



# Village of Rockyford

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June 10, 2020

Reeve Amber Link  
Wheatland County  
via e-mail: [amber.link@wheatlandcounty.ca](mailto:amber.link@wheatlandcounty.ca)

Dear Reeve Link;

FOIP s.17(1)

On June 9, 2020, our CAO received an e-mail [REDACTED] in regard to the awarding of the tender for Phase 3 of the regional waterline project. This correspondence was discussed at our Council meeting last night and Council requested that a response be drafted to you. Our Council would not make a unilateral decision but would consult with the WRC Board after gathering all the information required to make an informed decision that would be in the best interest of all parties.

The awarding of the tenders for Phases 1 and 2 along with the truck fill have all been conducted in the same manner – the WRC Board makes a recommendation that then goes back to the Village of Rockyford Council for the motion to approve the recommendation. This is nothing new, it is the structure of this project as Rockyford manages the project and is the legal owner of all assets for a period of five years after the completion of Phase 4.

We don't understand why this is being questioned now, after 3 other contracts have been awarded in this same fashion. The fact that we are trying to promote and boost Alberta's economy instead of Saskatchewan's should be something we all strive to do during this time. The difference in cost is nominal and is well below what the original projections allowed for. If this is cost motivated, it would cost the County \$14,220.73 more for the Alberta bid over the Saskatchewan bid. This still represents a vast savings overall as the County had initially budgeted \$620,000 for this project.

FOIP s.17(1)

The last question [REDACTED] posed – *"Were there any other discussions for this specific tender approval that took place, with proponents / bidders?"* is incredibly insulting and I find it highly unprofessional that our integrity would be drawn into question in this manner. At no time has a Village Councillor or staff member taken it upon themselves to breach ethics or code of conduct so blatantly.

We have discussed this with the Premier, our MLA, AB Transportation, a lawyer and the president of AUMA in an effort to ensure that we do what is best for not only the project but for the region and the County ratepayers that are affected directly by the awarding of this tender.

This is not something that we have taken lightly, and it is certainly not something that we did with the intent to create ill feelings amongst the partnership, but we want to ensure we do everything we can so

that when we look at our neighbours and say "we tried" we can do it with our heads high and know that we did try.

We are committed to the partnership that is Wheatland Regional Corporation and value all members but take great offence to being questioned about our motives and integrity.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Burke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "B".

Darcy J. Burke  
Mayor  
Village of Rockyford