

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, November 29, 2016, commencing at 5:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
C. Tatum, Councillor

Absent: L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor
C. Voyageur, Councillor

Administration: M. Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer
K. Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
D. Bendfeld, Executive Director
R. Billard, Acting Executive Director
B. Couture, Executive Director
E. Hutton, Executive Director
J. Brown, Supervisor Legislative Services
J. Wall, Legislative Coordinator

Reconvene

Mayor M. Blake reconvened the meeting at 5:02 p.m., noting that the proceedings are continued from the November 28th meeting, and that Council was still sitting as Committee of the Whole.

Operating Budget Presentations

9. 2017 Operating Budget Introduction
(5:03 p.m. - 5:19 p.m.)

Elsie Hutton, Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director, Corporate Services Division accompanied by Linda Ollivier, Director, Financial Services, introduced the proposed 2017 Operating Budget, noting that a detailed presentation had been provided to Council on November 1, 2016. It was indicated that the proposed budget had already been reduced by \$30 million from the 2016 Budget, which included a \$20 million reduction of the Capital Budget and \$10 million of the Operating Budget.

Public Delegations

10. Public Delegations
(5:20 p.m. – 5:26 p.m.)

Jim Rogers, resident, spoke to the proposed 2017 budget and the rural water and sewer projects.

11. Planning and Regional Development Division

(5:26 p.m. – 5:31 p.m.)

Bob Couture, Executive Director, Planning and Regional Development, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the Planning and Regional Development Division.

12. Planning and Development

(5:32 p.m. – 6:03 p.m.)

Jamie Doyle, Director, Planning and Development, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

It was requested that the following information be provided:

- Breakdown of total costs associated with the reviews/projects that are being undertaken in 2017.
- An explanation and detail around the increase of 17% in wages and benefits for the Planning and Development Department.
- Further explanation and clarification on the total FTE count in 2016 in comparison to 2017.

Entrance

Councillor S. Germain joined the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

13. Land Administration

(6:04 p.m. – 6:09 p.m.)

Keith Smith, Director, Land Administration, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

14. Economic Development

(6:10 p.m. - 6:23 p.m.)

Keith Smith, Acting Director, Economic Development, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

15. Community and Protective Services Division

(6:24 p.m. – 6:32 p.m.)

Dale Bendfeld, Executive Director, Community and Protective Services Division, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the Community and Protective Services Division.

Exit and Return

Councillor T. Ault exited the Chamber at 6:29 p.m. and returned at 6:31 p.m.

16. Community Services
(6:33 p.m. – 6:58 p.m.)

Carole Bouchard, Director, Community Services, accompanied by Toni Elliott, Manager, Community Facilities and Investment, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

It was requested that the following information be provided:

- Details on staffing and the total cost associated with the respective events that are led by the Community Services Department.

17. Municipal Law Enforcement/RCMP Support Services
(6:59 p.m. – 7:34 p.m.)

Kimberly Snow, Acting Director, Municipal Law Enforcement and RCMP Support Services and Lorna Dicks, Inspector, RCMP, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

Exit and Return

Councillor S. Germain exited the Council Chamber at 7:01 p.m. and returned at 7:02 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred between 7:34 p.m. and 7:52 p.m.

18. Regional Emergency Services
(7:53 p.m. – 8:09 p.m.)

Darby Allen, Director, Regional Emergency Services, accompanied by Kasia Odrzygozdz, Financial Analyst, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

It was requested that the following information be provided:

- Statistics regarding any increases of calls to Regional Emergency Services with respect to the use of fentanyl.

Return

Councillors C. Tatum and S. Germain re-entered the Council Chamber at 7:54 p.m.

Exit and Return and Assuming of the Chair

Mayor M. Blake exited the Council Chamber at 7:55 p.m. and Deputy Mayor S. Germain assumed the Chair. Mayor M. Blake returned to the Council Chamber and resumed the Chair at 8:05 p.m.

Exit and Return

Councillor C. Tatum exited the Chamber at 8:06 p.m. and returned at 8:07 p.m.

19. First Nation and Métis Nation Relations
(8:10 p.m. – 8:19 p.m.)

Dennis Fraser, Director, First Nation and Métis Nation Relations and Elena Gould, Manager, Aboriginal Relations, gave an overview of the proposed 2017 Operating Budget for the department.

Recess

The Mayor then declared the meeting recessed at 8:20 p.m., noting that it would reconvene at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29, 2016 in the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber.