

**Summer Village of Larkspur
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
July 27, 2019
Larkspur Hall**

Mayor Gerry Keane called the meeting to order at 10:05. In his opening remarks, he:

- welcomed everyone,
- introduced council members and the Summer Village administrators,
- welcomed special guests Fred Slobodian, Councillor for the County of Westlock and Herman Stegehuis from Environmental and Wildfire Management Services.
- welcomed and introduced new Summer Village residents from Beaver Crescent
- suggested the parameters of the AGM meeting, explaining that it was the meeting of and for the residents and property owners in the Summer Village, and that only residents and property owners could make motions and vote on any motions made during the meeting, but that guests are welcomed to attend and participate in the meeting.

1. Election of Chairperson

- Tony Galowoda nominated Donna Crozier as chairperson who accepted. There were no other nominations.

2. Election of Secretary

- Nadia Scott nominated Emilie Keane as secretary who accepted. There were no other nominations.

3. Adoption of Agenda

- Greg Dressler moved and Tony Galowoda seconded that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

AGM

- **Approval of the 2018 AGM Minutes**
 - The minutes from last year's meeting were distributed for all to read.
 - Amendment: Faye Atkinson explained that the location of the meeting cannot be called a "Fire Hall" because of insurance reasons. The first line of the minutes of last year's minutes must therefore be changed to "Larkspur Hall".
 - Janet Garneau moved and Greg McDougal seconded that the minutes of the 2018 AGM be accepted as amended. Carried
- **Guest speakers on Fire Smart**
 - Herman Stegehuis and his daughter, Donna, gave an excellent presentation on Fire Smart which included several strategies for reducing the risks of fire within the Summer Village. We hope to have the PowerPoint Presentation available on the Summer Village Website at SVLarkspur.ca
- Mayor and Council's Report – Gerry Keane (The full report is posted on the Summer Village website at SVLarkspur.ca)
 - Welcome Fred Slobodian, Councillor from the County of Westlock
 - Recognitions:

- Tony Galowoda for mowing the grass, filling in the newly developed potholes, and generally keeping the summer village beautiful. He has asked that we don't throw bottles or cans in the grass and that we don't park on the grass.
- Koni Getchel for voluntarily managing the library
- The following residents for cooking the hamburgers for the BBQ following the AGM meeting:
 - Nadia Scott
 - Donna Crozier
 - Janet Garneau
 - Greg Dressler
 - Emilie Keane
- **RV policy**
 - We can have one or two RVs on our lots without additional costs/taxes.
- **Road work** (sealing) – the roads seem to be holding up quite well.
- **Bear warning:**
 - bears are still around the village, so residents are reminded not to attract them with bird feeders, compost and garbage.
- **Website:**
 - Thank you to residents who notified administrators that there was an error with the mill rate posted on the website and that the minimum tax is \$400 and not \$175 – these errors have been corrected on the website.
 - Most people have access to the internet, and this is the quickest way to deliver messages and information. Updates and notifications are distributed by email and meeting minutes are posted on the website. Residents are asked to ensure that the administrators have their current email addresses so that important notifications and updates can be sent to you. Mail-outs will no longer be distributed unless there is need to do so.
 - Suggestions for improving our website are welcomed.
- **Update on cooperative work with the County or Westlock**
 - Coordination of services with the County and development of new agreements are in progress.
 - Municipal Affairs wish to ensure that all municipalities are maximizing services available and encourage municipalities to collaborate with each other toward this end. The only municipality adjacent to our Summer Village is Westlock County.
 - An Intermunicipal Development Plan is in the process of being developed and will be signed off by both parties. The Plan will include updated agreements with the County, updating our Village bylaws and policies to reflect those agreements. The agreements will result in fee increases for various services provided by Westlock County. We can expect to pay our fair share for the following services:
 - Use of the landfill transfer stations
 - Winter road maintenance
 - Fire services and other emergency services
 - Before the plan with Westlock County is finalized, a public consultation process will be undertaken with Summer Village residents that will provide us with the opportunity to voice our opinions and concerns.

- Greg presented information on the survey that residents will be asked to complete that will assist Council in the development of the new plan.
- **New sewage bylaw**
 - Residents are responsible for ensuring that appropriate and approved CSA sewage disposal systems are in place for all buildings on village properties including out-houses and recreational vehicles parked on village properties in excess of 21 days. A designated officer of the summer village has the authority to enter onto the properties to conduct inspections. They can issue orders to ensure compliance and can issue penalties for failure to comply with penalties ranging from \$500 to \$5,000.
- **Pets**
 - Residents have expressed concerns about dogs running freely and not being kept on leash. Residents are responsible for cleaning up after their pets and ensuring that dangerous dogs are leashed and muzzled.
- **Drones**
 - Residents using drones are responsible for using them within the legal requirements for operating them. Do not infringe on other people's privacy.
- **Municipal Affairs Audit of the Summer Village**
 - They recently conducted an audit of the Summer Village.
 - Overall, the Summer Village fared well and most of the deficiencies were minor (legislative gaps). Two items that need to be addressed are the requirement for an "enforcement officer – by-law" and the requirement for a municipal emergency management plan.
- **Crime in the village** – In July, council had an excellent meeting with Staff Sergeant Al Baird, Detachment Commander of Westlock Detachment. He provided a summary of the crime in the County (See the website for summary details). Overall, property crime in the County is trending down, not increasing.
 - The RCMP detachment has 9 members to patrol the county and area, providing 20 hours of enforcement each day. In addition, the RCMP have dedicated teams that target criminals committing property crimes.
 - We are to notify the police about any thefts or crime so that they can track them and possibly lead to "smart patrols".
 - Crime has steadily dropped over the past few years
 - Constable Sanders from the Westlock detachment was welcomed
 - Crime reduction units are doing work to reduce the level of crime in rural areas
- **Video Cameras in the Summer Village**
 - Cameras will be installed in the summer village, one at each end of the village. The cameras will operate 24-7 on a continuous loop system. Council thanks Dave Kelly and TeraSol Systems Inc. for researching and providing a quote for the systems.

Discussions and comments voiced by residents:

Q: Some people are disposing of their leaves and branches on other people's properties.

- Please take your garbage to the dump instead.

Q: Why don't we have a boat launch in the village and can the area on the South end of the village be opened up to a boat launch?

- There is liability for the Summer Village if a boat launch is built.
- The area in the South end of the Summer Village is a relatively small area and parking would be an issue.
- It is very unlikely that the province would allow a launch to be built as there are already approved launches on the lake that can be used by residents.
- Fred Slobodian advised he would speak to the people at the municipal beach as he felt residents of the village should not be charged for using this launch. If you choose to use this launch, once your boat is launched, the vehicle and trailer should be removed immediately.

Q: There are fire pits on the reserve land at Kelly's Landing, can they be used by anyone?

- These fire pits should not be there, and they must be removed. There is a liability that goes with them.

Q: Discussions about reserves.

- Reserves are for everyone's use.
- Don't block the paths

Q: Dangerous tree removal

- A dangerous dead tree was identified in a reserve and that tree will be removed asap.

Q: Quality of water, is the water safe to drink?

- No the water, like all open water in the province, is not safe to drink.
- Financial Report – Marian presented the financial report and answered questions.
 - Costs of website – paid to "Go Daddy"

Residents expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Village Council and administrators for the work they do.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am and residents and their families were invited to stay for hamburgers and salads and to visit with one another.