

RM OF BLAINE LAKE
No. 434
Saskatchewan

November 17, 2020

RM of Blaine Lake #434

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The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Blaine Lake #434 which was held in the RM's Municipal Office, at 118 Main Street, on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

Present Council Members and Administration attended as follows:

Gerry Strelieff	-	Reeve	in Council Chambers
Michael Chudskov	-	Division 1	in Council Chambers
John Serhienko	-	Division 2	via teleconference
Courtney Swystun	-	Division 3	in Council Chambers
Alan Lavoie	-	Division 4	in Council Chambers
John Priestley	-	Division 5	via teleconference (arrived 8:15AM)
Robert Dagenais	-	Division 6	in Council Chambers
Jennifer Gutknecht	-	Administrator	in Council Chambers

Councilor Swystun completed his Oath of Office prior to the meeting being called to order.

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Strelieff at 8:00am; with the following opening remarks:

"I have been a council member in the past but have not had experience chairing a meeting before, therefore, there will be a learning curve and I welcome any advice, direction or constructive criticism on chairing of meetings and in my performance as Reeve.

My goal is to work with council as a team to provide taxpayers with responsible government assuring the financial success of our municipality. Ratepayers must be treated with respect. Council must abide by the Municipalities Act and comply with provincial laws.

It is important that we realize the opportunity we have been given, having local municipal government. It gives councils the flexibility to provide services that are tailored to our specific regional needs. Losing this privilege will take away that advantage.

Transparency is of vital importance if council has the expectation of trust and respect from the ratepayers. Any information that is public knowledge must be made available on request in a reasonable time as detailed in the Municipalities Act. Ratepayers will be welcomed to bring their concerns to our attention by attending a meeting if they feel that is necessary.

Financial transparency is of utmost importance. An updated balance sheet should be posted regularly on our website. Council must create a realistic budget earlier in the new year and then concentrate on abiding by it.

Administration must be directed in accordance with the Municipalities Act which stipulates direction is to be by resolution in council. Influencing, obstructing, or giving instruction to administration as an individual is not permissible and will not be tolerated.

Councillors must keep in mind that though they were elected in a certain division the oath they sign states that they are to cooperate and work for the betterment of the whole municipality, providing services fairly distributed to all divisions.

In closing, I feel it is important that we must leave the past behind and concentrate on the immediate major concerns, plan responsibly for the future, and leave the less important details to be attended as required. Keeping in mind that actions today always have an impact on the future. Thank you.”

Res#549/20
OCT 13 2020
MINS **DAGENAIS:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the October 13, 2020 regular meeting minutes with one correction:
That Res#542/20 was made by Council, not by Councilor Dagenais. **CARRIED**

Res#550/20
NOV 13 2020
MINS **CHUDSKOV:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the November 13, 2020 First Meeting of Council minutes as presented. **CARRIED**

Res#551/20
FINANCIAL
STATEMENT **DAGENAIS:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 accepts the Financial Statement and Bank Statement as information only. **CARRIED**

Councilor Priestley arrived at 8:15AM.

Res#552/20
ADDITIONAL
ACCOUNTS **LAVOIE:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the additional accounts for payment, totalling \$12,250.88:

- Keith Woytiuk (43 Beaver Tails) \$1,290.00
- KDM (10% Holdback Release) \$10,604.72
- CJ Signs (Election Supplies) \$356.16

CARRIED

Res#553/20
COUNCIL
INDEMNITY **PRIESTLEY:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approves the Council Indemnities for payment as follows:

- Alan Lavoie (Sept – Nov, 2020) \$502.50
- Robert Dagenais (Oct 2020) \$345.50
- Wally Kabaroff (Oct 2020) \$206.00
- John Priestley (Sept – Oct 2020) \$432.00

CARRIED

Res#554/20
PUBLIC WORKS **SWYSTUN:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 accepts the Public Works report as presented. **CARRIED**

**Res# 563/20
CIBC SIGNORS**

LAVOIE: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 appoints Reeve Gerry Strelieff, OR Councillor Robert Dagenais AND Administrator Jennifer Gutknecht OR Administrative Assistant Autumn Lamontagne as the RM's cheque signors.

CARRIED

**Res#564/20
2021 APPOINT-
MENTS**

LAVOIE: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 approve the Committee/Individual/Civic Appointments as per the attached Schedule "A":
Committee & Civic Appointments For 2021, Schedule "A"

- Chief Administrative Officer - Jennifer Gutknecht
- Auditor - Elizabeth Torrens
- Deputy Reeve - Lavoie
- Lawyer - SARM/Robertson Stromberg/McKercher
- Assessor - Gutknecht
- Signing Authorities – Strelieff OR Dagenais AND Gutknecht OR Lamontagne
- Dispatcher - Administrator AND/OR Public Works Administrator
- Overweight Permits - Administrator AND/OR Public Works Administrator
- Weed Inspector - Marcel Baynton (to be confirmed)
- Pest Control Officer - Brian Verbonac (to be confirmed)
- Fire Rangers - Councillor from each Division
- Joint Fire Committee (w/Town) - Priestley/Lavoie
- Stray Animals Act - Administrator
- Pound Keepers - Green Leaf Colony (North) & Riverbend Colony (South)
- Emergency Measures Committee - Gutknecht/Lamontagne
- Shellbrook Hospital - Priestley/Chudskov
- Martins Lake Board – Priestley/Chudskov
- NCTPC – Wally Kabaroff
- Library - Lavoie
- Blaine Lake Community (w/Town) - Lavoie/Dagenais/Gutknecht
- Doctor Recruitment - Priestley - attend meetings quarterly
- Employee Relations Committee - Dagenais/Lavoie/Gutknecht
- Financial Planning Committee - Council as a whole
- Roads Committee - Council as a whole
- Building Inspector - Chris Gates BOL3, Terry Rolleston BOL1, Karly Heatcoat BOL3
- Bylaw Committee - Tanchak/Gutknecht
- Tendering Committee - Tanchak/Gutknecht
- Riverlands Heritage – Serhienko/Dagenais
- OH&S AdHoc – Dagenais/Lamontagne/Korpan

*As per The Municipalities Act subsection 93(2), the Mayor or Reeve is a member of all council committees and all bodies established by council pursuant to this Act, unless the council provides otherwise.

CARRIED

**Res#565/20 2021
REGULAR
COUNCIL
MEETING
SCHEDULE**

COUNCIL: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 sets the 2021 Regular Council Meeting Schedule as follows: (NOTE: these dates have been amended at the Dec 08 2020 meeting, Res#631/20)

Every 2nd THURSDAY of the month:

~January 14 ~February 11 ~March 11 ~April 8 ~May 13 ~June 10
~July 8 ~August 12 ~Sept 9 ~Oct 14 ~Nov 18* ~Dec 9

*Meetings from May through September will start at 8:00 AM;
during the months of seeding and harvest, meetings will start at 7:00 AM;
for the rest of the months of the year, meetings will start at 9:00 AM.*

CARRIED

**Res#566/20
2021 FEES AND
RATES SCHEDULE**

SWYSTUN: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 sets the following fees/rates for 2021:

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Ratepayers</u>	<u>Non-Ratepayers</u>
Grader	\$150.00/hour	\$175.00/hour
Payloader	\$150.00/hour	\$175.00/hour
Backhoe	\$150.00/hour	\$175.00/hour
Mower	\$100.00/hour	\$125.00/hour
Good/Service		
	(Plus applicable taxes)	(Plus applicable taxes)
Photocopying	Black/White \$0.25/page	Colour \$0.50/page
RM Maps	\$15/map	+\$2 for S&H
SARM Grid Maps	\$3/map	
Fax Service	\$0.50/sheet, coming and going	
Strychnine	\$15/bottle	

CARRIED

**Res#567/20
OFFICE
TELEPHONE**

CHUSDSKOV: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to remove the use of the telephone Auto-Reply function during the weekdays when the office is open, and record an updated auto-reply message for use only when the office is closed on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.

CARRIED

**Res#568/20
WALDHEIM
SAND &
SPECIALTY**

SWYSTUN: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 allows Waldheim Sand & Specialty (Penz) to haul extended hours on Saturdays and Sundays only until December 31, 2020.

CARRIED

**Res#569/20
WASTE
DISPOSAL**

COUNCIL: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 allows RM ratepayers and residents twelve (12) half-ton loads of garbage for 2021, free of charge, at the Blaine Lake Transfer Station; they must provide their land location on delivery.

CARRIED

Res#570/20 EAST PIT SAND **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 set the cost for RM sand from the East Pit at \$3.00/yard to all ratepayers for 2021. **CARRIED**

Res#571/20 GRANT FUNDING **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 grants Administration authorization to search and apply for grant funding for community project initiatives. **CARRIED**

Res#572/20 OFFICE EQUIPMENT **LAVOIE:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to begin looking into replacing our workstation, with a budget of up to \$4000.000 for this purpose. **CARRIED**

Res#573/20 SARM BENEFITS FOR COUNCIL **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorizes Council members to opt into the SARM benefits plan, conditional to council members paying their own cost. **CARRIED**

*Councillor Dagenais left the room at 10:42AM.
Councillor Dagenais returned to the room at 10:45AM.*

DELEGATION: Lee Dolezal – Council Procedures Bylaw 2017-02; arrived 11:07AM, departed 11:15AM.

*Reeve Strelieff left the room at 11:29AM.
Reeve Strelieff returned to the room at 11:30AM.*

Res#574/20 COUNCIL REMUNERATION POLICY **SWYSTUN:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 set the Council Remuneration Policy as follows:

- \$25/hour standard rate for all meetings
- \$0.50/km mileage

CARRIED

Res#575/20 CONSERVATION EASEMENT **SERHIENKO:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 does not object to the Ducks Unlimited Canada and Elizabeth Nesteroff Conservation Easement. **CARRIED**

Res#576/20 SASKPOWER SLOUGH POLES **CHUDSKOV:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 allows SaskPower to proceed with their project at SE-22-45-05-W3rd; Administration to sign the document on behalf of the RM. **CARRIED**

Res#577/20 WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY **LAVOIE:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 amends Appendix A of the Winter Maintenance Policy:
To remove the current description, and to replace it with highlighted snow removal route maps, which will be provided by Council.

CARRIED

Res#578/20 MUNICIPAL PROCUREMENT REPORT **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to complete the Municipal Procurement Report as required by the Government of Saskatchewan.

CARRIED

Res#579/20 PERMISSION TO COPY ARTICLES **SWYSTUN:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 grants permission to Gordon Lobe as per his request to copy articles from the “Bridging the Years – Era of Blaine Lake and District 1790 – 1980” book.

CARRIED

Res#580/20 EAST OF NE-36-44-07-W3RD **PRIESTLEY:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to bill the Town of Blaine Lake’s Contractor for the damage made to the road as well as the gravel needing to be replaced on the road.

CARRIED

Res#581/20 SARM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS **LAVOIE:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 maintains the same SARM Employee Benefits Plan coverage for 2021.

CARRIED

Res#582/20 SARM PSIP INSURANCE **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 renew the Property Self-Insurance as per the current schedule.

CARRIED

Res#583/20 LIABILITY & EXCESS **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 renews the SARM Liability Insurance at \$5million and the SARM Excess Liability Insurance at \$3million.

CARRIED

Councillor Serhienko left the meeting at 12:07pm.

Res#584/20 FIDELITY BOND INSURANCE **COUNCIL:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 maintains the same SARM Fidelity Bond insurance as 2020, for 2021.

CARRIED

Res#585/20 WINTER WEIGHTS **CHUDSKOV:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 agrees to follow the Ministry of Highways Winter Weight Restrictions for 2020-2021.

CARRIED

Res#586/20 CHAINSAW OPERATOR **DAGENAIS:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 nominates one (1) Maintenance Employee to attend the Chainsaw Operator Training Course; first being Jodie Korpan, second being Barry Ens if Jodie is unavailable.

CARRIED

Res#587/20 RECESS **LAVOIE:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 recess until 1:00PM, the time being 12:17PM.

CARRIED

Reeve Strelloff reconvened the meeting at 1:05PM with Councillors Chusdkov, Swystun, Lavoie, Priestley, and Dagenais present.

Res#588/20 VOTERS LIST **DAGENAIS:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to create a Voter’s List for the next Election.

CARRIED

Res#589/20 SHOP TRUCK COST **SWYSTUN:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to provide a cost assessment of the Shop Truck maintenance and repairs to Council at the next regular Council Meeting.

CARRIED

Res#590/20 GRADING COST **LAVOIE:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to provide a cost review of the grading to Council at the January 2021 regular council meeting.

CARRIED

Res#591/20 SNOW CLEARING LANEWAYS & YARD ACCESS **CHUDSKOV:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs the Dispatcher to direct Grader Operators to clear snow in laneways and yard accesses, with one pass in/out during snow clearing of RM roads, provided a waiver is completed with the RM office; any additional work needed will require a custom work request and custom rates will apply.

CARRIED

Res#592/20 SNOW CLEARING RESIDENCES **CHUDSKOV:** That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 directs Administration to provide one (1) free snow clearing per season, up to fifteen (15) minutes, per *occupied residential* yard site, inclusive with laneway/yard access clearing, provided a waiver is completed with the RM office; any additional work needed will require a custom work request and custom rates will apply.

CARRIED

**Res#593/20
COUNCIL &
ADMIN
COMMU-
NICATION**

PRIESTLEY: Rather than using three different methods of communication between Council and Administration, that being Email, Text Messaging and WhatsApp, the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move that all communication be conducted by email only and that all of Council be included in all emails.

Recorded (Priestley):

DIV 1 – N; DIV 2 – ABSENT; DIV 3 – N; DIV 4 – N; DIV 5 – Y; DIV 6 – N; REEVE – N
LOST

**Res#594/20
IN CAMERA**

DAGENAIS: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move in camera to discuss Personnel matters, compliant with s. 120(2) of The Municipalities Act, and on the basis that the discussions that take place during that meeting apply to s. 16(1) (b) and (d) of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act., the time being 1:48 PM.

CARRIED

Employee John Priestly Jr was invited into the meeting at 2:36PM via teleconference, departed 2:52PM. Councillor Dagenais left the room at 2:36PM.

Councillor Dagenais returned to the room at 2:38PM

**Res#595/20
OUT CAMERA**

LAVOIE: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 move out of camera, the time being 2:53PM.

CARRIED

**Res#596/20
FULL TIME
GRADER
OPERATOR**

DAGENAIS: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire John Priestley Jr as a Full-Time Grader Operator for winter hours at a minimum of 35 hours a week, with a flexibility of more hours in the occurrence of a snow event, for the period of November 23, 2020 to March 15, 2021; this will be on a trial basis to allow assessment, ensuring that this change meets the needs of the municipality going forward.

CARRIED

**Res# 597/20
BACK UP
GRADER
OPERATOR**

DAGENAIS: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 hire Carl Riben as a stand-by back up grader operator for the winter season of 2020-2021.

CARRIED

**Res#598/20
CORRESPONDENCE**

LAVOIE: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 acknowledges all meeting correspondence and directs Administration to file it.

CARRIED

**Res#599/20
TAX
ABATEMENTS**

COUNCIL: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 authorizes Administration to abate taxes as follows:

- Roll #1446 000 for \$10.44 arrears plus accrued interest
- SW-11-42-07-W3rd, for the 5 acres also known as the “RM South Pit”
- Roll #27 000 for the accrued interest on the amount incorrectly received

CARRIED

**Res#600/20
ADJOURN**

CHUDSKOV: That the Council of the RM of Blaine Lake #434 adjourns, the time being 3:30PM.

CARRIED

SEAL

REEVE

ADMINISTRATOR