

Town of Drumheller COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2013 at 4:30 PM
Council Chamber, Town Hall
703-2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta



PRESENT:

MAYOR:

Terry Yemen

COUNCIL:

Andrew Berdahl

Sharel Shoff

Jay Garbutt

Lisa Hansen-Zacharuk

Doug Stanford

Tom Zariski

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:

Ray Romanetz

DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:

Allan Kendrick

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:

Byron Nagazina

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Paul Salvatore

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Linda Handy

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Terry Yemen announced that Special Council Meeting to be held on June 24, 2013.

2.0 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARK

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MO2013.94 Zariski, Garbutt moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

5.0 MINUTES

5.1. ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

5.1.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2013

MO2013.95 Stanford, Garbutt moved to adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2013 as presented. Carried unanimously.

5.2. MINUTES OF MEETING PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.2.1 Municipal Planning Commission Minutes of May 24, 2013

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 – Sandstone Manor 2013 Taxes

CAO R. Romanetz advised that Drumheller Housing Administration (DHA), through Councillor Jay Garbutt is requesting that Council cancel the 2013 taxes as allowed under Section 347(1) of the Municipal Government Act on the property being used by Sandstone Manor. He further advised that Council has budgeted the cancellation of the 2013 municipal portion of taxes for Sandstone Manor. The municipal portion of the property tax is \$8859.55 leaving the education tax of \$3149.50 as payable.

MO2013.96 Berdahl, Garbutt moved that Council cancel the municipal portion of Sandstone Manor taxes in the amount of \$8859.55 for the 2013 tax year.

Discussion on Motion:

In response to a question from Council, Councillor J. Garbutt confirmed that the DHA reserves are currently at \$40,000 with 2013 budgeted reserve of \$25,000. Reserves are growing based on the recommendation of the CAO between 2-5% of the value of the building. Councillor S. Shoff asked what effect non cancellation of the taxes would have on DHA? Councillor J. Garbutt stated that if the Town does not cancel the taxes, the reserves which are earmarked for repairs, replacement of the building and additional affordable housing for Drumheller, would take longer to build as their only stream of revenue for the reserves is rent.

Vote on Motion:

6 in favor – Yemen, Berdahl, Shoff, Garbutt, Zariski, Stanford

1 - opposed – Hansen-Zacharuk

Motion Carried.

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

Councillors A. Berdhal, J. Garbutt and L. Hansen-Zacharuk provided reports on their attendance at the FCM Conference held in Vancouver from May 30th – June 1st

Discussions and workshops focused on:

- Relationship between the Federal government and municipalities (only 8% of government spending comes to municipalities – federal government unilaterally reducing their property taxes while they are still using all the municipal services – local lesson if assessors peg the federal institution at a lower rate the Town should fight for a higher amount based on this argument);
- Environmental issues and development;
- Sustainability;
- International relations;
- Building age friendly communities;
- Municipal and corporate sponsorship;
- Municipal finance (possible leveraging on gas tax fund if there is a priority on the books);
- Working on the New Building Canada fund;
- Networking opportunities (successes of other municipalities with the main theme being infrastructure);
- Tax rebates and matching dollars to promote revitalization;
- Rick Hansen's inspirational speech was a highlight; as well as the
- Trade Show with innovative technology and information for municipalities.

13.2 Councillor J. Garbutt - Hoodoo Site Improvement

Councillor J. Garbutt asked what can be done to improve the experience of the visitors to the hoodoo site including more highway signage, flush toilets to replace the existing outhouses, a bus turnaround to eliminate the unsafe maneuverings of tour buses backing into a busy parking lot to make their turn around and the old camp kitchen replaced with a shaded area with picnic tables. Although Council agreed with the improvements, they will be at a significant cost. R. Romanetz advised that as part of the East Coulee transmission line water line, the Town would be able to extend the service connection and tie into the site, dependant on grant availability - having water to the site will move towards having flush toilets. Councillor T. Zariski stated that the

Museum's Friends of the Cooperating Society has spent significantly dollars trying to preserve and improve the site and the Town needs to follow suit. Councillor A. Berdahl recommended that standardization for all tourist destination parks / sites need to be implemented. R. Romanetz concurred, stating that tourist sites need to be indestructibly built and serviced. The Town currently upgrades tourism sites based on dollars available. There are no dollars available from Canadian Badlands Ltd. Councillor L. Hansen-Zacharuk recommended that a donation box be installed on the site. R. Romanetz provided background information, explaining that once the lease expired, the site was named as a Heritage Site, which allowed the improvements to take place. The land is owned by the Town. Mayor Terry Yemen will write a letter to the Minister of Tourism requesting funding and Administration will research the availability of grant dollars.

14.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS MO2013.97 Berdahl, Zariski moved to go in camera at 5:00 PM. Carried unanimously.

14.1 Energy Aggregation

MO2013.98 Shoff, Stanford moved to revert back to regular Council meeting at 5:16 PM. Carried unanimously.

MO2013.99 Garbutt, Hansen-Zacharuk moved that the Town of Drumheller approve and authorize Administration to engage Energy Associates International (EAI) to assist in the procurement and management of Electricity and Natural Gas for 2014 and beyond as presented. Carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer