and abides by the required snow plow agreement with the municipality and signs the O H & S exemption. And further;
 That the Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign all snow plow agreements for the season 2024/2025.

Carried.

Property Insurance	<p>301-2024 - Boehm</p> <p>That we do renew the municipality's property insurance through SARM's Self-Insurance Program. And further;</p> <p>That we do instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to add and delete equipment when warranted, and to conduct a yearly review of the amounts of insurance, amending values as necessary.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Carried.</u></p>									
Liability Insurance	<p>302-2024 - Chysyk</p> <p>That we purchase the following liability coverage from SARM for 2025:</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>General Liability</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3,000,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,000 deductible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environmental Liability</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 500,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,000 deductible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Error & Omission</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 500,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,500 deductible</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Carried.</u></p>	General Liability	\$3,000,000	\$1,000 deductible	Environmental Liability	\$ 500,000	\$1,000 deductible	Error & Omission	\$ 500,000	\$2,500 deductible
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Error & Omission	\$ 500,000	\$2,500 deductible								
Excess Liability Insurance	<p>303-2024 – Senger</p> <p>That we do purchase excess liability insurance from SARM for 2025 in the amount of \$12,000,000 (twelve million) dollars.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Carried.</u></p>									
Fidelity Bond	<p>304-2024 – Appelt</p> <p>That pursuant to Section 113 of <i>The Municipalities Act</i>, that the RM of Blucher #343 purchase \$100,000 in fidelity bond coverage from SARM for 2025.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Carried.</u></p>									
SARM Disability Benefits	<p>305-2024 - DeCorby</p> <p>That for the year 2025 we make application to participate in the SARM Short Term Disability benefits plan and the SARM Health and Dental plan with respect to all appointed and elected officials and all permanent full time employees who have continuously served the municipality for at least 3 months. And further;</p> <p>That we make application to participate in the SARM Long Term Disability Benefits plan with respect to all permanent, full time employees who have continuously served the municipality for at least 3 months. And further;</p> <p>That the above coverage NOT be in effect for any casual employee. And further;</p> <p>That the municipality pay 100% of the premium for both the Short Term Disability Benefits plan and the Health and Dental plan, and 50% for both the Long Term Disability Benefits plan and the SARM group life insurance plan.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Carried.</u></p>									
SARM Group Life Insurance	<p>306-2024 - Cummins</p> <p>That we do purchase group life insurance for all permanent employees and Council members from SARM in the amount of \$200,000, for those under age 65 for a premium of \$ 686.40 each, and in the amount of \$100,000, for those over age 65 for a premium of \$ 343.20 dollars each. And further;</p> <p>That the effective date of the Group Life Insurance shall be January 1, 2025. And further;</p> <p>That the premium shall be paid 50% by the municipality and 50% by the employee or Councillor. And further;</p>									

That the Councillor's portion of the premium be deducted from their yearly remuneration. And further;

That all year-round employee's portion of the premium be deducted in equal payments from their pay cheque. And further;

That all seasonal employee's portion of the premium be deducted in equal payments from their first 10 (or less) eligible pay periods.

Carried

307-2024 - Boehm

Office
Christmas
Hours

That we do close the RM Office for the following days during the Christmas season:

Tuesday, December 24, 2024
Wednesday, December 25, 2024
Thursday, December 26, 2024
and
Wednesday, January 1, 2024

Carried.

308-2024 - Boehm

In Camera

That we do enter into an In Camera session at 10:00 a.m. pursuant to Section 120 (2) (b) of *The Municipalities Act*.

Carried.

309-2024 - Boehm

In Camera

That we do return to the regular session of the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Carried.

Planning & Development

- ◆ None

Bylaw/Pest/Sign/Weed Control Officer Report

- ◆ Bylaw Enforcement
- ◆ Sign Maintenance
 - ◆ lots of signs being taken down
- ◆ Pest Control
- ◆ Weed Control

310-2024 -

Correspondence

That the following correspondence, having been read, now be filed:

- a) SARM/RMAA 2025 Suggested Salary Schedule
- b) RCMP Elected Official Meeting Minutes
- c) Ag Health & Safety Network Student Scholarship
- d) Food & Farm Care Saskatchewan
- e) Publik Benefits Solutions – Health Coverage

Carried.

Farm &
Food
Delegate

311-2024 - Boehm

That we do delegate Nicole DeCorby to be on the Farm and Food Committee.

Carried.

Foreman's Report

- ◆ Employees
- ◆ Municipal Road Maintenance
- ◆ Equipment Maintenance
- ◆ Road Repairs & Construction
- ◆ RM Road Tour – table to Spring 2025
- ◆ Gravel Pit – self hauls done on November 20, 2024

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

Councillor's Reports

Reeve Cummins

- ◆ Changes to SARM benefits
- ◆ Deifenbaker irrigation project
- ◆ SERM – extended hunting for five RM's – trial basis
- ◆ RCMP staffing shortages
- ◆ APAS meeting
- ◆ 2025 Road construction
- ◆ Gopher control and damages

Councillor DeCorby

- ◆ Kary Road needs grading
- ◆ Rail yard in Elstow
- ◆ Elstow lagoon road
- ◆ South Allan road
- ◆ Elstow survey

Councillor Senger

- ◆ Dukart approach – would like widened
- ◆ Division 5 well testing
- ◆ Bradwell fire hall expansion

Councillor Appelt

- ◆ Grading issues
- ◆ Division 5 well

Councillor Chysyk

- ◆ Sanding back roads
- ◆ Rip rap
- ◆ Trees – line of sight at intersections
- ◆ Hog Barn – temporary road closure

Councillor Wilson

- ◆ Culvert
- ◆ No 5 highway – approach needs grading
- ◆ Graveling
- ◆ Custom hauler on 10 tonne roads

Councillor Boehm

- ◆ Washboard
- ◆ Tower Hill Road – to be surveyed and staked
- ◆ Industrial Park – tires outside of fence
- ◆ Truck running all night at Sunset Estates
- ◆ Rail crossing SW 9-36-3 W3
- ◆ CP Rail Crossing potash mine

Gravel
Crushing in
2025

312-2024 - Senger

That we do tender for the crushing of 85,000 yards of road base gravel to a specification to be provided by an engineer. And further;
That we do instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to issue a tender for said crushing.

Carried.

Adjourn

313-2024 - Appelt

That this meeting of Council be adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Carried.

Reeve

Chief Administrative Officer