

Town of Drumheller COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2014 at 4:30 PM
Council Chamber, Town Hall
703-2nd Ave. West, Drumheller, Alberta



PRESENT:

MAYOR:

Terry Yemen

COUNCIL:

Jay Garbutt

Lisa Hansen-Zacharuk

Patrick Kolafa

Tara McMillan

Sharel Shoff

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:

Ray Romanetz

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:

Byron Nagazina

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Paul Salvatore

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Linda Handy

ABSENT: Councillor T. Zariski

Director of Infrastructure Services A. Kendrick

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

2.0 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARK

Mayor Terry Yemen presented a letter from John Brayley, Manager - CN advising that *"CN has entered into discussing with a third party on new business opportunities that would require the use of the railway line. Given the uncertainty of and expected start-up date for the project, the parties concluded that the installation of new tracks would be more economical than upgrading the existing track infrastructure once the new business materialized. CN expects to commence lifting the track materials in the spring of 2014 and will retain possession of the railway lands on the main corridor, once the salvaging has been completed, for future railway use once the new business opportunity materializes"*.

Mayor Terry Yemen presented a letter from The Alberta Order of Excellence inviting nominations of deserving Albertans to become a member of the Alberta Order of Excellence. Deadline for submissions is February 15, 2014.

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MO2014.01 Shoff, Hansen-Zacharuk moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

5.0 MINUTES

5.1 ADOPTION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2013
Special Council Meeting Minutes of December 23, 2013
Special Council Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2014

MO2014.02 Shoff, Hansen-Zacharuk moved to adopt the regular Council Meeting minutes of December 16, 2013 as presented. Carried unanimously.

MO2014.03 Hansen-Zacharuk, McMillan moved to adopt the Special Council Meeting minutes of December 23, 2013. Carried unanimously.

MO2014.04 Kolafa, Garbutt moved to adopt the Special Council Meeting minutes of January 6, 2014. Carried unanimously.

5.2 MINUTES OF MEETING PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

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 - Request for Reduction of Property Taxes

R. Romanetz advised that letters have been received from two property owners identified as Tax Roll #10002004 and Tax Roll #19041201 requesting a reduction to their 2013 taxes as allowed under Section 347(1) of the Municipal Government Act due to their residence experiencing significant flood damages. He further advised that comments from Rod Vikse – Wildrose Assessment Services is attached for Council's consideration. He further explained that the assessment is based on 2012 however it does provide an estimate for the year 2013.

MO2014.05 Shoff, Garbutt moved to reduce the municipal portion of taxes for Tax Roll #10002004 and Tax Roll #19041201 based on the reduction of assessment by Rod Vikse – Wildrose Assessment Services for the timeframe the properties were affected by the flood in 2013 with no reduction to the education portion of taxes for 2013.

Discussion on Motion:

In response to a question from Council, R. Romanetz advised that both properties experienced flood damages in 2005 however in 2013 if property owners applied for provincial funding, the owners will have to meet the provincial criteria or they will not be eligible in the future. He stated that both property owners have made applications to the Disaster Recovery Program however the Town is not privy to any further information. He further explained that if the property was vacated for more than 90 days, the Town can apply to the province for reimbursement of any tax reductions given by the Town to the property owners. The timeframe for the Town to apply to the Province for reimbursement of tax reductions for property owners is January 15, 2014. To date the Town is only aware of one property owner who vacated their premise for more than 90 days and the dwelling remains uninhabitable. Councillor J. Garbutt questioned whether similar requests will come forward from other property owners. B. Nagazina stated that he has contacted seven other property owners who experienced significant damage however they did not qualify under the provincial program. R. Romanetz advised that more requests for municipal tax reduction may come forward.

Vote on Motion:

4 in favour – Yemen, Shoff, Hansen-Zacharuk, Garbutt

2 opposed – McMillan Kolafa

Carried.

8.1.2 RFD - Appointment to the Drumheller Housing Administration

R. Romanetz advised that the Drumheller Housing Administration has a vacancy for one position and the Town has received two applications – Kandace Wylie-Toews and Rob Kloepfer. Administration recommended that the one appointment be carried out by secret ballot.

MO2014.06 McMillan, Garbutt that Council approve the appointment of Kandace Wylie-Toews to the Drumheller Housing Administration for a three year term to expire on the date of Council's 2016 Organizational Meeting. Carried unanimously.

80.2 DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

80.3 DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

80.4 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

90 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

10.0 PUBLIC HEARING DECISIONS

11.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12.0 NOTICE OF MOTION

13.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

13.1 Councillor Tom Zariski - Drumheller and District Seniors Foundation – moved to Council Committee meeting for January 20, 2014

13.2 Councillor Jay Garbutt - Sandstone Manor 2014 Budget
Councillor J. Garbutt presented the Sandstone Manor 2014 budget noting that for the past two years the Town has waived the municipal portion of the taxes which has allowed Sandstone Manor to build a reserve fund. They have set aside \$20,000 in each year however they are hoping this year to set aside \$30,000 towards the reserve. He further noted that they intend to increase rent by 5% in 2014 and again by 5% in 2015. Rental rates are set at 20% below market rates.

MO2014.07 Garbutt, Hansen-Zacharuk moved to accept the Sandstone Manor 2014 Budget as presented. Carried unanimously.

14.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS

14.1 Land Matter

14.2 Labour Matter

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer