

Town of Drumheller

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES



February 22, 2005 5:30 PM Council Chambers, Town Hall
703 - 2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta

PRESENT:

DEPUTY MAYOR: Don Cunningham

COUNCIL:

Karen Bertamini
Larry Davidson
Karen MacKinnon
Sharel Shoff
John Sparling

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:

Ray Romanetz

DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:

Wes Yeoman

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:

Michael Minchin

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Scott Blevins

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Linda Handy

ABSENT: MAYOR Paul Ainscough

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Councillor L. Davidson was sworn in as Deputy Mayor for March and April, 2005.

2.0 MAYOR AINSCOUGH'S OPENING REMARKS

2.1 Deputy Mayor Don Cunningham announced the Open House for Red Deer River Watershed Alliance to be held in Drumheller on March 3rd at Drumheller at Civic Centre. He noted that public have the option of attending either session:

Afternoon	Open House – 2:00 to 3:45 PM
	Meeting – 3:45 to 4:45 PM
Evening	Open House – 7:00 to 8:15 PM
	Meeting – 8:15 to 9:15 PM

2.2 Deputy Mayor Don Cunningham proclaimed March 1st – 16th as Kidney Foundation March Drive.

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Additions to agenda: 14.1 Councillor Shoff – Library Update; 15.3 Ambulance Update
MO2005.31 Bertamini, Davidson moved the adoption of the agenda as amended. Cd.

5.0 MINUTES

5.1. ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

5.1.1 Council Regular Meeting - February 7, 2005

MO2005.32 Sparling, Bertamini moved the adoption of the regular Council minutes of February 7, 2005 as presented. Cd.

5.2 MINUTES OF MEETINGS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.0 DELEGATIONS

6.1 Presentation from Rotary Club – Bulkhead at Aquaplex

Miss Aiyanna Lauridsen, Aquadinnies Swim Club, presented a power point presentation on the benefits of sport activities for the youth. She provided background on the bulk head and how this equipment would assist their team during training and hosting swim competitions which requires a pool length of 25 metres. She stated that the Swim Club feels that the bulkhead would enhance the overall operations of the facility and it will serve, not only the club, but the community as well. Dr. Jenny Fuh and Mrs. Brenda Wells updated Council on their fund raising efforts. Dr. Fuh advised that the Swim Club has approached several community groups and corporate companies for funding. To date, the Elks Club has agreed to contribute \$1500, EOG - \$500 and the Drumheller Rotary Club is committed to a specific amount. The Swim Club is prepared to contribute \$10,000 towards the bulkhead plus they have purchased ropes at a cost of \$6,000. She reviewed other costs that the Swim Club would encounter in order to host swim competitions, such as, starting blocks at a cost of \$1200-\$1700 each and a facility audit. It is the Swim Club's intention to contribute the sum total of \$20,000 towards the project by July 1, 2005. Mrs. Wells stated that they are still seeking other organizations and corporate sponsorships.

Mr. Ron Wegleitner, Drumheller Rotarians, presented a letter of commitment to Council in the amount of \$40,000 to be used towards the purchase of the bulkhead. The letter is conditional that the Town of Drumheller and the Drumheller Aquadinnies Swim Club will secure the remaining portion for the bulkhead by June 30th 2005. He stated that the year 2005 is the celebration of the 100th Anniversary for Rotary International and the Club feels that this is a fitting community project to benefit the youth and the community as a whole.

Deputy Mayor Don Cunningham thanked Mr. Wegleitner for the generous contributions from the Drumheller Rotarians.

Council thanked Miss Lauridsen for her presentation and Dr. Fuh and Mrs. Wells for their excellent fund raising efforts towards the bulkhead project. Council wished them well in their endeavours.

7.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS

8.1 CAO

8.1.1 Hillsview Subdivision Road Closure Bylaw

R. Romanetz stated that Administration is working to move the project forward. A meeting was held with the realtors and builders to present the draft proposal for subdivision - the lots sizes will vary and the Municipal Reserve and Environment Reserve will not be substantially altered. The Town's subdivision application has been submitted to Palliser Regional Municipal Services. Bylaw 04.05 proposes to close a portion of roadway to create new roadways and laneways with a smaller MR and ER. He advised that once the bylaw receives first reading, the Town will proceed with the advertising requirements and a public hearing will be held on March 7th, 2005.

MO2005.33 Davidson, Bertamini moved first reading to Bylaw 04-05. Cd.

8.1.2 R. Romanetz provided the following update on the Mayor's and Reeves Meeting held on February 10, 2005:

- **Highway 9 West Upgrading**

- First phase of the upgrade to Hwy 9 West from Drumheller to Horseshoe Canyon is scheduled to proceed in the Spring, 2005. He further explained that there has been no further commitment to proceed with the next phase (to Hwy 21). As there is no guarantee that other phases will continue, the Mayor encouraged municipalities to keep the pressure on so that other phases remain on schedule. The Mayors and Reeves agreed that this is a major project for the region and they considered that further upgrading is paramount to improve this road network.

Action: Mayor Ainscough to forward a letter to Hon. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation requesting assurance that the Province is committed to completing all phases on schedule.

- **Canadian Badlands**

- Canadian Badlands Eco Tourism Destination Assessment was released to the public on January 20th, 2005. Three community tourism strategic plans are now underway for Warner, Brooks and Hanna (review of tourist attractions). Drumheller has a number of well defined tourist attractions. Louise McGillivray, Alberta Economic Development works with

the Steering Committee on development opportunities - the next conference call is scheduled for late February.

- Special Areas Board is working towards the development of a promotional sign for the Drumheller and area to be placed near Oyen; the sign will promote tourist attractions in Drumheller and throughout the region - their community would build the sign for Drumheller and vice versa - it is hopeful that this proposal would fit into a grant program.

- Discussion centered around the Province's new tourism highway signing program to convert all the old brown signs to the new blue format and the significant cost factor for municipalities to implement these changes.

ACTION: Letter from Mayors and Reeves to the Province on the significant cost for changing signage and the reduced access of businesses for signage opportunities.

- **Kneehill Water Project**

- Mayor Annon Hovde, Village of Linden (Chair of Kneehill Water Commission) provided an update on the water line - it is now in the ground to Acme and the reservoir is near completion – pumps will be installed in the near future. The line has been pressure tested and any leaks corrected. The next phase of construction is from Linden to Irricana and the tenders for this portion were opened in Red Deer on February 17th. It is hoped that all users will have water by September, 2005.

- **Starland County Regional Water Project**

- R. Rawluysk, Starland County provided an update on their water project which will serve approximately 50 rural residents and the Village of Morrin. Tenders came in over budget and they had to reduce the scope of the future project. The Town continues to work towards a water supply agreement and at that time contracts relating to improvements to Drumheller's booster station will be dealt with.

- **Special Areas Water Project**

- Jay Slem, Special Areas Board provided an update on their water project which is different from the others in that the line is for untreated water, which would be available for a number of uses – irrigation and livestock. J. Slem noted that their water project has caused controversy between municipalities. The water shed is not fully allocated and Special Areas would like to draw water from the river during the high flows periods (which flows on to Saskatchewan). Once the public meetings have been held, the Province will make their decision regarding the license and funding – some continued dialogue with other users in the basin is necessary. Special Areas will store water and use it during dry periods.

- **Regional Water Treatment Funding Formula**

- Drumheller has received approval from Alberta Transportation on a 1/3 Province and 2/3 Municipal cost sharing arrangement for upgrades to the Water Treatment Plant to meet with new environmental standards for the expanded regional system. However, this

funding is not under the new criteria based on the regionalization funding formula recently introduced by the Province of Alberta. The funding formula issue was raised at a meeting with Transportation and rationale used by Transportation is that although they are promoting regional systems, economy of scale and other advantage, Drumheller has entered into a long term agreement with Kneehill Water Commission and Starland County which does not meet their criteria because Drumheller owns the plant. Mayor Ainscough and R. Romanetz met with Hon. Lyle Oberg and at that time the Minister stated that he would look into the matter. Drumheller's water supply needs are common to other regional projects, such as the installation of an ultraviolet disinfection system to reduce THM levels in the regional water supply. When chlorine is added, THM's are produced and becomes an issue when the water gets to Kneehill or Munson. The only way to deal with problem is to remove the chlorine from the outlying areas or replace the organics from the onset. Kneehill and Starland agreed that they would forward a letter to the Minister on this matter as under the new funding formula, there will be a different cost sharing which will impact on rates for users of the system.

ACTION: Kneehill Water Commission and Starland County to forward letters to the Minister and Ross Rawluysk, Ray Romanetz and John Vandosberg to arrange a meeting with Hon. Lyle Oberg to discuss this matter.

- **Red Deer River Users Group**

- Mayor Ainscough explained the purpose of the Red Deer River User Group and that the group has developed a strategy to lobby in the best interests of the basin as a unified group. The next meeting will be held on March 17th - all needs for the area are put on the table rather than municipalities dealing with their projects in isolation. The purpose of the group differs from the Water Shed Alliance Group.

- **Ambulance Services**

- From discussions with attendees, it appears there are similar frustrating situations being experienced by all municipalities.

- **Policing Costs**

- Discussion held on two policing issues: Changing RCMP municipal support staff to federal employees and how this will impact municipalities' budget; and continuing to lobby for increased policing funding.

ACTION: Mayor Ainscough has forwarded a letter to the Solicitor General and is hopeful that other municipalities over 5000 in population will continue to lobby the Province for additional funding for policing.

- **Brownfields**

- This is similar problem with all municipalities. Mayor Ainscough advised the group that in discussions with Premier Klein last fall, he agreed to consider the re-implementation of a program. It is hopeful that dollars will be allocated for this purpose in the Province's

2005 budget.

ACTION: Mayors and Reeves agreed that this is both a rural and urban issue and that collectively they should lobby the Province for Brownfields guidelines and funding.

- **Increased Funding for Local Municipal Roads**

- Wheatland County concerned with the negative impact of the oil and gas industry on their infrastructure. Some companies are moving twice a day for drills which is destroying roads; they feel the Province should allocate royalties to maintain roads.

ACTION: Letter from Mayors and Reeves asking for stronger legislation requiring the oil and gas industry to pay for damages to infrastructure and requesting funding from the Province to upgrade these roads.

8.1.3 PRISM Project

R. Romanetz explained the Palliser Regional Infrastructure System Management (PRISM) Project under the Alberta Municipal Affairs Regional Partnerships Initiative Implementation Grant Application. The project entails developing a standardized platform for GIS technology for all 22 communities served by Palliser Regional Municipal Services through a web based portal. He further explained that although Drumheller has data relating to our municipality, it is not shared with other municipality. There are regional projects that require the sharing of information, such as the Mosquito Program and EMS. The project would meet the requirements under FOIPP, "*Freedom of Information and the Protection of Privacy Act*". The PRISM implementation initiative if approved by Alberta Municipal Affairs would receive cost sharing of 75%. Within the grant application, it is proposed that each of the 22 municipal members contribute the 25% municipal share of \$50,000 according to the same percentage of the 2005 Palliser requisitions. He explained that each municipality is required to pass a Council resolution supporting the project and the municipality's share of the 25% funding, which would equate to \$12,000 for Drumheller. The amount is in addition to the fees already paid to PRMS for planning services.

MO2005.34 Davidson, Bertamini that Council approved the PRISM Implementation Grant Application as presented and in accordance with the following resolution:

1. "Be it resolved that Council authorize the Town of Drumheller to participate in, and submit a Regional Partnerships Initiative Implementation grant application for "PRISM (Palliser Regional Information System Management) GIS/MIMS Platform" under the Alberta Municipal Affairs Regional Partnerships Initiative; further
2. That the Town of Drumheller agree to contribute its share according to Table "A" attached, towards the required 25 percent municipal financial contribution component of the implementation grant funding; further
3. That the Town of Drumheller agree that "Palliser Regional Municipal Services" be designated the managing partner of PRISM (Palliser Regional Information System Management) GIS/MIMS Platform for the purposes of receiving, administering, allocating, reporting, and accounting for the grant funds on behalf of the partners; and further
4. That the Town of Drumheller agree to abide by the terms of a Conditional Grant

Agreement signed by the managing partner on behalf of the other partner municipalities and/or approved participants governing the purpose and use of the implementation grant funds." Cd.

8.1.4 Council Procedure Bylaw 03.05 Change of Council Meeting Time

Councillor Bertamini gave Notice of Motion to amend the Procedure Bylaw regarding changing Council's meeting time from 5:30 PM to 4:30 PM at Council's next meeting of March 7th, 2005. R. Romanetz advised that a resolution would be required by Council to change the meeting times for Council's Committee Meetings from 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

8.2 Director of Infrastructure Services

8.2.1 Tourist Oriented Direction Signs

W. Yeoman advised that at Council's Meeting of January 24th, the Mayor read a letter from Guide Sign regarding the new tourism highway signing program which proposes to convert all the current brown and white signs to the new, internationally recognized blue and white format. Since that time, Town staff has met with both Alberta Transportation and Guide Sign representatives to gain further information related to this mandatory program. He noted that it has become apparent that this program will become very costly and will affect not only the Town but DRCDT and those businesses who currently advertise along the primary and secondary highways. A meeting has been arranged for March 23rd at 2:00 PM at the Civic Centre for all those who may be impacted by this changeover. The Business Development Manager for Guide Sign Industries Ltd. will be in attendance to explain the program and cost implications. Discussion held regarding the cost factor for the Town and business owners. It was agreed that the Mayor should write a letter to Alberta Transportation outlining the Town's concerns.

8.3 Director of Corporate Services

8.4 Director of Community Services

9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

(Quarterly Reports due April 18, 2005)

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 S. Shoff provided an update on the Library's Board Society Meeting held on February 10th. She announced that their General Annual Meeting will be held on March 10th at 6:00 PM at the ATCO Building. The library regular meeting will follow and discussion items will include membership increases, marketing initiatives and a letter to be sent to the Province requesting additional funding.

15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS – MO2005.35 Shoff, Bertamini to go in camera at 7:00 PM. Cd.

15.1 Marketing Plan for Hillview Subdivision

15.2 Land Matter–Lot 22, Block 11, Plan 0311216 and Lot 15, Block 12, Plan 9710916

MO2005.36 Cunningham, Davidson to revert to regular Council Meeting at 7:30 PM. Cd.

15.2 Land Matter-Lot 22, Block 11, Plan 0311216 and Lot 15, Block 12, Plan 9710916

MO2005.37 Sparling, Shoff that Council grant an extension to March 31, 2005 to the Buyer's due diligence clause 3.2 in the Offer to Purchase dated 31st day of December, 2004 between the Town of Drumheller and Albert John Samuel regarding Lot 15, Block 12, Plan 9710916 and the Offer to Purchase dated November 25th, 2004 between the Town of Drumheller and Banorte Capital Inc. regarding Lot 22, Block 11, Plan 0311216. Cd.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER