

# **Town of Drumheller COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**February 16, 2010 at 4:30 PM  
Council Chamber, Town Hall  
703-2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta**



## **PRESENT:**

**MAYOR:**

Bryce Nimmo

**COUNCIL:**

Andrew Berdahl

Karen Bertamini

Blaine McDonald

Sharel Shoff

Terry Yemen

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:**

Ray Romanetz

**DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:**

Allan Kendrick

**DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:**

Micheal Roy

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:**

Paul Salvatore

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Corinne Macdonald

**ABSENT:** Councillor Don Guidolin

## **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

## **2.0 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARK**

- 2.1 Mayor B. Nimmo proclaimed the week of February 21 to 27, 2010 as Freedom to Read Week.
- 2.2 Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program - Drumheller Memorial Arena Energy Reduction and Facility Rehabilitation  
Mayor B. Nimmo presented a letter from Darren Hutton, Manager Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program advising that they received a total of 1,588 RInC submissions requesting in excess of \$400 million in funding. The demand for funding was more than 2.6 times greater than the available funds. Mr. Hutton advised that due to the extraordinary demand for

available funding they were unable to fund the Town's request.

### **3.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

### **4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

### **5.0 MINUTES**

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

##### **5.1.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - February 1, 2010**

**MO2010.40** McDonald, Berdahl moved the adoption of the regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2010 as presented. Carried unanimously.

#### **5.2. MINUTES OF MEETING PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION**

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

### **6.0 DELEGATIONS**

#### **6.1 Downtown Merchants regarding Parking** Mayor B. Nimmo outlined the procedures regarding presentations from Delegations.

David Benci noted that he was pleased to be able to address Town Council. He provided some background information on the parking matter. The motion to change parking was passed and it was 100 days before they learned of this. There were 22 businesses that shared the cost for a full page ad stating Please Mayor No Parallel Parking. A Parking Survey was circulated in January with 1,127 replies showing 98% against parallel parking and 96% stating this was important. Majority of business owners did not want parallel parking and neither did citizens. On February 3<sup>rd</sup> there was a closed door meeting held with the Mayor advising him that a total of 1,407 replies to the survey had been received. The mayor advised that there would be no change to the motion. One of the questions not answered was the 4<sup>th</sup> alternative suggested by iTrans. Mr. Benci noted that he was advised by the Drumheller Mail that in the past history they had never seen such a one sided position on an issue. He suggested that diagonal parking was the best choice for downtown. The mandate of Town Council has been changed, they should do

what the majority of citizens want, 99% want angle parking to remain and 96% stated this is an important matter. Citizens choice would be to keep diagonal parking. Do what the citizens want. He wanted Council to rescind the December 9<sup>th</sup> motion and leave diagonal parking. Mr. Benci presented some additional information from the Chamber of Commerce, out of 231 members 150 responses were received, 85% were opposed to the parking change. He also advised he was given an anonymous blog stating Council members you are elected to do the will of the public, next election they will campaign against you. You are not representing the citizens of Drumheller. This will negatively impact citizens in Drumheller. You are out of touch, stand up and represent the people of Drumheller. Mr. Benci noted additional thoughts; 30 kilometre limit for the downtown core, removing one angle parking stall to allow for a larger sidewalk that would improve sight lines in the intersections, paint lines andu Bylaw Enforcement enforce the two hour parking zone.

Mayor B. Nimmo asked if there were any questions from Council. Councillor K. Bertamini stated she would like to make a motion to appoint a Task Force to review parking options for downtown.

**MO2010.41** Bertamini, McDonald moved that Council appoint a Task Force to review parking options on the portion of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street West and 1<sup>st</sup> Street East. The Task Force to consist of 2 Councillors, 2 members of the Chamber, 2 members of the Downtown Committee and 2 members of the Public at Large. The Task Force to report back to Council with recommendations for the Committee Meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor S. Shoff noted that she has a notice of motion on the agenda already, which is basically the same except she is asking for a delay of implementation of parallel parking for one year.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

## **8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS**

### **8.1. CAO**

#### **8.1.1 AUMA Media Releases on Provincial Budget**

CAO, R. Romanetz provided an overview on the Provincial answers to AUMA's Budget 2010 Questions.

Break Down of the Education property tax requisition for 2010-11

The revenue requirement for education property taxes is \$1.791 billion, an

increase of \$69 million, approximately 4.0 per cent from 2009-10. In 2010 the tax rates will fall by about 13.5 per cent. The residential property rate will fall from \$3.39 to \$2.93 per \$1,000 of equalized assessment. We will not have the exact figure until we receive the new assessment. The Town's contribution to school tax will increase by about \$300.00 in 2010.

Contribution to communities for the Government of Alberta's share of policing costs

Assistance for New Hires in 2009-10 was \$20,000 and for 2010-11 it is \$30,000, which is a 50% change. Municipal Policing Assistance Grants are provided to urban municipalities with populations over 5,000 responsible for their own policing and are calculated by Towns and Cities with populations between 5,001 and 20,000 receiving a \$200,000 base payment plus an additional \$8.00 per capita. Funding of \$100,000 per officer is provided for new hires. There will be another 100 front-line Police Officers added in 2010-11, fulfilling the commitment made in 2008-09 to add 300 new Officers over three years. CAO. R. Romanetz advised that Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins had submitted an application for an additional Officer at no cost to the Town.

Commitment to Affordable Housing

The Government of Alberta has allocated more than \$530 million in 2010-11 to support seniors' housing, affordable housing and homelessness. This is a decrease of 16 per cent from the 2009-10 forecast. Operating Support: Seniors Lodge Assistance will increase from \$32,120 to \$35,420 (10.3%), Family and Special Purpose Housing - Community Housing, Other Housing, Special Needs Providers remains the same, Outreach Support Service will decrease by 31.6%. Capital Grants: Affordable Housing Program will decrease from \$190,310 to \$88,310 (53.6%).

2010-13 Alberta Transportation Business Plan

The Plan does not include a specific province-wide transit strategy, however the ministry is developing new approaches to ensure long term sustainability of the Province's transportation system. Transportation will continue to work towards a Green Transit Incentives Program to improve and expand local transit systems.

Family and Community Support Services

There will be no change in this area.

Street Improvement Program

The formulas for calculating the amounts payable under the various programs have not changed from 2009-10. Federal funding for cost-shared programs was reprofiled between 2009-10 and 2010-11. The Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program will be substantially complete in 2009-10.

Comparative allocations for each of Alberta Transportation's grants:

Municipal Sustainability Initiative Capital Grant - base amount, population, assessment and road length - \$353,998 to \$826,000 (133.3% increase)

Basic Capital Grant - \$60/capita and other grant commitments - \$87,400 to \$51,500 (41.1% decrease)

Streets Improvement Program - \$60/capita - \$40,000 to \$37,500 (6.3% decrease)

Municipal Water Wastewater Program - project specific - \$264,160 to

\$113,000 (57.2% decrease) - This may have an affect on the East Coulee Wastewater Plant project.

Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program - population - \$498,500 to \$30,200 (93.9% decrease)

Canada Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund - project specific - \$35,000 to \$35,475 (1.4% increase)

Infrastructure Canada Alberta Program - project specific

Federal Public Transit Trust - base + ridership - \$21,540 to \$0.00 (100% decrease) - This could have an impact on the Valley Bus Society and we will have to discuss this matter further.

#### 8.1.2 Alberta Land Stewardship Act

CAO, R. Romanetz presented the Alberta Land Stewardship Act for Council's information. The Act was proclaimed on October 1, 2009. It creates the legal authority to implement the Land Use Framework for any future development being carried out in Alberta to consider the combined impact of activities on the land, air water, and biodiversity. The Act will help to sustain economic growth, while meeting Albertans' social and environmental objectives. The Act creates the authority for regional plans for each of the seven regions identified in the Land-use Framework. The Town is included in the Red Deer Region. Councillor K. Bertamini noted that the changes to the Act could have an impact on the Town's Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan.

#### 8.1.3 Bylaw #09-10 - Assessment Review Board

Director of Corporate Services, M. Roy reported that effective January 1, 2010 the new Assessment Review Board process and requirements came into effect. Municipalities must now establish Local Assessment Review Boards (LARB) and Composite Assessment Review Boards (CARB). Under the MGA the boards must consist of three members; LARB consists of three members appointed by Council and CARB two members appointed by Council and one provincially appointed member. There is four days of training required, two days of Administrative Law and two days of Principles of Assessment. All members appointed must complete the training or they will no longer be eligible to be a Board member. Municipalities can join together and create joint Boards or use the same individuals in each municipality; there is no limitation on number of Boards an individual can be a member of. Another consideration would be compensation (per diem) for training courses in excess of current budget; current Policy allows Council to claim up to five days of per diem.

**MO2010.42** Bertamini, Berdahl for first reading to Bylaw #09-10. Carried unanimously.

**MO2010.43** Yemen, McDonald for second reading to Bylaw #09-10. Carried unanimously.

**MO2010.44** McDonald, Bertamini for no objections to third and final reading to Bylaw #09-10. Carried unanimously.

**MO2010.45** Shoff, Yemen for third reading to Bylaw #09-10. Carried unanimously

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

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

- 8.3.1 Sunshine Lodge Requisition Director of Corporate Services, M. Roy advised that a meeting was held with the Drumheller and District Seniors Foundation to discuss the increase in requisition. They reviewed their 2010 Budget and discussed the increases; Repairs to cottages \$10,000, Wages and Benefits \$90,000 and Water and Sewer \$6,000. The total requisition will increase by \$100,000 to \$250,000. The Town's share will be approximately 51% or \$127,500 from \$76,650 in 2009. M. Roy noted that although the increase is significant it appears that the revenues and cost projections in their budget are reasonable.

## **8.4. Director of Community Services**

- 8.4.1 Municipal Heritage Options  
Director of Community Services, P. Salvatore noted that direction was given from Council to move forward on the completion of a Heritage Inventory for the Town. The total project cost about \$50,000 of which \$30,000 could be funded by partners including the Chamber of Commerce, Community Futures, Individual Property Owners and the Town, with the balance of funds about \$20,000 from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. A meeting was held with the Chamber of Commerce and Community Futures Big Country to discuss a partnership and while there was support in principle for taking the next steps there was no commitment of funds for the project at this time. The Historical Resources Foundation meets on February 26<sup>th</sup> to review the list of applicants for such projects to be funded in 2010. Discussion was held on going back to the Chamber of Commerce and Community Futures requesting funding for this project.

**MO2010.46** Bertamini, Berdahl moved that Council instruct Administration to make the application subject to the Chamber of Commerce and Community Futures supporting this application and each committing to a 1/3 share of the \$30,000 cost. In favour Nimmo, Berdahl, Bertamini, McDonald, Shoff. Opposed Yemen. Motion carried.

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

## **10.0 PUBLIC HEARING DECISIONS**

- 10.1 Bylaw #05-10 - Second and Third Readings  
CAO, R. Romanetz advised that from the Council meeting of February 1<sup>st</sup> Council requested the neighbour be contacted prior to second and third

readings. The neighbour has advised that he is in favour of the reclassification of their lot Plan 9911605, Block 10, Lot 1 from "CR" to "R-1a".

**MO2010.47** McDonald, Shoff moved for second reading to Bylaw #5-10.

Carried unanimously.

**MO2010.48** Yemen, Berdahl moved for third reading to Bylaw #5-10. Carried unanimously.

10.2 Bylaw #06-10

CAO, R. Romanetz advised that the Utility Companies have responded that they have no concerns with the closure. He also advised that the neighbour was contacted and advised that as long as the road closure does not interfere with his access he has no concerns either. The wording of the Bylaw is to be amended from "consolidating same with a portion" to "consolidating or creation of separate title with a portion". Bylaw #06-10 will be sent to the Minister for his approval.

## 11.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## 12.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

12.1 "Councillor Sharel Shoff gave notice of motion to read as follows:

"That Council delay the implementation of parallel parking for one year, while the Town completes the offsite parking sites, evaluates the effectiveness of offsite parking and facilitate communication with the citizens at large."

This Notice of Motion will be voted on at the next regular Council meeting.

## 13.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Mayors' Caucus - Councillor K. Bertamini advised that in the absence of Mayor B. Nimmo she presented the Towns' recommendation for contaminated land to the AUMA Board. The Board referred the matter to the appropriate committees to deal with the issue of legislative changes and to compile a list of uses for redevelopment on contaminated sites. The goal of the change would be to redevelop and reintegrate contaminated sites, including abandoned properties, into the economy of the community. Alberta needs to provide more incentives / tools for municipalities and the private sector to move forward in a new Provincial Brownfield's Redevelopment Strategy."

Councillor Bertamini also noted that the previous Provincial Tank Site Remediation Program disqualified many of Drumheller's sites for remediation because they have been out of service for more than two years. She advised that after they discussed her presentation AUMA moved to move it forward.

## 14.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS

**MO2010.49** Berdahl, Shoff moved to go into In-Camera 6:21 PM. Carried unanimously.

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14.1 Land Matter

**MO2010.50** Shoff, Berdahl moved to revert to regular Council meeting at 7:00 PM. Carried unanimously.

There being no further agenda items, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER