

# Town of Drumheller

## COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES



October 1, 2007 4:30 PM Council Chambers, Town Hall  
703 - 2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta

#### **PRESENT:**

MAYOR:

Bryce Nimmo

#### **COUNCIL:**

Karen Bertamini

Sharel Shoff

John Sparling

Terry Yemen

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

Ray Romanetz

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

Wes Yeoman

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

Michael Roy

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

Jerry Brett

#### **RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Linda Handy

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

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

2.1 Mayor B. Nimmo thanked Councillor J. Sparling for his six years of service to the Town.

2.2 Mayor B. Nimmo stated that the performance evaluation of the CAO was carried out at Council's meeting of September 17, 2007. He read the following document into the record:

*"Council and I are reporting the results of the annual performance evaluation of our Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Ray Romanetz. Mr. Romanetz has served as CAO for the Town of Drumheller for the past 21 years. The Town Council is mandated by the Municipal Government Act to conduct an annual performance evaluation of the Chief Administrative Officer. All members of Town Council have input into this assessment. The criteria for assessment includes a large number of topics, such as: leadership, communication skills,*

*working relationship with Council, working relations between the CAO and Town employees, ethical considerations, work ethics; integrity and professionalism. Firstly, let me say that myself and Council highly regard Mr. Romanetz who has demonstrated on a consistent basis his professionalism and his dedication to fulfilling his duties as the Chief Administrative Officer. Mr. Romanetz is extremely knowledgeable in a number of areas which are critical in assisting Council with ensuring strong governance within our community. He is a man with a depth of experience and who is highly regarded by this Council for his integrity, intelligence and strong leadership skills. Mr. Romanetz works well with others, he has a keen analytical mind and he keeps himself well-informed on municipal issues. Mr. Romanetz and his management team provide Council with comprehensive information in a timely manner. Mr. Romanetz takes direction from Council and does not promote his own agenda. Council takes note that Mr. Romanetz is held in high regard both by municipal politicians and other Provincial and Municipal executive officers. It is our view that Mr. Romanetz and Town Council have faced a number of significant challenges this past year. Mr. Romanetz manages crisis situations calmly and efficiently. Amongst a number of the challenges Council and the CAO have faced this past year is the resignation of some key members of management team. We have recruited strong replacements for these positions. It is to be noted that the Town of Drumheller like most other major employers is facing difficulty in retaining staff because of the economic pressures created through the unprecedented number of employment opportunities available in the labour market throughout Western Canada. The fact is that the number of trained people in Municipal Government is not keeping pace with the high demand and consequently many municipal governments are head hunting and paying substantial salaries to lure key staff members. In conclusion, the evaluation clearly reveals Mr. Romanetz has met the objectives established by Council and in many areas has exceeded Council's expectations. Our Town Council unanimously agrees that the Town of Drumheller is extremely fortunate to have an individual of Mr. Romanetz's calibre working for the benefit of the citizens of Drumheller."*

**MO2007.186** Bertamini, Sparling, that Council approve the wording of the report and that it become part of an official document. Unanimously Carried.

2.3 **MO2007.187** Shoff, Bertamini that Council Meeting scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to be cancelled due to the municipal election. Carried.

2.4 Mayor Nimmo advised that he has contacted the Province to request top up funding for Drumheller's Affordable Housing project. He stated that their response should be received shortly. R. Romanetz advised that the contractor has confirmed that timing is of the essence and any delays will impact construction costs – it is hopeful that the project will start this fall.

### **3.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor B. Nimmo stated that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider Bylaw 12.07

being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw by redesignating Plan 9111965 Block 1 in Drumheller from M-3 Railway Industrial District to HWY-C Highway Commercial Residential District

Mayor B. Nimmo called the Public Hearing to order at 4:40 PM.

He asked Secretary, L. Handy if there were any written submissions. Secretary, L. Handy advised there were no items of correspondence.

Mayor B. Nimmo asked if anyone was present to speak in favour or against the proposal. There were no speakers present.

Mayor Nimmo asked for questions from Council. There were no questions from Council.

Mayor Nimmo closed the Public Hearing at 4:41 PM.

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

**MO2007.188** Bertamini, Yemen moved the adoption of the agenda as presented. Carried.

#### **5.0 MINUTES**

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

###### **5.1.1 Council Regular Meeting – September 17, 2007**

**MO2007.189** Sparling, Shoff moved the adoption of the regular Council meeting minutes of September 17, 2007 as presented. Carried.

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

###### **5.2.1 Management Committee – September 11, 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**

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

###### **8.2.1 RFD – Transportation Study**

W. Yeoman stated that the final report has now been completed and has not significantly

changed since the review of the “Draft Report” presented previously to Town Council in April, 2007. He stated that the completed study will assist the Town of Drumheller with transportation planning, budgeting and land development planning. He stated that several network treatments and modifications within the downtown were introduced for this year, such as the left turn off the Gordon Taylor Bridge to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue W. to be eliminated directing the southbound traffic to continue south on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue W to turn left either at 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street / 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue modifications, and the stop control at the intersection of North Railway Avenue W and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street W to be removed and replaced with a “right in only / right out only” channelized treatment. He further explained that the five year horizon includes twinning of South Railway Avenue. R. Romanetz stated that an example of inflation is that two years ago the twinning project was estimated at \$2.5m and now it is estimated at \$12m. W. Yeoman further stated that the local street network improvements include Elgin Hill Road due to a forecast in traffic volumes for this road. He further explained that the growth areas were identified in the Municipal Development Plan and few local network improvements are required other than maintaining the existing network. He stated that the long term improvements are primary on the secondary and primary highways however the key is to get these upgrades included on the Provincial queue, which also includes improvements to the existing river crossing within 20 years. He stated that the document lists all the streets where the traffic counts were conducted. Councillor K. Bertamini stated that the document was valuable for future lobbying.

**MO2007.190** Bertamini, Yemen that Council adopt the “Town of Drumheller Transportation Study – Final Report” dated September 2007 prepared by iTRANS Consulting Inc. as submitted. Carried.

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

#### **8.3.1 RFD – Legal Services**

M. Roy advised that the Town issued an RFP for legal services on July 27, 2007 for a five year period. The Town received proposals from two firms including Ross Todd & Company and Schumacher Gough & Company. Since the closing date of August 24, 2007, Schumacher Gough & Company has withdrawn their proposal. Administration is recommending the awarding of the five year legal services contract to Ross Todd & Company.

**MO2007.191** Yemen, Bertamini that Council award the five year Legal Services contract to Ross Todd & Company in Drumheller. Carried.

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

## **9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION (next presentation date October 29, 2007)**

### **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 12.07 being a bylaw to amend Plan 9111965 Block 1 in Drumheller from M-3 Railway Industrial District to HWY-C Highway Commercial Residential District – second and third readings

**MO2007.192** Bertamini, Shoff for second reading to Bylaw 12.07. Carried.

**MO2007.193** Shoff, Yemen for third reading to Bylaw 12.07. 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 sat on the following committees: Stampede & Ag Society, Palliser Regional Municipal Services, Communities in Bloom, Municipal Planning Commission and the Library. She stated that she enjoyed serving on these boards and that Drumheller was fortunate to have citizens who also volunteer to sit on these boards and they need to be recognized - each board works hard for their groups and accomplish many things for Drumheller. She thanked the citizens for their support in the last three years. She thanked Council for their efforts as it has been a challenging term. She thanked the staff for their assistance.

14.2 Councillor T. Yemen stated that he sat on the following committees: Citizens Advisory (RCMP), Seniors Foundation, Chamber and Community Facility. He stated that the Chamber will hold their strategic planning meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. He stated that there was quite a learning curve during his term and he thanked Administration for their assistance. He stated that he looks forward to hopefully serving for another term.

14.3 Councillor K. Bertamini stated that the last three years of Council has been the bumpiest road yet and Administration should be recognized for what they have shown in times of distress and how they continued to work for the betterment of the community. She stated that she served on the AUMA Community Infrastructure Committee and how this committee has made many recommendations to the Province on grants, sustainable funding, affordable housing, MSI, hard to soft infrastructure, benefits on regional planning, posse implementation, increased funding for public libraries, and equitable funding for municipal policing - this board devotes its time to current issues and keeps ahead of the trends impacting Alberta municipalities. She stated that Drumheller's Council is progressive in dealing with these issues in trying to find a balance and is recognized for setting an example as the CAO also sits on many boards/committees across the province. She stated that she is the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Canadian Badlands Ltd. – a group of

municipalities whose mandate is to make the Canadian Badlands as recognizable as the Rockies and be put on the map for a world wide destination point. She distributed brochures of Phase 1 and 2 "*Touring Routes Series*" - Drumheller is in eight of the brochures which brings a presence to Drumheller's tourist attractions. She stated that although Drumheller's affordable housing project is needing top up funding, she is hopeful that the Province will step up to the plate with the extra dollars needed. She stated that Drumheller Housing Authority is looking at trying to find a deliverer for the rental subsidy program – whereby the Province provides a subsidy to those families who are spending more than 30% of their income on housing. She stated that she would like to come back to the table to represent the citizens as she considers it an honour and privilege.

14.4 Councillor J. Sparling thanked the citizens of Drumheller for their support in the last two elections. He stated that he has worked hard, and the other Council members as well, to ensure responsibilities are carried out. He stated that over the past six years he has sat on most of the Committees. He stated that Administration serves a vital role to assist Council and volunteers working on the Committees. He stated there are strong volunteers in our community - our community needs people to come forward to work as a team-public do not get to see the number of partnerships that are developed, benefits partnering with other groups. He stated that another key organization includes the Red Deer River Municipal User Group, a lobbying group of 40 municipalities, which ensures that there is a reliable water supply for the future and the Red Deer River is not over taxed. He stated that another key organization includes Drumheller & District Solid Waste Management Association, which represents a large number of members and without their partnership this service would not be affordable for our community. He stated that the most heartfelt Committee would be the Community Facility Project Steering Committee as the facility is important for Drumheller as it will benefit our community. He congratulated Mayor Nimmo who ran in the bi-election and wished him well in the upcoming election. He stated that it has been an honour and privilege to serve the Town of Drumheller.

14.5 Mayor B. Nimmo stated that although he was on board late in the term, he was proud of Council's accomplishments for their three year term. He stated that Council's decisions do not come without a lot of thought and are not made flippantly. He stated that the Community Facility is a perfect example of our Town looking ahead as he sees in a number of fundraisers - people who give of themselves to make the Town work. He thanked Administration for their assistance.

## **15.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS 5:20 PM**

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER