

Town of Drumheller

COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES



November 27, 2006 4:30 PM Council Chambers, Town Hall
703 - 2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta

PRESENT:

DEPUTY MAYOR:

Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini

COUNCIL:

Don Cunningham

Larry Davidson

John L. Sparling, Q.C.

Karen MacKinnon

Sharel Shoff

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: Councillor Don Cunningham

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 ACTING MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

2.1 Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini presented a Ministerial Order from Hon. Rob Renner, Minister of Municipal Affairs, approving the time extension, quorum's, etc. for the Town of Drumheller's by-election.

2.2 Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini presented a letter from Hon. Iris Evans, Minister of Alberta Health and Wellness which advises municipalities on the long-term governance and funding of ground ambulance services. In her letter, she further advises that the Province provided \$55 million in grant funding to municipalities in 2005/06 and 2006/07 to help offset

some of the costs municipalities incur to deliver ambulance services. She announced the continuation of provincial funding for 2007/2008 fiscal year. Acting Mayor K. Bertamini stated that the funding remains inequitable as the Town of Drumheller only receives \$16 per capita which is only 40% of the costs to operate the ambulance service while the Pilot Projects in the Peace Country and Palliser Health Regions receives 100% funding. Councillor L. Davidson remarked that Drumheller's funding has not increased since 2005, and there are rising costs associated with ambulance operations. He recommended that Council lobby the Minister to develop an equitable and fair formula for all ambulance service providers.

2.3 Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini presented a letter from Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development regarding an invitation to submit a bid for the right to host the 2009 Alberta 55 Plus Winter or Summer Games.

2.4 Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini presented a letter from Starland County to Alberta Environment in response to the Notification that appeared in the local newspapers on MD of Rocky View's application for license approval under the provisions of the Water Act.

2.5 Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini announced the upcoming Public Information Meeting "*A Gang Awareness Seminar*" on November 28th at the Drumheller Civic Centre AV Room from 7:00 -9:00 PM. This seminar is hosted by the Citizen's Advisory Committee of the Drumheller Institution.

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing to consider Bylaw 25.06 being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw by redesignating Plan 9710916 Block 15 Lots 1 & 2 from M1 – Light Industrial to M2 – Medium Industrial

Acting Mayor Karen Bertamini called the public hearing to order at 4:38 PM.

There was no one present to speak in favor or in opposition to the proposed reclassification. Secretary, L. Handy advised that there were no items of correspondence.

Acting Mayor Bertamini closed the Public Hearing at 4:40 PM.

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councillor L. Davidson asked for an addition to the agenda regarding holding a plebiscite question for the proposed Community Facility as part of the By-election to be held on January 24, 2007;

MO2006.317 Davidson, Sparling that Council add to the agenda an item on whether to hold a vote of the electors regarding a question on the community facility as part of the By-Election to be held on January 24, 2007. Defeated.

Additions to the Agenda – 5.1.2 Organizational Minutes of October 30, 2006; 14.1 Councillor S. Shoff – Library Board Appointment; 14.2 Councillor J. Sparling –

Congratulations to the DCHS Girls Volleyball Team

MO2006.318 Mackinnon, Shoff 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 – November 14, 2006

MO2006.319 Davidson, Sparling moved the adoption of the regular Council meeting minutes of November 14, 2006 as presented. Carried.

5.1.2 Organizational Meeting – October 30, 2006

MO2006.320 Shoff, MacKinnon moved the adoption of the organizational meeting minutes of October 30, 2006 as presented. Carried.

5.2 MINUTES OF MEETINGS PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.2.1 Management Committee Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2006

5.2.2 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2006

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

8.1.1 RFD – 2007 Funding Request for the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance

R. Romanetz advised that the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance is requesting annual funding support in the amount of 50 cents per capita. He stated that this group focuses on operational management matters and more immediate issues relating to water quality, environment impacts and such while the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group (RDRMUG) focuses on policy, particularly long term sustainability through effective lobbying. He further noted that there is agreement among municipal representatives that both groups are vital to the well being of the basin.

MO2006.321 Sparling, MacKinnon that Council agree to participate in the Red Deer River Municipal Watershed Alliance and approve a contribution of \$0.50 per capita for their 2007/08 year. Carried.

Councillor L. Davidson asked if the Director of the Water Shed Alliance could make a presentation to Council on their work plan on how they propose to ensure the conservation

of water in the Red Deer River. R. Romanetz advised that Keith Ryder, Executive Director of RDRMUG, attends the Water Shed Alliance meetings regularly and provides updates on their work plan to the RDRMUG Membership. He stated that he will make the request through Keith Ryder to have the Alliance provide an update report directly to Drumheller's Council.

8.1.2 Request for Leave of Absence from Councillor Don Cunningham

R. Romanetz presented a letter from Councillor Don Cunningham requesting Council authorize an additional two weeks leave of absence from regular Council meetings as permitted under the Municipal Government Act Section 174(2).

MO2006.322 Sparling, Davidson that further to the request for a leave of absence from regular Council meetings received from Councillor Cunningham that Council in accordance with Section 174(2)(a) of the Municipal Government Act authorize his absence to December 11, 2006. Carried.

8.1.3 Bylaw 27.06 being a Bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw 36.98 by redesignating Plan 7410177 Lot 5 from A – Agriculture District to CR – Country Residential District

R. Romanetz advised that the applicant wishes to create two country residential lots. As the current lot size does not meet the A - Agricultural District minimum requirements, the applicant wishes to reclassify the property to CR – Country Residential. He further explained that the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) has reviewed the reclassification and recommend approval however the subdivision application has not gone before the MPC as of yet. He stated that any concerns relating to the subdivision can be raised at the public hearing. He recommended that Council proceed to first reading to allow for the advertising and subsequent public hearing.

MO2006.323 Shoff, MacKinnon for first reading to Bylaw 27.06. Carried.

8.1.4 Bylaw 28.06 being a Bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw 36.98 by redesignating LSD14, Section 15, Township 28, Range 19 W4M from SCR – Suburb Community Residential District to CR – Country Residential District

R. Romanetz advised that the applicant wishes to reclassify their property to CR – Country Residential which would allow for a small home based oilfield maintenance business. He explained that the same applicant applied for the same reclassification in 2005 however the first reading to the bylaw was defeated at that time, due to concerns relating to the height of a proposed accessory building. As well, he explained that the applicant applied for a development permit for a garage with a height greater than the maximum allowed of 15 feet. The applicant had requested a height of 19' 2" however he was refused by both the MPC and Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. The main issue of concern was that an over height garage would not be compatible with existing area and lead to potential industrial use in the future. Since then the applicant has made another application to the MPC for an accessory building built to a maximum height of 15 ft. MPC did approve the

oversized footprint. Romanetz further explained that the applicant indicates no intention to subdivide the land.

MO2006.324 Davidson, Shoff for first reading to Bylaw 28.06. Carried.

8.2 Director of Infrastructure Services

8.2.1 RFD – Request for Funding for Valley Bus

W. Yeoman advised that the Valley Bus Society continues to experience increased ridership each year resulting in increased wage expenses. He explained that as a result of increased ridership and increased fuel costs in 2005 and 2006, VBS is in a deficit position. In order for VBS to remain sustainable, several various sources of income are necessary including user fees (dial-a-bus and charters), sale of advertising spaces on the buses, provincial grants, donations, and contributions from other sources such as community groups, DARTS, schools, David Thompson Health Region and the Town of Drumheller. He further advised that at their October 26th meeting, an updated three year business plan was adopted. A second motion was carried to requisition the Town of Drumheller for a one time payment of \$6000. to cover the outstanding deficit compiled over the years 2005 and 2006.

MO2006.325 Mackinnon, Sparling that Council approve the request for funding from Valley Bus Society in the amount of \$6000.00.

Councillor K. Mackinnon stated that the Board also agreed to approach the health authority for increased funding if their ridership does not equate to their contribution. She further stated that the Board is also looking at other options to increase revenue such as adding the pickup of children to the route as well as after hour charters. She stated that VBS provides a valuable service to the seniors and handi-capped residents of Drumheller and are working hard to ensure the Society remains viable.

Vote on Motion: Carried.

8.3 Director of Corporate Services

8.3.1 Financial Statements to October 31, 2006

M. Minchin presented October statements and advised that the Town is in a similar financial position as this time last year with regards to surplus. Tax revenue and franchise revenue has seen an increase due to new developments (large consumers of electricity). On the expense side, wages are slightly over as well as electricity due to increases in street lighting costs.

8.4 Director of Community Services

8.4.1 RFD – Conservation Easement Registration - NW 27-28-19-W4M and SW 27-28-19-W4M

S. Blevins advised that the Nature Conservancy of Canada is requesting the Town to waive the 60 day notice period for registering a Conservation Easement on the above noted

lands. He explained that the purpose of the conservation easement is to conserve the riparian and grassland habits. He stated that the reason for the waiver of the 60 day notice period for registration of the easement is that the landowners wish to process the application within this calendar year.

MO2006.325 Sparling, MacKinnon that Council support the position of the Province for the creation of a Nature Conservation Easement for the lands legally described as NW 27-28-19-W4M and SW 27-28-19-W4M and further that the Town agree to waive the 60 day notice period for registering a Conservation Easement. Carried.

9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

- 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 20.06 (Elgin Hill Area Structure Plan) – third reading

R. Romanetz advised that a memo was sent to the adjacent neighbors responding to their concerns expressed at the Public Hearing held on October 30th, 2006. He further advised that one letter was received jointly from Chris and Pat Bobra, Alex MacKinnon and Vicki Hagg thanking the Town for responding to the concerns and advising they had no further comments but asked to be kept informed of any development. R. Romanetz presented a letter from Ed Lehn which states that he finds the Area Structure Plan acceptable and agrees to have his lands included in ASP with the understanding that the Town does not intend to initiate reclassification of the Lands without consulting with him first.

MO2006.326 Shoff, Davidson for third reading to Bylaw 20.06. Carried.

10.2 Bylaw 25.06 being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw by redesignating Plan 9710916 Block 15 Lots 1 & 2 from M1 – Light Industrial to M2 – Medium Industrial

R. Romanetz advised there were no concerns identified at the public hearing and he recommended that Council proceed to second and third readings.

MO2006.327 Davidson, Sparling for second reading to Bylaw 25.06. Carried.

MO2006.328 Davidson, Sparling for third reading to Bylaw 25.06. Carried.

11.0 DELEGATION DECISIONS

12.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

14.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

14.1 Councillor S. Shoff stated that she attended a Marigold Library Meeting on November 18th the Town of Drumheller was presented with a certificate for 25 years as a Marigold Library member (former city of Drumheller became a member on March 27, 1981 and the former ID of Badlands on March 23, 1981).

Councillor S. Shoff advised that the Town of Drumheller has received an application from Susan Wharton to serve on the Drumheller Public Library Board. The members of the Library Board have reviewed the application and recommend approval.

MO2006.329 Shoff, Davidson that Council approve the appointment of Susan Wharton to the Drumheller Public Library Board. Carried.

14.2 Councillor J. Sparling stated that the Drumheller Composite High School Senior Girls Volleyball team won the Provincial Championships and he recommended that the team be invited to attend the next Council meeting so Council could congratulate them personally.

Acting Mayor Karen Ann Bertamini advised that there will be a weekly section in the Valley Times responding to the public's questions. She encouraged the public to submit their questions to the Valley Times or Town Office.

15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS MO2006.340 Sparling, MacKinnon to go in camera at 5:20 PM. Carried.

15.1 Kneehill Regional Water Commission Supply Agreement

MO2006.341 Davidson, Shoff to revert to regular Council Meeting at 7:45 PM.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

ACTING MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER