

# **Town of Drumheller**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

### **MINUTES**



**March 6, 2006** 4:30 PM Council Chambers, Town Hall  
703 - 2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta

#### **PRESENT:**

**MAYOR:**

Paul Ainscough

#### **COUNCIL:**

Karen Bertamini  
Don Cunningham  
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

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

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

2.1 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation advising that grant funding for the water treatment plant filter upgrade project has been approved in the amount of \$1,357,308.95.

2.2 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Hon. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation advising that grant funding under the Alberta Municipal Water / Wastewater Partnership for the Wastewater Treatment Plants upgrades has been approved as follows:

- Process/Engineering Upgrade in East Coulee in the amount of \$76,125;

- Forcemain and Lift Station in Rosedale in the amount of \$507,750; and
- Ultraviolet Disinfection Upgrade in Drumheller in the amount of \$363,360.

2.3 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Carlo Amodio, Property Sales Agent, Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation advising that they have received approval for sale of the former Hovercraft Property in North Drumheller to the Town of Drumheller for a nominal price.

**MO2006.66** Bertamini, Sparling that Council accept the Offer to Purchase from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to the Town of Drumheller for the sale of land legally described as Plan 9111601, Ptn. Block 9 for a nominal value. Carried.

2.4 Mayor P. Ainscough presented an update on Mayors and Reeves Network Meeting held on March 2<sup>nd</sup>

- **Kneehill Water Project** - Mayor A. Hovde, Village of Linden reported that all areas relating to the water are working well.
- **Starland County Regional Water Project** - B. McLeod reported that AGTL Construction has been working on the installation of a regional water system and this portion of the project should be completed by April, 2006. The tender for the mechanical improvements to the Village of Munson's pumping station and Midland's booster station was awarded to Parcon Construction. It is hopeful that water will be turned on in June, 2006. Inter-municipal agreements between the four parties need to be signed. R. Romanetz explained that the parties are not in agreement with the clauses relating to the operations of the booster station however he expects the matter to be resolved in short order.
- **Special Areas Water Project** - J. Slemp advised that once the public consultations results have been reviewed by the Standing Committee, the project would move over to environment assessment and if their requirements have been met, the project will proceed to the design work and then to find a funding formula that is agreeable to all parties.
- **Regional Water Treatment Funding Formula** - Discussion held on whether the Province will recognize that there are a number of larger communities that provide water to smaller communities and that "regional" is all about working together.
- **Red Deer River Municipal Users Group (MUG)** - Minister Guy Boutilier, Minister of Alberta Environment will meet with the group on March 16<sup>th</sup> to address the groups' concerns relating to the unequal allocation of water from the Red Deer River as proposed in the draft South Saskatchewan River Basin Plan. The MUG represents 99,000 people and the group has been a strong voice on this issue. .
- **Ambulance Services** - Discussion held on transfers and Province's response in how their control of the system is undermining municipalities' service to the residents and how their decisions on ambulance transfer service is being made in isolation. Need to have a united voice for the rural ambulance service. The group agreed that a letter be forwarded to RHA requesting them to consider the ambulance system as a whole (the overall picture) and to ensure that it remains

healthy.

- **Policing Costs** – It is hopeful that Harvey Cenaiko, Solicitor General will include additional grant funding from the provincial budget. The AUMA target is \$35 / capita.
- **Canadian Badlands** – Mayor D. Jones advised that the final package with the Canadian Badlands membership letter and Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association were mailed this week to municipalities for their consideration of membership (the rate of 10 cents per capita has been set).
- **Special Constable Review** – Reeve B. McLeod, Starland County provided an overview of the proposed legislative changes for Special Constables.
- **Brownfields** - It is hopeful that recommendations from the draft *Contaminated Sites Report* will be implemented within the Provincial Spring Budget.
- **Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission** – Discussion held on the new legislation on the Alberta Server Intervention Program (ASIP) Techniques in Alcohol Management. Gaming and Liquor has introduced new regulations which proposes to reduce the liability risk to alcohol servers however if you dispense liquor you must complete a course. This will impact volunteers who work at service clubs and organizations serving alcohol. Although the education has its benefits the bureaucracy of the program will impact community volunteers. It was agreed to forward a letter to the Gaming and Liquor Commission to express concerns on how the new regulations will have a negative impact on service clubs volunteers.
- **Road Ban 836** – Discussion held on the need to upgrade SH836 from Hwy 9 to Carbon as it has a year round 75% road ban and how this impacts the route schedule for Drumheller and District Solid Waste Management. Alberta Transportation has advised that they have no intention to remove the road ban and it is slated for upgrade in 2009. Kneehill intends to prepare a proposal to the Province regarding this road - it is a cost to the County in that the traffic is rerouted to other roads within the County.
- **Library Operating Grant** - Alberta's Public Libraries have experienced operational under-funding for almost 15 years. The 2005 grant of \$4.29 per capita was set in 1992. More people are now using the libraries and the need for increased operational funding is serious. These costs are being downloaded to the municipalities, Library Boards and Friends of the Library –who do not have the resources to provide additional funding to libraries. It was agreed that a letter be forwarded to government leaders regarding the need for increased operational funding for libraries.
- **Palliser Regional Municipal Services** - David Amos provided an overview of Palliser Regional Municipal Services and encouraged municipalities to consider the merits of becoming a member.

2.5 Mayor Ainscough presented articles from “Around Alberta – Town Supports Badlands” for Council’s information.

2.6 Mayor P. Ainscough presented a letter from Alberta Solicitor General's Office providing an update on the Request for Proposal for Land Procurement for the Alberta Police and Peace Officer Training Centre and requesting an extension of acceptance to May 15<sup>th</sup>. The reason that they have requested an extension is that they have received 30 submissions to the RFP that contained 42 land parcel options from across the Province and they need more time to carry out their review.

### **3.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

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

**Addition to Agenda:** Councillor K. Bertamini -

In response to Councillor L. Davidson's question on in camera items, R. Romanetz explained that the RCMP Community Plan is to be held in camera at the request of the Staff Sgt. Rene Wells as per the discussion held at Council's Retreat

**MO2006.67** Bertamini, Sparling moved the adoption of the agenda as amended. Carried.

#### **5.0 MINUTES**

##### **5.1. ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

###### **5.1.1 Council Regular Meeting - February 21, 2006**

**MO2006.68** Cunningham, Shoff moved the adoption of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 21, 2006 as presented. Carried.

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

##### **5.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **6.0 DELEGATIONS**

Randy McGee and Jeff Hall, Board of Directors, Drumheller Regional Chamber of Development and Tourism provided an overview of their proposal for internal renovations and external improvements. External improvements include new signage, parking changes for buses and RV's, more greenery at the entrance of the Info Centre and improved color scheme for the outside of the building. Internal renovations include moving the gift shop to the rear of the building and bringing the visitor centre area to the front which would increase its size, washroom upgrades and displaying large maps of the entire valley. It is anticipated that the changes for the gift shop and tourist area will be completed by May, 2006 and the washrooms would be improved this year as there have been some challenges for the handicapped. R. McGee stated that he is hopeful that the Town will complete the sidewalk renovations at the new arena to extend to the large dinosaur as well as support the proposed improvements as outlined.

In response to a question from Council, J. Hall explained that the DRCDT Board of Directors has discussed the need for increased funding for the Tourist Centre with Hon. Shirley McClellan on several occasions however they have been advised that the Tourist Centre does not meet the criteria for Provincial status. If they are to be successful with their request, the Province would have to change their criteria for grant funding for other than the point of entry. He further advised that the DRCDT receives an annual grant from the Province in the amount of \$20,000.

Mayor Ainscough thanked J. Hall and R. McGee for their presentation.

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

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

#### **8.1 CAO**

##### **8.1.1 Bylaw 05.06 Economic Development Task Force**

R. Romanetz presented Bylaw 05.06 which establishes the Economic Development Task Force. He stated that the bylaw has been reviewed by Council and the amendments have been incorporated into the bylaw. He stated that the Task Force has been operating for a number of years without a formal bylaw and the Bylaw now provides a structure to the organization, defining the roles of Council, Administration and the Task Force along with membership.

**MO2006.69** Bertamini, Sparling for first reading to Bylaw 05.06. Carried.

**MO2006.70** Davidson, Shoff for second reading to Bylaw 05.06. Carried.

**MO2006.71** Bertamini, MacKinnon for no objection to third reading. Carried.

**MO2006.72** Shoff, Cunningham for third reading to Bylaw 05.06. Carried.

##### **8.1.2 RFD – Appointment of Economic Development Task Force**

R. Romanetz presented six names for membership to the Economic Development Task Force for Council's approval. He explained that although the Bylaw initially limits the membership for four public at large, six names are being presented, with Council having the option of adding two more public at large members if it is determined that other specific representation is required for a specific category as recommended by the Task Force or Council could select four public at large members through a secret ballot process.

**MO2006.73** Davidson, MacKinnon that Council approve the following appointments to the Economic Development Task Force as follows: Marina Parrup – MH Employment; Jim Fisher – Agriculture, Tourism; Carolyn Hukaluk – Education; Boyd Grieve – General; Bob Sheddy – RealEstate and Ken Schinnour - Business.

Council agreed to table the motion for incamera discussion.

#### 8.1.3 Information – Telus Charges for East Coulee

R. Romanetz advised that Council had directed Administration to contact Telus for an explanation on why East Coulee and other rural areas pay higher Telus fees for basic services. From Telus' response, it appears that they do not intend to change the rates as they are set based on a number of lines serviced by a wire center (switch) and approved by the CRTC. East Coulee is serviced by a different switch than Drumheller which have significantly less lines.

**MO2006.74** Davidson, Bertamini to direct Administration to forward a letter to Telus and request the timelines for upgrades to their infrastructure in the outlying areas of the Town of Drumheller. Carried.

### 8.2 Director of Infrastructure Services

#### 8.2.1 RFD – Transportation Study Proposal

W. Yeoman advised that the Town has been working with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (AIT) to update Drumheller's Transportation Study. At their meeting of November 15, 2005, Council directed Administration to work with AIT in preparing the terms of reference and to issue a Request for Proposal in order to establish fees and to select a consulting engineering firm for this project. The RFP closed on February 9, 2006 with four proposal received. The proposal were evaluated with AIT and it was agreed that the proposal from iTrans Consulting was the most comprehensive proposal submitted and is within the budget and schedule.

**MO2006.75** Shoff, Bertamini that Council authorize Administration to accept the Traffic/Transportation Study Proposal submitted by iTrans Consulting in the amount of \$189,100 subject to AIT contributing 50% of the costs.

Councillor L. Davidson asked if references were received from other municipalities. R. Romanetz advised that the company is well-known to him and to AIT, and in their review, a key consideration was the personnel as well as whether those individuals have familiarity with Drumheller. iTrans Consulting is very familiar with Drumheller and our issues.

Vote on Motion: Carried.

### 8.3 Director of Corporate Services

### 8.4 Director of Community Services

#### 8.4.1 RFD – Affordable Housing Application

S. Blevins advised that through the past number of months a Committee has been working on the feasibility of applying for a grant for an affordable housing project. He stated that Ray Telford, Economic Development Officer was in attendance to provide an overview of the application. He highlighted the following:

- The Town has a major challenge to meet rental accommodation needs in the community. Just as critical, is the need for affordable housing.
- Drumheller has a 0 percent vacancy rate which is a 10 year low for Drumheller. Out of 63 communities who were surveyed last summer, there were only 5 other communities that had a zero percent vacancy.
- No new rental accommodations have been built in Drumheller in over 2.5 decades.
- Our community will not be able to grow if we do not solve the housing crisis we are facing.
- Our application is made to Alberta Seniors and Community Supports for the Affordable Housing Partnerships Initiative (which is a joint venture between the federal and provincial government). The Town of Drumheller will work with the Drumheller Housing Administration on this project.
- The total cost of the project is just over 3.2 million dollars. That includes the land, site improvements, architect and engineering fees.
- The Town is applying for grant funding of \$2.8 million or \$142,000.00 per door).
- If successful with grant funding, the plan is to construct a low level apartment complex with 20 units of which 12 of the units will be handicapped accessible.
- These apartments will be rented at approximately 10-20% below the current market.
- If approved for funding by August, 2006, the proposed timetable would be for tenders to go out for construction as soon as January, 2007 with construction to commence February, 2007

Councillor K. Bertamini thanked Administration and the Committee for their efforts in preparing the application. Mayor Ainscough thanked Councillor K. Bertamini as Chair of the Committee.

**MO2006.76** Bertamini, MacKinnon that council instruct administration to submit an application to the Canada – Alberta Affordable housing program governed by Alberta Seniors and Community Supports. Carried.

## **9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION**

**(Next Presentation of Quarterly Reports April, 2006)**

- 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 a Library Board update and highlighted the following: the library will be developing an annual report for news and marketing purposes, youth membership has increased, the board will tour libraries in other communities to gather ideas for their upgrade, Real Alternative Program has been successful, the average number of people entering the library is 22-24 and the library will be having designers provide details on the possible integration of a teen area.

14.2 Councillor S. Shoff provided a Stampede Board update and highlighted the following: the Board signed a three year contract with WPCA; the Tarp Auction will be held on April 18<sup>th</sup> and they are currently negotiating with the 4H Club to hold their sale at the Barn in June.

14.3 Councillor S. Shoff advised that the Communities in Bloom Committee have ordered flowers for the beds and planters for the new area around the arena, they will be seeking information from other communities' involvement with the program and they will be holding a fundraiser.

14.4 Councillor K. Bertamini advised the AUMA's Community Infrastructure Committee Meeting minutes are now available for Council's information. AUMA has developed a template for RFP's for prequalification of tenderers for municipalities use.

**15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS MO2006.77** Cunningham, Shoff to go in camera at 5:35 PM. Carried.

15.1 RCMP Community Plan

15.2 Multi-Use Facility

15.3 Third Way Health Proposal

**MO2006.78** Shoff, Bertamini to revert back to regular Council at 7:15. Carried.

15.3 Third Way Health Proposal

**MO2006.79** Davidson Bertamini that the Mayor write a letter to the Premier and Minister of Health in response to the Minister's letter dated January 30, 2006 requesting clarification on the Province's Third Way Proposal and the impact it will have on rural communities. Carried.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER