

# **Town of Drumheller**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

### **MINUTES**



**April 5, 2004** 5:30 PM Council Chambers, Town Hall  
703 - 2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta

#### **PRESENT:**

**MAYOR:**

Paul Ainscough

**COUNCIL:**

Karen Bertamini

Don Cunningham

Brent Pedersen

John Sparling

Harry Stables

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:**

Ray Romanetz

**DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:**

Wes Yeoman

**DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:**

Michael Minchin

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:**

Diana Meller

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Linda Handy

**ABSENT:** Councillor L. Davidson

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

#### **2.0 MAYOR AINSCOUGH'S OPENING REMARKS**

2.1 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Premier Ralph Klein in response to the Mayors and Reeves Network concerns on the high cost of utilities. He has forwarded a copy of the correspondence to Hon. Guy Boutilier, Minister of Municipal Affairs for his response on behalf of the Alberta government.

2.2 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Shirley McClellan, Deputy Premier / MLA advising that the 2004 Streets Improvement Program grant for the Town of Drumheller has been approved.

2.3 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Guy Boutilier, Minister advising that the Town has been awarded a grant of \$6,000 under the 2003-04 Emergency Management Training Special Initiative.

2.4 Mayor P. Ainscough provided an update on Mayors and Reeves Network Meeting held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> with Hon. Ed Stelmach, Minister of Transportation and Hon. Shirley McClellan, Deputy Premier / MLA. He noted that Highway 9 improvements from West of Horseshoe Canyon to Drumheller (16 kms) and East of Hwy 836 to West of Horseshoe Canyon are schedule for upgrade under Alberta Transportation's 2004-2006 Highway Projects. Hon. Ed Stelmach stated at the meeting that the land acquisitions are in place and Alberta Transportation should proceed with the tendering process shortly. Two phases of the project will be built in 2004.

2.5 Mayor P. Ainscough provided an update on Alberta Tourism Meeting held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> with Hon. Mark Norris, Minister of Alberta Economic Development. He noted that under the Province's new tourism funding increase of 26%, the Drumheller Regional Chamber of Development and Tourism would receive an additional \$20,000 for their tourism initiatives. In addition, Hon. Mark Norris announced that the government has begun working with community destinations and tourism industry in the Drumheller region to develop the new tourism destination icon, *The Canadian Badlands*.

2.6 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Mayor Ross Priest, City of Cranbrook expressing sincere thanks to the Drumheller Fire Department for the provision of manpower and equipment to assist with the B.C. fires.

2.7 Mayor P. Ainscough proclaimed April 18 – 24, 2004 as Heart to Heart Week in Drumheller.

2.8 Council agreed to cancel the Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **3.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Additions to Agenda: 8.5 Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion; and 14.2 Councillor K. Bertamini – Update on Affordable Housing

**MO2004.89** Sparling, Cunningham moved the adoption of the agenda as amended.  
Cd.

#### **5.0 MINUTES**

5.1.1 ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – March 22, 2004

**MO2004.90** Stables, Pedersen moved the adoption of the minutes of Regular Council meeting of March 22, 2004. Cd.

#### **5.2 MINUTES OF MEETINGS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION**

5.2.1 Municipal Planning Commission – March 11, 2004

### 5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### 6.0 DELEGATIONS

6.1 Five Pin Bowling League representatives were in attendance to discuss the closure of the Drumheller bowling alley. The building is currently owned by Mr. Dan Shelby and is listed for sale. They requested Council's assistance to form an Association to take on the responsibility and administration of the building. The owners of the bowling alley in Hanna may be interested in purchasing the alleys only. The representatives noted that the loss of the bowling alley would mean reduced activities for Drumheller youth and adults. It was noted that the building appears to be in good shape however it is estimated that \$80,000 is required to upgrade the lanes, install new pin setters and an automatic scoring board. D. Meller stated that she may be able to assist with providing information on the establishment of a committee and possible grant funding. Mayor Ainscough thanked the bowling league representatives for presentation.

### 7.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS

##### 8.1 CAO

8.1 Presentation of the 2004 Operating and Capital Budgets

R. Romanetz, W. Yeoman, M. Minchin and D. Meller presented the 2004 Operating Budget, 2004 Capital Budget and the 2004 Capital Financing Strategy.

2004 Operating Budget highlights are as follows:

- Service similar to 2003 levels;
- 3.5% increase in municipal tax rate;
- General increase in user fees;
- \$102,000 Municipal tax revenue increase due to new assessment growth;
- Ambulance full year cost will be \$97,000;
- Insurance costs to increase by \$37,000;
- RCMP cost to rise by \$40,000;
- 2004 budgeted surplus for General Fund \$101,359, Water \$20,992 and Wastewater \$5,873 for a total of \$128,224;
- Total budgeted revenue \$9,514,284;
- Total budgeted functional expense \$9,386,060

2004 Capital Budget highlights are as follows:

- The Capital Budget was developed in accordance with the Capital Financing Policy 2-98;
- This policy includes a Capital Financing Strategy which details infrastructure expenditures, revenue sources and serve target levels;
- A new policy has been introduced for 2004;
- 2004 Capital Financing Strategy identifies when reserve targets will be reached and

debt eliminated: Current Reserves - General: 95% of target levels and Utilities: 5% of target levels;

- The 2004 Capital Financing Strategy includes a transfer from operations of \$1,345,000 for infrastructure re-investment and transfer to reserve;
- Total Capital Budget Expenses \$7,517,722;

#### 8.1.2 RFD – 2004 Operating and Capital Budgets

R. Romanetz stated that Administration has presented the Town's 2004 Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan includes the Annual Operating and Capital Budgets for the Town of Drumheller as well as updates to the Town's Multi Year Capital Plan and Capital Financing Strategy. Council at their meeting of February 9, 2004 adopted the 2004 Interim Operating Budget. The 2004 Corporate Plan would finalize the estimates includes in the interim budget. Approval of the Corporate Plan provides Administration and staff the proper authorization to carry out the 2004 operating and capital plans for the Town as directed by Council. Administration is recommending that Council approve the 2004 Corporate Plan as presented.

**MO2004.91** Bertamini, Sparling that Council approve the Town of Drumheller 2004 Operating Budget as presented. Cd.

**MO2004.92** Sparling, Pedersen that Council approve the Town of Drumheller 2004 Capital Budget as presented. Cd.

#### 8.1.3 RFD - Policy 01.04 – Capital Financing Strategy

M. Minchin advised that at the March 29, 2004 Committee Meeting, Administration presented an update to the Town's Capital Financing Strategy. The Strategy outlines the Town's long term capital reinvestment needs as well as the sources of funding for these capital requirements. As a result of a number of new capital initiatives by Council, the underlying policy and its assumptions had to be updated to accommodate these new capital initiatives. Such changes include: 2D) *"Be on a pay as you go basis; borrowing will be permitted. However, all borrowing must be supported through utility rates and borrowing shall not exceed borrowing limits established by Council for the Utility."*; 3B) *"When borrowing is required the term shall not exceed the life of the improvement."*; 4B) *"Set a reserve target level equal to two to three months worth of operating expenses."* 6) *The 2004 Capital Financing Strategy and Policy are interim measures. A new planning document will be prepared for 2005"*. The new policy replaced the original Capital Financing Policy, #2-98, adopted by Council in 1998. A new policy will be presented later in 2004 that will correspond with Council's initiative to redraft the Town's Multi Year Capital Plan. Administration is recommending that Council Policy #01-04 be approved as presented.

**MO2004.93** Pedersen, Cunningham that Council approval Council Policy #01-04, known as the Capital Financing Policy as well as its associated documents, the 2004 Capital

Financing Strategy and the 2004 Multi Year Capital Plan as presented. Cd.

#### 8.1.4 RFD - Policy 02.04 – Debt Management Policy

M. Minchin advised that a number of changes have been incorporated into both the Town's Capital Financing Policy and Capital Financing Strategy. To ensure consistency between those policy documents and the Town's Debt Management Policy, changes have been proposed for this policy, such as 1) *"The maximum amortization period is increased from 20 – 30 year."*; and 2) *"The term "repayment term" has been replaced in a number of areas with the term amortization period"*. Administration is proposing that the Town's current Debt Management Policy, C#04-01, be replaced with the updated C#02-04.

**MO2004.94** Sparling, Bertamini that Council approve Council Policy #02-04, known as the Debt Management Policy. Cd.

#### 8.1.5 RFD – Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion

R. Romanetz advised that the Organizing Committee for the Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion, is requesting permission to hold their event in Drumheller on Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. The local committee would like to start the event at the parking lot of the Drumheller hospital and participants can follow the path up to McMullen Island.

**MO2004.95** Pedersen, Cunningham that Council approve the Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion events in Drumheller as outlined by the Committee in their letter of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Cd.

### 8.2 Director of Infrastructure Services

### 8.3 Director of Corporate Services

### 8.4 Director of Community Services

## 9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

(Quarterly Reports due April 19, 2004)

- 9.1 CAO
- 9.2 Director of Infrastructure Services
- 9.3 Director of Corporate Services
- 9.4 Director of Community Services

## 10.0 PUBLIC HEARING DECISIONS

## 11.0 DELEGATION DECISIONS

## **12.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **13.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

## **14.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

14.1 Councillor J. Sparling provided an update on the 2004 Satellite Canvas Auction for the World Professional Chuckwagon Tour. The event raised \$123,500 for Drumheller, which is up from last's year amount by \$20,000. There were fourteen local buyers. As well he announced that the Drumheller Rotary Club will be partnering with Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra to present Beethoven in the Badlands on May 29<sup>th</sup> – he encouraged all interested individuals to purchase their tickets – of the 2900 available tickets 1400 are sold.

14.2 Councillor K. Bertamini advised that on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the AUMA Affordable Housing Task Force met to draft a policy framework for social infrastructure as well as drafting the proposed regulations for secondary suites. The Task Force's next Housing Forum is scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup> in Calgary. On June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, she noted that smaller municipalities will be holding their affordable housing conference. She will present the affordable housing tool kit to this group. The Town of Drumheller's affordable housing report will be presented to Council within the next 45-60 days.

## **15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER