

# **Town of Drumheller**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

### **MINUTES**



**May 3, 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 Hon. Anne McLellan, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness regarding RCMP resources in the Town of Drumheller. In her letter, Hon. McLellan states that officials of the Correctional Service of Canada emphasize that they have no jurisdiction or input into how the RCMP investigate a homicide or any other violation under the Criminal Code of Canada. She noted that although the RCMP acknowledge that such incidents create unplanned expenditures for the Town of Drumheller, they do not agree that they should pay the Town's enclosed invoice.

She further stated that Mr. Floyd Wilson, Warden of Drumheller Institution will be contacting the Town and the RCMP to discuss this issue.

2.2 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Patricia Nelson, Minister of Finance in response to the Mayors and Reeves Network concerns on highway maintenance and improvements. In her letter, Hon. Nelson stated that Hon. Ed Stelmach, Minister of Transportation will respond directly to the concerns about highway maintenance and improvements. She further stated that Transportation's operating expense budget will rise from \$889 million in 2003-04 to over \$1.0 billion in 2004-05.

2.3 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development announcing an annual operating grant for the Newcastle Beach Recreation Area in the amount of \$8,000.00.

2.4 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Shirley McClellan, Deputy Premier and MLA announcing that the Minister of Transportation has approved ICAP funding for the Riverside Drive Sanitary Sewer Forcemain project,

2.5 Mayor P. Ainscough proclaimed the Month of May as Hearing and Speech Month in Canada

2.6 Mayor P. Ainscough proclaimed May 8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> as Alberta Crime Prevention Week.

2.7 Mayor P. Ainscough advised that he and CAO, R. Romanetz attended the AUMA Regional Seminar held in Red Deer on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Ainscough provided highlights of the AUMA's Sustaining Prosperity Together Campaign which is as a result of a number of resolutions passed at the 2003 AUMA Convention. He noted that these resolutions ask the Province to work with the AUMA to develop new sources of revenue for municipalities. He noted that the report identifies key messages, such as: 1) Tax dollars are not distributed equitably: Federal government: 50%; Provincial government: 42%; and Municipal government: 8%; 2) Municipal revenues are lagging other orders of government: Federal revenues up 16%; Province revenues up 21%; and Municipal revenues up 4%; 3) The municipal disadvantage is quickly becoming the Alberta disadvantage – lack of adequate financial resources is restricting the potential growth of municipalities and increases in property tax rates put pressure on seniors; and 4) Providing adequate infrastructure funding to municipalities is an investment, not a cost: The cost to rehabilitate a roadway that hasn't been properly maintained is up to \$160,000 per kilometre and it costs up to \$500,000 per kilometre to reconstruct a roadway.

Mayor P. Ainscough asked CAO, R. Romanetz to provide an update on discussion items from the AUMA Seminar. R. Romanetz provided the following highlights:

- President Ernie Patterson confirmed that municipalities with a population between 5,000 and 20,000 did not benefit significantly from the new funding changes announced by the Provincial government this spring. Municipalities under 5,000 now have their policing costs paid 100% by the Province. However, E. Patterson cautioned that the Province may reduce the number of RCMP members within those municipalities, that the smaller municipalities will no longer receive any fine revenue, and the Province has yet to clarify whether these municipalities will be responsible for municipal staff working for the RCMP. As a result of the considerable amount of

feedback the AUMA President has received from municipalities regarding the new funding arrangements for municipalities between 5,000 and 20,000 people, the AUMA has agreed to hold a meeting with the stakeholder municipalities to explore more equitable options.

- The AUMA confirmed that a recent study conducted on behalf of the AUMA confirms that if municipalities receive revenue from a \$0.05 cents per litre fuel tax, this proposal would raise \$115.00 per capita for all Albertans compared to the \$60.00 per capita currently contributed toward transportation by the Provincial government.
- Energy Aggregation – AUMA confirmed that 128 members have signed on with the natural gas program at \$5.99 per Gj. While 154 have signed on under the electric aggregation program at approximately \$52.00 per Mwh. Drumheller signed with the AUMA for natural gas and with Constellation Energy for retail power.
- Rural Urban Cost Sharing Task Force – The Committee reported on different options regarding building, positive healthy inter-municipal relationships to facilitate negotiations and development of cost sharing agreements.
- Housing and Social Infrastructure Task Force – The report identified the Affordable Housing Tool Kit prepared by the AUMA and discussed the initiatives taken by the Committee which includes representation from Councillor K.A. Bertamini, from the Town of Drumheller. The AUMA reported on the results of their Housing and Social Infrastructure Survey that was conducted earlier this year. A detailed response to this survey will be forwarded to municipalities shortly.
- Sustaining Prosperity Together – The AUMA handed out copies of the Sustaining Prosperity Together Fact Sheet and also provided a detailed review of a 10 point plan for getting municipalities on the Provincial radar screen. This proposal will be discussed in detail with Council at the next Committee meeting to confirm our involvement and the roles of Council and Administration.
- Muni Share – The AUMA reported on the progress they had made on the development of Muni Share, which is software that will help promote effective governance. This software package proposes to reduce operating expenses by sharing support services and infrastructure investments. As an example, the software will be capable of providing financial information and reporting on a consistent basis for all member municipalities. Member municipalities would be required to contribute toward this package of service and information and requires a minimum number of municipalities to participate to be financial viable.
- General Insurance and Benefits – The AUMA provided a broad overview on general insurance and benefits. A point to note is that municipalities that do not practice due diligence and incur significant claims will see their premiums increase.
- Water For Life – The Province has confirmed that they have identified a target of 30% reduction in consumption of potable water. The Province confirmed that they have completed their initial assessment of all drinking water facilities across the Province. The Province is reviewing this material and conducting a more detailed analysis. The assessment for all water facilities, including Drumheller, should be

available in late June. The assessment not only reviews whether the plant is currently operating within the existing approval but also looks at how well positioned the plant is to accommodate new standards that the Province is looking at implementing in the short term. They also indicated that they are requiring municipalities to adopt a full cost accounting system for utilities. Drumheller has already developed a template and inventory to meet this requirement. The Province suggested that penalties will be put in place for those municipalities that do not conserve water.

### **3.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

### **4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Addition to Agenda:** 15.3 Land Matter – Plan 9710916 Block 12 Lots 3 & 4

**MO2004.104** Sparling, Davidson moved the adoption of the agenda as amended. Cd.

### **5.0 MINUTES**

5.1.1 ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 19, 2004

**MO2004.105** Sparling, Davidson moved the adoption of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 19, 2004. Cd.

5.2 MINUTES OF MEETINGS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.2.1 Management Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2004

5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

### **6.0 DELEGATIONS**

### **7.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS**

#### **8.1 CAO**

#### **8.2 Director of Infrastructure Services**

8.2 RFD – Capital Plan Adjustment – Aerial Photography

W. Yeoman stated that new air photos and development of orthophotos were approved as part of the 2004 Capital Budget under the Muni2004/05 grant. He further noted that this matter was discussed at Council's Committee meeting of April 26<sup>th</sup>. W. Yeoman stated that it is best to take the photos before the leaves are fully on the trees. He explained that the last set of aerial photographs was taken in 1998. The total cost of the project is \$8,250.00. Drumheller and District Solid Waste Management has agreed to cost share on this project (in the amount of \$4,000.00) because under the new landfill approval, there is a requirement for detailed contour designs. R. Romanetz explained that the Province

requires the Association to prepare a complete operating plan which includes aerial photographs or the hiring of a surveyor to calculate elevations – the cost for this work would have been in excess of \$4,000. He further noted that with the aerial photographs, the Association will be in a position to develop the proper calculations without having to go into the field.

**MO2004.106** Stables, Pedersen that Council authorizes Administration to proceed with the aerial photography of the Valley to be followed by orthophoto development at a later date once grant funding approval is received from the Province.

Discussion on Motion:

Councillor L. Davidson asked if the Town can apply for funding after the fact. R. Romanetz advised that it is the Town's intention to apply for orthophoto funding under Muni Sponsorship Program 2004-05, however the aerial photography would not be eligible on a retroactive basis.

Vote on Motion: Cd.

W. Yeoman announced the Town of Drumheller's Spring Clean-up schedule for May 25<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>. The map showing areas and dates will be published in both local newspapers shortly.

### **8.3 Director of Corporate Services**

#### **8.3.1 2004 First Quarter Financial Report**

M. Minchin presented the first quarter financial report. He stated that there is no balance sheet as the auditor still has the Town's books opened. He further stated that both the capital and operating budgets were not approved until the end of the first quarter. He noted that because of the high cost of utilities, franchise revenue are on stream as budgeted. He referred to the RCMP presentation of their quarterly report on April 19<sup>th</sup> and stated that revenues are down, which is an area of discussion for both Council and RCMP. He stated that there is a lot of volatility in the wastewater treatment expense area. He commented that investments have 5.5% - 6.0% on average return – the Town has investments with the Bank of Montreal and CIBC.

M. Minchin advised that the auditors will be in attendance at Council's meeting of May 17<sup>th</sup> to present the 2003 audited financial statements.

### **8.4 Director of Community Services**

#### **8.4.1 RFD – Vending Services**

D. Meller advised that the Town of Drumheller supports Centennial Park as an exclusive vending area. On an annual basis, Council approves the number of vending sites, advertising and the vendors. This year Council approved two vending sites for Centennial Park. The Request for Proposal was advertised with a deadline of March 28<sup>th</sup>. After this

deadline passed, only one proposal was received from Mr. Jim Pringle. Administration agreed to contact last year's vendors to determine if they were interested in submitting a late proposal. A concern was expressed in the fairness of this process. One bid was submitted by Sheila Burke. It is recommended that the first submission from Mr. Jim Pringle be approved immediately and that Mr. Pringle be invited to submit an additional proposal to be considered for approval at Council's next meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**MO2004.107** Bertamini, Stables that Council approve the Pringle submission effective May 3 to October 1, 2004 and extend an invitation to Mr. Pringle to submit a second bid by May 7, 2004. The Burke bid and the second Pringle bid will then be considered in a separate process at the Council Meeting of May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor H. Stables stated that no motions can be given at the meeting of May 10<sup>th</sup>. D. Meller confirmed that the matter will be considered on May 10<sup>th</sup> for discussion only. Councillor L. Davidson stated that this matter has been a problem from the onset and he requested that both of Mr. Pringles' submission be approved this evening. Councillor K. Bertamini stated that the initial RFP was for one vending spot. She further stated that his second submission should be considered at the next Council meeting. She called for the question on the motion.

Vote on Motion: Cd.

#### 8.4.2 Announcement – Downtown Revitalization Public meeting

D. Meller recommended that the Town host a public meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 9:00 PM at the Civic Centre. Council, Administration, Steering Committee members and Urban Systems should be in attendance. She noted that invitations will be sent to downtown business owners through the DRCDDT fax system and an advertisement will be published in the Town Page. Councillor L. Davidson asked for an opportunity to discuss the project prior to the public meeting. This item to be on the next Council Committee agenda of May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### 9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

(Quarterly Reports due July 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

### 11.0 DELEGATION DECISIONS

### 12.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### **13.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

#### **14.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

14.1 Councillor B. Pedersen advised that copies of the Seniors Foundation Audited Statements for 2003 have been distributed to Council. He highlighted the following areas:

- Municipal requisitions were received from: Drumheller - \$12,770; Starland - \$11,692; Delia - \$220; Munson - \$188; and Morrin - \$170 for a total of \$25,040.
- The 2004 requisition will increase by approximately \$5,000 and be split accordingly among the contributing municipalities.
- Notes to Financial Statements - Commitments. The Foundation has entered into an agreement to expand the Sunshine Lodge by 29 rooms and complete various renovations. As at year end the Foundation is committed to spend approximately \$507,334 to complete the project, which has a total revised budget of \$3,114,957. The Foundation has also entered into a lease agreement with the Alberta Social Housing Corporation. The 25 year lease was required by Alberta Treasury Branches to grant the Foundation the loan required to complete construction of the Lodge expansion and renovations. The lease agreement includes lands and buildings owned by the Alberta Social Housing Corporation, which the Foundation utilizes for the Sunshine Lodge. The ASHC requires a one dollar payment for lease of the premises on an annual basis.
- He asked Council to direct any questions on the statement to Mrs. Janet Senior, Manger, Drumheller & District Seniors Foundation.

Councillor Pedersen announced a tour of the Sunshine Lodge for Council and Administration on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM.

**15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS MO2004.108** Cunningham, Davidson to go in camera at 6:20 PM. Cd.

15.1 Personnel Matter

15.2 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Wayne Bike Rally

15.3 Land Matter – Plan Lots 3 & 4

**MO2004.109** Cunningham, Davidson to revert back to regular Council meeting at 7:05 PM. Cd.

15.3 Land Matter – Plan 9710916 Block 12 Lots 3 & 4

**MO2004.110** Bertamini, Stables that the Town of Drumheller accept the Offer to Purchase from Dan's Oilfield Ltd. for Plan 9710916 Block 12 Lots 3 and 4. Cd.

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There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER