

Town of Drumheller

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

January 12, 2004 5:30 PM Council Chambers, Town Hall

703 - 2nd Ave. West , Drumheller , Alberta

PRESENT:

MAYOR:

Paul Ainscough

COUNCIL:

Karen Bertamini

Don Cunningham

Larry Davidson

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 MAYOR AINSCOUGH'S OPENING REMARKS

2.1 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Cynthia Thornley, Director General, Cultural Capital of Canada congratulating the Town and citizens of Drumheller for the municipality's designation as a 2004 Cultural Capital of Canada. Mayor Ainscough displayed a framed certificate as a tribute to this recognition.

2.2 Mayor P. Ainscough proclaimed the week of January 18 – 24th as National Non Smoking Week

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Ainscough advised that the purpose of the hearing is to consider Bylaw 23.03 being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 36.98 by redesignating Block 5 Plan 7911034 from "M-1" – Industrial District to "M-2" – Industrial District

Mayor Ainscough asked if there were any written submission. Recording Secretary, L. Handy advised there were no submissions.

Mayor Ainscough asked if anyone was present to speak in favour or against the proposal. There were no speakers.

Mayor Ainscough closed the Public Hearing at 5:45 PM .

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Addition to Agenda: 15.4 Homestead Museum

MO2004.01 Sparling, Pedersen moved the adoption of the agenda as amended. Cd.

5.0 MINUTES

5.1.1 ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – December 15, 2003

MO2004.02 Cunningham, Davidson moved the adoption of the minutes of Regular Council meeting of December 15, 2003 . Cd.

5.2 MINUTES OF MEETINGS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.0 DELEGATIONS

Cpl. Cooper, Acting NCO, Drumheller RCMP Detachment was in attendance to provide an activity report. He provided the following comments:

- 1) Overtime incurred in 2003
 - Breakdown of overtime invoiced to the Town: April to June - 336 hours and July to September - 457 hours at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. He noted that he has compared the overtime hours to last year and agreed that the overtime hours had increased significantly this year. He explained that after reviewing the files, the vast majority of overtime is due to court proceedings resulting from the riot at the Drumheller Institution.
 - He explained that the 336 or 457 hours of overtime is at time and a half or double time, which in fact, is closer to 200 actual man-hours.
 - He explained that overtime accumulated in April – June quarter may not be invoiced until the next quarter. Members may not put in their claim until after that quarter is finalized. By the time it is processed, there could be a 3-5 month lapse.

Questions from Council:

Councillor L. Davidson advised that more information should be provided with overtime costs as it has a significant impact on the Town's budget. Cpl. Cooper explained that the detachment attempts to reduce overtime costs whenever possible. He explained that the Court often issues demands on the detachment, an example being the murder trial for the riot at the Institution. The Judge requested security of up to twelve officers for this trial. Councillor Davidson stated

that the Institution could provide supervision through their own correctional officers. Cpl. Cooper said that the Judge requests trained officers for security purposes. He further explained that once the inmates arrive in the community, it is the detachment's responsibility to provide security within the community. Councillor Davidson stated that the Federal Government should step forward and cover these costs. Cpl. Cooper stated that the actual policing costs for the Institution is minimal other than costs associated with riots. He noted that the security for court appearances is part of the general duties of the officers.

Councillor Bertamini stated that she understands why the Judge would request trained officers to provide security at the court appearances. She concurred with Councillor Davidson that it would be beneficial for Council to receive more detailed reports on overtime. She asked if the purpose for overtime hours could be reported as such. R. Romanetz explained that in fairness to Cpl. Cooper, the report from K Division is standardized – Cpl. Cooper would have to provide specific details as a separate report. Cpl. Cooper agreed to either report on overtime costs at the Management meetings or Council. Councillor Bertamini advised that Council should continue their efforts to recover these costs through the Federal Government.

Mayor Ainscough asked if the second and third quarter overtime hours were as a result of the murder trial at the Institution. Cpl. Cooper agreed that the majority for the two quarters was as a result of the riot. Mayor Ainscough asked if the overtime hours incurred as a result of the Wayne Rally were included on either invoice. Cpl. Cooper stated no. Cpl. Cooper explained that he reviewed the previous years invoice and concurs that overtime for 2003 is significantly higher than 2002. He stated that the average overtime for each quarter is normally 100-200 hours, which is basically general duties, such as calling in trained officer to conduct a breathalyzer test on impaired drivers. Cpl. Cooper explained that if such an incident occurred in the rural area, these costs are invoiced to the Province.

Councillor H. Stables expressed concern that if the officers are providing security at the Court House, the community is without officers during this time. Councillor H. Stables stated that overtime costs have been an issue for the last four or five years and it is hopeful that this matter will be resolved at the federal level. Councillor Stables asked if security is provided at all court appearances. Cpl. Cooper stated yes – there are at a minimum of 2-3 officers looking after the prisoners during their court appearances. Cpl. Cooper stated that during this time, if Council wished, he could bring in another officer to ensure that a member is within the community however there will be additional overtime costs. Councillor Stables asked if check stops result in overtime hours. Cpl. Cooper advised that check stops are conducted in conjunction with highway patrol and no overtime is incurred – normally, there is one check stop each month.

Councillor D. Cunningham asked whether another officer is brought in at overtime rates if the detachment is shorthanded due to illness. Cpl. Cooper stated that if an officer calls in sick he must weigh the situation to determine if a replacement is required. He stated that he can not compromise the officers' safety. The situation differs in each instance and sometimes alternate arrangements can be made.

Mayor Paul Ainscough questioned whether more officers should be trained on the breathalyzer.

Cpl. Cooper stated that this may be the ideal plan but training is not always available. He further noted that the course is difficult and is two weeks in length. New training is scheduled for two officers in the spring. Cpl. Cooper advised that some officers do not claim overtime – they ask for time in lieu. He noted that both he and the former Staff Sgt. do not claim overtime.

Councillor L. Davidson asked how to improve the perception within the community that the officers are not visible. Cpl. Cooper stated that he understands this perception to be the same in most communities. He further noted that public relations can always be improved. He stated that the officers walk-about in the downtown core periodically and they have been involved in special events, July 1st and Remembrance Day. He explained that if the officers are not visible, then they are working on other files, such as investigations, i.e. recently stolen vehicles – there is a limit as to how much time the officers can be in the public eye. He stated that he understands that there is a demand on the members to get involved in the community and he encourages this aspect as well.

2) 2003 Statistics

- Criminal code (vast majority being property related) – 1201 offences up from 1049 in the previous year (14% increase); the five year average is 1072; in comparison with the provincial statistics -12% increase overall. Cpl. Cooper noted that neighbouring detachments have seen an increase as high as 58%. The Town has experienced an average increase similar to the Province.
- Traffic tickets issued this year totalled 1254 compared to 1090 last year (13% increase over last year);
- Vandalism incidents 215 in 2003 compared to 194 last year;
- Motor vehicle thefts 66 in 2003 compared to 22 last year; and he further noted that 2004 has already seen a number of motor vehicle thefts.

Questions from Council:

Councillor L. Davidson questioned of the 1254 tickets, how many were issued due to check stops? Cpl Cooper did not have this breakdown however he will provide this information at a later date.

3) Staff Changes

- Staff changes in the last year included: Two constables, transferred replaced by two cadets; Doug McRae's replacement is expected to be in Drumheller by March 1st; Staff Sgt. Redl was transferred to a new role in Calgary and the interviews have not yet been carried out for his replacement. Currently, the detachment is understaffed by two positions. The Province is also experiencing an overall staff shortage and they do not project that things will improve in the next five years due to the retirement of numerous members. D. Meller also advised that the municipal clerk position has now been filled.

Mayor Ainscough thanked Cpl. Cooper for his presentation.

7.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS

8.1 CAO

8.1.1 Bylaw 03.04 Municipal Borrowing Bylaw

R. Romanetz presented Bylaw 03.04 for the purpose of borrowing monies as permitted by Section 256 of the Municipal Government Act. M. Minchin noted that the Town may borrow up to the principal sum of \$2m from ATB Financial at the prime lending rate.

MO2004.03 Sparling, Davidson first reading to Bylaw 03.04.

Discussion held on Motion:

Councillor K. Bertamini asked if the Town researched other lending firms' borrowing rates. R. Romanetz stated that the Town is committed to short term borrowing from ATB, as this forms part of the request for proposal for banking services. Councillor L. Davidson asked if the Town intends to borrow the full amount. M. Minchin stated \$2m is the revolving line of credit available to the Town, if required.

Vote on Motion: Carried.

MO2004.04 Pedersen, Stables second reading to Bylaw 03.04. Cd.

MO2004.05 Bertamini, Pedersen no objection to third reading. Cd.

MO2004.06 Davidson, Cunningham for third reading to Bylaw 03.04. Cd.

8.1.2 RFD – Expenditure Resolution

R. Romanetz advised that pursuant to subsection 248(2) of the Municipal Government Act, Council must approve a procedure for authorizing and verifying expenditures not included in the current year's budget. Since the 2004 Budget has not been approved, a resolution from Council is required to authorize the CAO, or his delegate, to pay all current accounts, which are a proper charge of the Town, until the 2004 Operating and Capital Budgets are approved.

MO2004.07 Sparling, Davidson that Council, in accordance with Section 248(2) of the Municipal Government Act, authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or his delegate, to pay all current accounts, which are properly charged to the Town, until the 2004 Operating and Capital Budgets are approved by Council. Cd.

8.1.3 RFD – Federation of Canadian Municipalities Municipal Rights of Way Defence Fund

R. Romanetz advised that the FCM's Municipal Rights-of-Way Defence Fund proposal asks municipalities to contribute up to a maximum of 5.0 cents per capita for three years. This is the third year of the Town's commitment and the FCM is requesting an amount based on a population of 7833 at 5.0 cents per capita, which equates to \$391.65. He further advised that the funds will be used to support the FCM's argument that telecommunication carriers should reimburse municipalities for costs directly for the use of the municipalities' land. Although the proceeding will focus on issues in Vancouver, the principles developed will set important precedents for municipal governments.

MO2004.08 Stables, Bertamini that Council authorize Administration to forward a cheque in the amount of \$391.65 to the FCM's Rights of Way Defence Fund. Cd.

8.2 Director of Infrastructure Services

8.3 Director of Corporate Services

8.3.1 RFD – Awarding of Tender for Photocopiers

M. Minchin advised that the Town issued a Request for Proposals in November for the supply of four new photocopiers for use throughout the organization. The RFP was issued in response to the expiration of the current lease agreements for the four current photocopiers. An analysis was

conducted of the four proposals received on both the purchase or lease price for all four units.

Based on the summary provided, Administration recommends that the low bid from Konica Minolta be accepted in the amount of \$51,565.00 plus a service agreement cost of \$0.01098 per copy. This cost will be subject to the volume of copying. He noted that the Town has chosen the option to purchase the four units because the life lease costs are higher. M. Minchin further noted that the dollars budgeted for leasing will be transferred to the capital reserve for the purchase of the units. As well, two grant program dollars will be accessed to offset the costs of the units.

MO2004.09 Pedersen, Cunningham that Council award the Town's photocopier purchase and maintenance service contract to Konica Minolta for the purchase price of \$51,565 plus GST and the average service agreement cost of \$0.01098 plus GST per copy.

Discussion held on Motion:

Councillor J. Sparling asked if the photocopiers were demoed. M. Minchin noted that one unit will be tested and providing it meets operational demands, the other three will be ordered. As well, references have been checked, such as the David Thompson Health Region. Councillor L. Davidson expressed concern with the cost of the service / maintenance agreement. M. Minchin noted that there is one unit that is utilized by the public which requires regular maintenance. He further noted that the provision of toner cartridges is included in the service / maintenance costs.

Vote on Motion: Cd.

8.4 Director of Community Services

8.4.1 RFD – Service Fees Increase

D. Meller advised that Council had directed Administration to prepare a recommendation on service fee increases for inclusion in the 2004 Budget. She presented proposed fee increases for the Aquaplex family passes, Arena Ice rental rates, Ball Diamond rental rates, and Handiman Services. She noted that the current rates have not been increased for a number of years. She further noted that it is recognized that the overall increase in revenues is minor however the intent is to support the concept of a shared subsidy and user pay system as recommended in the Strategic Business Plan. She reviewed the proposed rate increases as follows: Aquaplex overall 5% increase effective February 1, 2004 (anticipated increase in revenue is \$4600.00); Arena – air rental fees 10% increase effective August 1, 2004 (anticipated increase in revenue is \$5,000.00); Ball Diamonds – 30% increase effective March 31, 2004 (anticipated increase in revenue \$1300.00); and Handiman Services have been contracted to Grace House Odd Job Squad since 1995, after 9 years of a consistent fee schedule, fees to be increased by 25% effective January 1, 2004 with a client increase of 20% effective February 1, 2004 (anticipated increase in revenue \$2040.00, with a subsidy increase of 4%).

Councillor H. Stables asked if there was an increase to the fees at the swimming pool. D. Meller advised no increase to the daily fees at the swimming pool as they are well within line in comparison to other municipalities.

Councillor L. Davidson referred to the proposed fee increase for the Handiman Service and noted that the residents of Drumheller in the outlying areas should not be charged a higher amount. He requested that the fees be blended to charge equal amounts throughout the Valley as the rates are subsidized as well. Councillor H. Stables asked if the rates are set by Grace House. D. Meller stated yes. Councillor D. Cunningham stated that the rationale for extra costs due to the distance involved is reasonable. D. Meller noted that each department will provide announcements of the new rates to their customers.

MO2004.10 Bertamini that Council authorize Administration to proceed with the implementation of the 2004 rate increase and time lines as presented.

Councillor L. Davidson asked for a recorded vote:

4 – in favour – Bertamini, Cunningham, Stables, Pedersen

3 - opposed – Ainscough, Davidson, Sparling

Cd.

8.4.2 RFD – Year of the Coal Miner

D. Meller advised that Drumheller, as part of a five community Consortia, has been included in approval of a Heritage Canada grant and has been named a Cultural Capital of Canada. The focus for the designation and the grant is to recognize the Year of the Coal Miner. She further noted that the Town has been awarded \$20,000 from the Consortia funding to develop a community legacy, to focus on coal mining heritage, and to increase awareness through community celebrations. She presented the proposal as developed by a Committee of key players for Council's approval. The proposal outlines a number of cultural activities, special events and celebrations, including the production of play.

MO2004.11 Cunningham, Stables that Council approve the goals and activities for the Year of the Coal Miner as proposed.

Councillor Bertamini asked if the \$20,000 was part of the grant dollars. D. Meller stated yes. Councillor Cunningham asked if there would be a charge for the play. D. Meller stated that the

Committee has the right to agree to a charge and the amount will also be dependent upon the Theatre / Production Company.

Vote on Motion: Cd.

9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

(Quarterly and Annual Reports due January 26, 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

10.1 Bylaw 23.03 being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 36.98 by redesignating Block 5 Plan 7911034 from “M-1” – Industrial District to “M-2” – Industrial District

R. Romanetz recommended that Council proceed to second and third readings as there were no objections from the public.

MO2004.12 Bertamini, Sparling for second reading to Bylaw 23.03. Cd.

MO2004.13 Davidson, Cunningham for third reading to Bylaw 23.03. Cd.

11.0 DELEGATION DECISIONS

12.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

14.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

15.0 **IN-CAMERA MATTERS MO2004.14** Cunningham, Pedersen to go in camera at 7:00 PM . Cd.

15.1 Personnel Matter

15.2 Land Matter – Legal Lots 6-10, Block 11, Plan 9710916

15.3 Land Matter – Right of First Refusal Legal Lots 1-2, Block 12, Plan 9710916

15.4 Homestead Antique Museum Board Appointment

MO2004.15 Bertamini, Cunningham that Council revert to Regular Council Meeting at 7:35 PM . Cd.

15.2 Land Matter – Legal Lots 6-10, Block 11, Plan 9710916

MO2004.16 Bertamini, Pedersen that Council grant an extension of 90 days to the offer to purchase for Lots 6-10, Block 11, Plan 971016 from Cobra Contracting (Drumheller) Ltd. Cd.

15.3 Land Matter – Right of First Refusal Legal Lots 3 & 4, Block 12, Plan 9710916

MO2004.17 Davidson, Stables that Council grant a right of first refusal to Dan's Oilfield Services / Cliff's Oilfield Hauling for Lots 3 & 4, Block 12, Plan 9710916 until March 31, 2004 . Cd.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER