

# Town of Drumheller

## COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES



**November 13, 2007** following Organizational Meeting at 4:30 PM  
Council Chambers, Town Hall  
703 - 2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta

#### **PRESENT:**

MAYOR:

Bryce Nimmo

#### **COUNCIL:**

Andrew Berdahl  
Karen Bertamini  
Blaine McDonald  
Don Guidolin  
Sharel Shoff  
Terry Yemen

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:**

Ray Romanetz

#### **DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:**

Wes Yeoman

#### **DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:**

Michael Roy

#### **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:**

Paul Salvatore

#### **RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Linda Handy

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER @ 4:40 PM**

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

2.1 Mayor B. Nimmo presented a Press Release on the *Boil Water Order* dated November 13, 2007.

#### **3.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

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

**Additions to the Agenda:** 5.1.2 Organizational Meeting; 8.1.2 Library Board

Appointments 14.4 Councillor S. Shoff - Library Board Report

**MO2007.206** Shoff, Guidolin moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Carried.

## **5.0 MINUTES**

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

#### **5.1.1 Council Regular Meeting – October 29, 2007**

**MO2007.207** Yemen, Berdahl moved to adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2007 as presented. Carried.

#### **5.1.2 Organizational Meeting – October 29, 2007**

**MO2007.208** Bertamini, Guidolin moved to adopt the Organizational Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2007 as presented. Carried.

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

#### **5.2.1 Municipal Planning Commission – October 17, 2007**

#### **5.2.2 Management Committee Meeting – November 6, 2007**

### **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 Municipal Sustainable Initiative – Conditional Operating Funding 2007/08**

CAO R. Romanetz advised that remaining component of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative being the Conditional Operating Funding Memorandum of Agreement requires Council approval. He explained that the agreement covers ten years of the grant program with the Town's grant funding for 2007/08 in the amount of \$60,204.00 based on a provincially approved formula and the subsequent years based on a hybrid formula of per capita, educational taxes paid and the number of roadway kilometres. He noted that the Conditional Operating Funding Guidelines are included for Council's consideration and these guideless include information on how Council can make decisions for non profit organizations and inter-municipal planning. He stated that one project for consideration may be the tangible asset project that requires significant resources to complete.

**MO2007.209** Shoff, Bertamini that Council approve the Memorandum of Agreement for the Conditional Operating Funding under the Municipal Sustainability Initiative between Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Town of Drumheller.

Clarification on Motion:

Councillor S. Shoff asked if the guidelines would remain the same for the subsequent years of the program. R. Romanetz clarified that the Province has welcomed input and implemented some recommendations from municipalities for the first year of the program, they may be reluctant change the guidelines for subsequent years,

Vote on Motion: Carried.

#### 8.1.2 Drumheller Public Library Board Appointment

R. Romanetz advised that the Drumheller Public Library Board has two vacancies on their board. The Town has received two applications from Linda Traquair and Margaret Nielsen.

The Library Board members have reviewed both Linda's and Margaret's application and they recommend approval. With the approval of these two new members, the Library Board is now at full complement.

**MO2007.210** Shoff, Yemen that Council approve the appointments of Linda Traquair and Margaret Nielsen to the Drumheller Public Library Board. Carried.

### 8.2 Acting Director of Infrastructure Services

#### 8.3 Director of Corporate Services

##### 8.3.1 RFD - Tax Recovery

M. Roy advised that as part of the tax recovery process under the Municipal Government Act, properties with a tax caveat registered against them must be offered for public auction one year after the date of the tax caveat. As part of the process, Council must set the terms and reserve bids for the properties in question. Historically, Council has set the terms as cash and the reserve bid for each property equal to its current year's assessment. He stated that Administration is proposing a change to this practice due to the significant increase in house prices in Drumheller over the past 12 months. He explained that by using the 2007 assessment values as the reserve bid prices for any residential properties would not be appropriate. Instead, Administration is recommending that the reserve bid pricing for the 2007 Tax Recovery Public Auction be set at an amount equivalent to the 2007 assessment with and an additional 25% mark-up.

**MO2007.211** Yemen, Guidolin that Council set the reserve bid price for properties for the January 30, 2008 tax recovery auction at a value equivalent to the 2007 property assessment with a 25% mark-up. Furthermore, the successful bidder must pay via cash, or money order.

Clarification on Motion:

Councillor K. Bertamini asked if the 25% mark-up is too low compared to current market values. M. Roy explained that based on discussions with the assessor, an overall generalized assessment increase for 2008 is estimated to be 25% over the current

assessed property values - this should reflect the current market range. M. Roy stated that the assessed value on the 2007 Tax Auction Property List is based July, 2006 assessed values. Discussion held on whether properties should be appraised. M. Roy stated that this would be additional costs added to each individual property. R. Romanetz asked Council to choose either the mass appraisal approach or individual appraisal at a higher cost. Council expressed concern that the properties would be selling for a cost lower than the open market. R. Romanetz clarified that the recommended value is a reserve bid and not necessarily the selling price.

**MO2007.212** Bertamini, Berdahl to table the motion. Defeated.

Vote on Motion MO2007.211: Carried.

#### 8.3.2 Council Remuneration Task Force

M. Roy advised that Council Policy C05-07 calls for a review of Council remuneration to be completed 90 days following a General Municipal Election. Administration has advertised for Task Force members through both local papers. He stated that four parties have come forward expressing their interest to serve in this capacity as follows: Robert Friesen, Doreen Decore, Brent Pedersen, and Ray Page. Administration is seeking input from Council if the four member committee is suitable or if further individuals should be contacted for participation on this Task Force. R. Romanetz commented that the acceptable approach would be to re-advertise for a further two week period. Council agreed that a task force of four members would be sufficient.

**MO2007.213** Bertamini, Yemen to accept the appointments of Robert Friesen, Doreen Decore, Brent Pedersen and Ray Page to the Council Remuneration Task Force. Carried.

#### 8.3.3 Write Offs

M. Roy presented a list of outstanding debts for Council's authorization to write off \$41,992.90 in outstanding policy. Council reviewed the list and had several queries on the different accounts.

With regard to the Village of Delia, R. Romanetz explained that the town provided fire fighting coverage in good faith however the Village was unable to recover these costs through their insurance coverage and being a small municipality they do not have the means to pay this bill. Councillor T. Yemen requested that a Memorandum of Agreement be worked out so that future occurrences will be paid for by their insurance.

With regards to the Ski Hill, R. Romanetz explained that the Town made arrangements with the Ski Hill for pumping water directly from the river to make snow however they experienced problems with the overland lines freezing off and efforts to thaw the lines were costly. He explained that the Ski Hill has now made other arrangements with Mobile

Oil to pump through their line and the need for Town water will only be on an emergency basis. He stated that this is a positive move will help reduce their costs resulting in a more positive financial position.

Councillor K. Bertamini referred to the after school care program debts incurred by participants and ask the Town to take action to allow them not to build further debt and she stated that she would like to see them remain on the Town's accounts.

Councillor D. Guidolin put a motion on the floor that would authorize Administration to write off the Ski hill and Village of Delia debt in the amount of \$28,674.46. No seconder (motion dies on the floor).

**MO2007.214** Shoff, Guidolin that Council authorize Administration to write off \$41,992.90 in outstanding debts.

Councillor K. Bertamini asked for a recorded vote.

3 - In favour – Shoff, Guidolin, Nimmo

4 - Opposed – Yemen, Bertamini, McDonald, Berdahl

Motion Defeated.

Council requested additional information before rendering their decision. Tabled until the Council Committee Meeting of November 19, 2007.

#### 8.3.4 Line Of Credit With Chinook Financial Services

M. Roy advised that Bylaw 01.07 needs to be changed from ATB Financial to Chinook Credit Union ("Chinook"). This is an administrative item to allow the Town to have a line of credit to cover cash flow timing differences on revenues collected, if the need arises. Administration recommended that Council give all three readings to Bylaw 14.07 which amends Bylaw 01.07.

**MO2007.215** Bertamini, Yemen for first reading to Bylaw 14.07. Carried

**MO2007.216** Bertamini, Shoff for second reading to Bylaw 14.07. Carried.

**MO2007.217** Bertamini, Shoff for no objection to third reading of Bylaw 14.07. Carried.

**MO2007.218** Bertamini, Yemen for third reading to Bylaw 14.07. Carried.

#### 8.3.5 New Timelines for 2008 Budget

M. Roy updated the 2008 Budget timelines and advised that a draft budget will be given to Council by the end of next week.

### 8.4 Director of Community Services

## 9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

### 9.1 CAO

- 9.2 Acting 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 K. Bertamini advised that Canadian Badlands' General Meeting was held on November 9<sup>th</sup> with 72 shareholders in attendance. Due to the municipal elections and changes, the board has three vacancies. Shareholders nominated and elected three new board of directors with Annon Hovde representing the central region. Doug Jones was not re-elected and seat of president is vacant. At the next board meeting an election will be held to fill this position. Shareholders discussed the need for collaboration to ensure goals will be met.

14.2 Councillor T. Yeman advised that he along with the CAO attended the Municipal Government Workshop – Regulatory Frame Work for Managing the Environment. The session focused on the topic of changing the process on how Environment will manage the environment. No examples of changes were presented nor confirmation on whether the resources and dollars would be available for these changes. R. Romanetz stated that their proposal does not appear to have any objectives that are measurable.

14.3 Councillor D. Guidolin advised that he attended Palliser Regional Municipal Services Annual Meeting held on November 7<sup>th</sup>. In his report, Chairman Hovde outlined the incorporation of Palliser into a Part 9 Corporation to better represent the membership and reduce the liability of its shareholders. With the addition of Wheatland County to the group subdivision activity is at an all time high. The Village of Beiseker has now requested membership to Palliser. It appears that they will be a full member with safety codes administration potentially being provided by Palliser through the Drumheller Officer. The group is looking into funding for improved communications with shareholders, updating business plans and regional initiatives such as assessment services.

14.4 Councillor S. Shoff advised that she attended the Drumheller Public Library on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The new executive for the 2007-08 year is as follows: Chairman Terry Beaupre; Vice Chairperson Ingrid Thornton; and Treasurer Joe Jensen. The business plan has been completed for the 2007-09 years. The board has offered the library for a Council Committee Meeting which would allow Council to review what the library is doing and check

out the new circulation desk. The board would also like to know if Linde Turner is eligible to attend the Town's management meetings. She advised that a wine tasting event will be held in the new year – tentative date is January 24<sup>th</sup> with a maximum attendance of 24 people. She explained that the lobbyist act that is presently being proposed by the provincial government was discussed as it will greatly affect non profit boards, if passed.

#### **15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER