

Town of Drumheller COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2012 at 4:30 PM
Council Chamber, Town Hall
703-2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta



PRESENT:

MAYOR:

Terry Yemen

COUNCIL:

Andrew Berdahl

Jay Garbutt

Lisa Hansen-Zacharuk

Sharel Shoff

Doug Stanford

Tom Zariski

DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:

Allan Kendrick

ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:

Bill Wulff

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Paul Salvatore

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Linda Handy

ABSTENT: CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:

Ray Romanetz

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Terry Yemen called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

2.0 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARK

Mayor T. Yemen proclaimed the third week of November, as National Addictions Awareness Week.

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Additions to Agenda: 14.1 Councillor Jay Garbutt – Carillion's Highway Maintenance Service Contract and 14.2 Councillor Sharel Shoff – Problems with Coyotes

MO2012.151 Garbutt, Hansen-Zacharuk moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Carried unanimously.

5.0 MINUTES

5.1. ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

5.1.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2012

MO2012.152 Shoff, Berdahl moved to adopt the regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2012 as presented. Carried unanimously.

5.2. MINUTES OF MEETING PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.0 DELEGATIONS

6.1 RCMP Staff Sgt. Art Hopkins - Presentation of Stat Comparisons

Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins stated crime rates are very similar to last year. He reported that the members have been doing more traffic enforcement with a 75% increase in tickets. Motor vehicle accidents have decreased by 18% in comparison to last year but he attributed this to increased visibility. Criminal code offences are very similar compared to last year. Property damage is up slightly and minimal increase for total property crime.

Questions from Council

Councillor J. Garbutt asked if the increase in traffic violations was due to increased enforcement or to driver error. Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins explained that members were available for enforcement as well as them being more attentive to distracted driving infractions. He explained that during the summer, the manpower was in place but it is not today. He further explained that the detachment is down by five (5) members due to maternity leave, surgery and retirement. Councillor J. Garbutt noted the significant increase in the federal general category and asked what would be included in this category. Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins stated that there has been a drastic increase in distilling alcohol offences at the Penitentiary.

Councillor T. Zariski asked the 2012 priorities for the detachment and how they might affect stats. Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins stated that the 2012 priorities were fraud, property crime and distracted driving. He explained that frauds against the population are consistent (they are mostly attempts compared to successes however they are all categorized into one). Distracted driving tickets issued well exceeded their goal of 30 tickets and tickets issued is now well into the high 60's). He explained that the Province has been approached to increase the fines for distracted driving offences.

Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins presented the 2011 Crime Severity Index Summary dated November 5, 2012. He explained that the Crime Severity Index (CSI) tracks changes in the severity of police-reported crime by accounting for both the amount of crime reported by police in a given jurisdiction and the relative seriousness of these crimes. It

identifies the crimes coming to the attention of police as well as the seriousness of that crime. *“If a jurisdiction has a high proportion of less serious, hence lower weighted offences, it will have a lower index value. Conversely, a jurisdiction with a high portion of more serious crimes will have a higher index value. The base line for measurement of the CSI is 100. The CSI for Drumheller Municipal Detachment is 125.41 and the CSI for Drumheller Provincial Detachment is 33.32.”* He explained that a large portion of Drumheller's crime is associated with the Penitentiary so our numbers do not work well in comparison with other communities.

Councillor D. Stanford asked who pays for false alarms call outs? Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins advised that false alarms call outs are a large draw on police departments in general and it affects both the budget and the police officer when officers are called out as they may be off shift. There are some communities where the detachment charges a fee back to the alarm companies. A bylaw would have to be enacted in order to collect the fee.

Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins stated that with the increased demands in schools with bullying incidents and community at large duties, he would like to see an enhanced policing position at a shared cost with the Town and counties for a school liaison / community resource officer. He explained that the officers' time spent in these areas is astronomical and in light of the detachment's shortage, these cases are left open for a lengthy period of time. He stated that each year the detachment does not reach full complement (historically the Town pays for nine (9) members) and since the Town has budgeted for eleven (11) members, it would seem appropriate for an additional member to be hired designated for this position. He stated that Drumheller has a crime rate that supports eleven (11) officers. He further stated that Drumheller needs to order for twelve (12) or thirteen (13) members to cover the shortages and it would highly unlikely that a complement of thirteen (13) members would ever be reached. The amount of tickets issued would be more than sufficient to cover the costs of another officer.

In response to a question from Council, Staff Sgt. A. Hopkins stated that although there are fifteen (15) peace officers, eleven (11) are funded by the Town and four (4) are funded by the Province (the Drumheller detachment is down four (4) on the municipal side and one (1) on the rural side. He stated that although counties do not pay for policing, the detachment serves this area (Morris, Munson and Delia).

Councillor J. Garbutt asked the Staff Sgt. to pass along Council's appreciation for the members' service.

Council agreed that this discussion should be on the agenda for Council's Strategic Business Plan Workshop.

7.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS

8.1. CAO

8.1.1 Bylaw 16.12 being a bylaw for the purpose of creating a Public Utility Lot (Abandoned Mine Shaft) - all three readings

Acting CAO, A. Kendrick presented Bylaw 16.12 being a bylaw to create a public utility lot which allows the municipality to control the area because of an abandoned mine shaft located in the area as identified on the drawing. He further explained that the bylaw restricts development within 15 meters of the mine shaft. He recommended that Council give all three readings to allow the Request for Proposals to move forward.

MO2012.153 Shoff, Hansen-Zacharuk for first reading of Bylaw 16.12.

Discussion on Motion:

In response to a question from Council, Al Kendrick explained that the purpose of an environmental reserve is similar in nature as well and is for the purpose of preventing development in areas which are subject to natural hazards and to prevent the pollution of water bodies. Environmental reserves may be used as a public park but if it is not, it must be kept in its natural state. Public Utility Lots (PUL's) are titled parcels of lands which are owned by the municipality for the purpose of maintaining that utility. He explained that no structure is permitted on PUL's. B. Wulff stated that you may be able to use this land for a playground or a parking lot.

Vote on Motion:

Carried unanimously.

MO2012.154 Zariski, Garbutt for second reading of Bylaw 16.12. Carried unanimously.

MO2012.155 Shoff, Hansen-Zacharuk for no objection to third reading of Bylaw 16.12.

Discussion on Motion:

Councillor A. Berdahl asked if public messaging should be considered? A. Kendrick stated that he did not see a purpose in providing notice to the public as the Town is following proper procedure on how it intends to manage the abandoned mine. P. Salvatore stated that all three readings this evening allows the Town to move forward with the Request for Proposals to developers for this area.

Vote on Motion:

Carried unanimously.

MO2012.156 Shoff, Zariski for third reading to Bylaw 16.12. Carried unanimously.

8.2. Director of Infrastructure Services

8.3. Director of Corporate Services

8.4. Director of Community Services

9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

10.0 PUBLIC HEARING DECISIONS

11.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

13.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

13.1 Councilor J. Garbutt requested an update when Carillion will fix the pot holes at the intersection of Hwy 9 and Railway Avenue. He stated that it is becoming a matter of public safety to make it through that intersection. He further stated that it appears with the change of contractors there has been a decline of timely highway maintenance. He asked how the municipality can ensure that Carillion's meets their contract obligations. Al Kendrick explained that the potholes at this intersection were addressed this past summer with a new automated patching system however the material did not stick in the hole. He stated that in speaking with Gord Wilton, the Town has Transportations' assurances that Carillion will do a patch within the next 10 days. He further explained that as per their contract, once a work order has been generated, the contractor has anywhere from 10-60 days to rectify the situation. He further stated that there is a learning curve with the new contractor and Transportation has assured the Town that we will obtain the same level of service as with the previous contractor, Ledcor, in short order. A. Kendrick further stated that the Province determines the level of maintenance and as seen throughout the province this past year, there has been limited work on highways. In response to Council's inquiry on where complaints should be directed, A. Kendrick stated that residents should express their concerns directly to Alberta Transportation.

13.2 Councilor S. Shoff stated that numerous coyotes are roaming within the community and are becoming braver around people. She asked how this problem can be dealt with. P. Salvatore explained that the Community Enforcement Supervisor has been in contact with the Province to explore options on how to deal with this population. He further advised that residents should forward complaints to the Provincial government.

14.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS

There being no further items, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:42 PM.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer