

Town of Drumheller COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 27, 2016 at 4:30 PM
Council Chamber, Town Hall
224 Centre Street, Drumheller, AB, T0J 0Y4



PRESENT:

MAYOR:
Terry Yemen

COUNCIL:
Jay Garbutt
Lisa Hansen-Zacharuk
Patrick Kolafa
Tara McMillan
Sharel Shoff
Tom Zariski

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ENGINEER:
Ray Romanetz

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES:
Paul Salvatore

DIRECTOR OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES:
Greg Peters

RECORDING SECRETARY:
Linda Handy

ABSENT:
DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES:
Allan Kendrick
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES:
Barb Miller

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

Mayor Yemen congratulated the Gran Fondo Badlands participants, on their third annual event, held in Drumheller on June 25th, with 845 cyclists in the valley. He congratulated Paul Salvatore who came in at 63rd place.

2.0 MAYOR'S OPENING REMARK

2.1 Letter from Hon. Danielle Larivee - Minister of Municipal Affairs

Mayor Terry Yemen presented a letter from Hon. Danielle Larivee – Minister of Municipal Affairs announcing that the Town of Drumheller will receive the Federal Gas Tax Fund (GFT) in the amount of \$432,868.

2.2 Letter from Hon. Brian Mason – Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation

Mayor Terry Yemen presented a letter from Hon. Brian Mason – Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation announcing that funding for turnout at the bottom of the south hill is anticipated for their 2017 budget. In addition, the Province acknowledges that there is a need to reconstruct the portion of Highway 9 between 2nd Street and 5th Street and also anticipate funding to be allocated for this project in 2017. In his letter, Hon. Mason states that he has *“a greater understating of the sewage issue related to the Royal Tyrrell Museum and Alberta Infrastructure will support a consultant investigation for a lift station at the museum to determine if the lift station will mitigate the odour issues in the Newcastle neighbourhood in Drumheller”*. Hon. Mason explained that he has shared the information provided to him on flood mitigation at the meeting held on March 8th when he met with Mayor Yemen, Councillor Jay Garbutt and CAO Ray Romanetz to Hon Shannon Phillips, Minister of Alberta Environment. Mayor Yemen stated he along with Councillor Jay Garbutt and CAO Ray Romanetz will be meeting with Environment’s Administration next week in Red Deer.

3.0 PUBLIC HEARING

4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MO2016.103 Garbutt, McMillan 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 13, 2016

MO2016.104 Hanson-Zacharuk, Shoff moved to adopt the regular Council Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2016 as presented. Carried unanimously.

5.2. MINUTES OF MEETING PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION

5.2.1 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2016 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2016

5.3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.0 DELEGATIONS

6.1 Drumheller Chamber of Commerce - Heather Bitz - Executive Director and Shelly Rymal – President, Brock Harrington – Vice President, Sylvia Adams – Board Member and Marley Henneigh – Staff Member
Semi-Annual Update

H. Bitz provided an overview of the 2016 priorities as follows:

- that DDCC be recognized as a premier advocate for its members in the business community;
- improve communication with the business community; and
- develop an engaging active community calendar to encourage greater participation from the business community.

Membership

- total 231 members in good standing;
- 16 outstanding memberships would bring the total to 247; and
- since January, 2016 - 10 new members joined.

H. Bitz stated that the key factor for a healthy Chamber is building memberships and actively communicating with the members through a variety of means. She stated that the benefits of being a Chamber member include value added programs offered through an affiliation with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce such as insurance plans. She further advised that advocacy remains a key priority. This work is carried out by their Business Advocacy Committee chaired by Darcy Thompson. The Committee lobbies the government on policies affecting businesses, such as the proposed wage increase with a request that the Province delay the implementation until the economy in Alberta stabilizes. As well, the members have been lobbying against the proposed increased contributions to the CPP plan, urging the government to make enhancements to the program without increases to the employers. She further stated that the Chamber met with MLA Rick Strankman to provide an overview of the Chamber programs and to learn how he plans to work with new Alberta Government.

H. Bitz provided highlights of their events held over the past year. She noted that the Canada Day Parade will have a new route that proposes to alleviate traffic congestion at the BCF and Arena area as well as eliminating the gaps during the parade. She stated that she would appreciate feedback on the new parade route. She reminded Council of the Chamber's Golf Tournament to be held on August 21st with the funds raised going towards their Business Leader of Tomorrow scholarship program.

H. Bitz stated that the World's Largest Dinosaur had 27,847 visitors within the first five months of the year (January to May) which is an increase of 16.5% from last year numbers. She further stated that there are monthly contributions to the Legacy Fund from 15% of the World's Largest Dinosaur's gross shop sales; this year disbursements of \$3,000 each were given to the Royal Canadian Legion for new flooring and the Munson Community Association for their new hall. She further noted that the next round of Legacy Fund applications is due September 1st for a maximum request of \$3,000.00. She stated that the Visitor Information Centre has been accredited since

2009 meets the criteria as set by Alberta Culture and Tourism who administer the program. She stated that regardless of the Chamber membership, there is a duty to promote all businesses fairly in the VIC and to carry a variety of tourism literature from Drumheller, our Province and outside the Province. She explained that the mobile VIC program has been scaled back compared to last year's program with a station set up on Thursdays 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM at the RTM in July and August. She thanked the Town for their annual support for the VIC program.

Questions and Comments from Council:

Mayor T. Yemen asked the total dollars from the World's Largest Dinosaur Legacy Fund that goes back into the community? H. Bitz stated that to date \$585,000 has been given back to the community from the Legacy Fund.

Councillor S. Shoff asked how Travel Drumheller helps the Chamber? S. Rymal stated that although Travel Drumheller does not provide financial support, the Chamber is part of their board and they have a working relationship towards the same goal.

Councillor T. Zariski asked how the Town's economic development office works with the Chamber? H. Bitz stated that in the past, the Economic Development Officer and Chamber talk about tourism / economic initiatives that may come forward such as the business start up guide that has been posted on the Town's website and comments from businesses about the challenges they experience. Councillor J. Garbutt stated that the working partnership needs to focus on initiatives to stimulate the economy and eliminate red tape and the perception of the difficulty of doing business in our community. As well, Councillor J. Garbutt stated that there are many store fronts currently empty and he would like to see some sort of strategy to deal with unoccupied buildings in the downtown core. He congratulated the Chamber for their many years of overseeing the July 1st parade and stated that it would be difficult to find another organization to take this responsibility over.

Mayor and Council thanked H. Bitz and S. Rymal for their presentation.

7.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

8.0 REQUEST FOR DECISION REPORTS

8.1. CAO

8.1.1 RFD - Wheatland County Regional Infrastructure Services Program Funding

R. Romanetz advised that Wheatland County has approved a redistribution of 0.25 mill of their Non Residential Property tax to their neighbouring municipalities (Hanna, Rockyford, Standard, Strathmore, Gleichen and Carseland) that provide infrastructure related services to their residents based on a calculation of Wheatland's total population divided by the service area population. For Drumheller, this equates to 2.4% of their residents using our facilities (coming from Dalum north). The amount Drumheller will receive is \$17,974.86 of a total \$750,000 grant disbursement based on the identified formula. It is an annual payment for five (5) years.

R. Romanetz advised that he along with the Mayor met with Starland County's Administrator and Mayor on possible collaboration initiatives for future cost sharing. He explained that a similar meeting is proposed with Kneehill County who has expressed an interest in a discussion on regional collaboration initiatives.

MO2016.105 Hansen, Shoff moved that Council approve Wheatland County's Regional Infrastructure Services Program Funding Agreement with the Town of Drumheller as presented.

Discussion on Motion

In response to Council's questions on the formula, R. Romanetz explained that the Town had no input into the formula that is based on a percentage of Wheatland County's population using our facilities. He further advised that once a meeting date has been arranged, there will be an opportunity for the Town to ask Wheatland County to provide their rationale on the formula and the cost sharing. In the Town's opinion, the population number should be more than has been identified. He further explained that in the recent past, the Counties have provided some funding towards the capital costs for the BCF. Further to this, 20 years ago Kneehill County used to give the Town recreational dollars based on a similar population formula however the province cancelled this grant, and the dollars were no longer received. These dollars were submitted to Drumheller and in turn, Drumheller was able to use the dollars for operating and maintenance expenses at our discretion. R. Romanetz advised that although regional collaboration is a major initiative being proposed by the Province, there was nothing that stated that the Province would look at redistributing linear assessment between municipalities.

Councillor J. Garbutt asked where in the agreement does it state how Drumheller may use these dollars. R. Romanetz referred to the agreement and read that "*the parties provide infrastructure required services utilized by Wheatland County taxpayers*" and further down it reads that if funds are redirected that there be acknowledgement of that action. He further explained that the dollars would be used for operations to offset costs for services utilized by their residents. Councillor T. McMillan clarified that the agreement includes the definition of infrastructure as "*basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (i.e. buildings, roads and electrical systems)*". Councillor J. Garbutt stated that he needs more information on where the Town is required to spend the dollars and that he would need clarification on their rationale for the formula.

Vote on Motion:

In favour – Yemen, Shoff, McMillan, Zariski, Kolafa, Hansen-Zacharuk

Opposed - Garbutt

Carried.

8.2. DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

8.3. DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

8.4. DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

8.5. DIRECTOR OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES

9.0 PRESENTATION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS BY ADMINISTRATION

10.0 PUBLIC HEARING DECISIONS

11.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12.0 NOTICE OF MOTION

13.0 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

14.0 IN-CAMERA MATTERS MO2016.106 Shoff, McMillan moved to go in camera at 5:25 PM. Carried unanimously.

14.1 Land Matter

MO2016.107 Garbutt, Kolafa moved to revert to regular Council meeting at 5:45 PM. Carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor