

Approved Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, AB, on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
M. Allen, Councillor
D. Blair, Councillor
M. Byron, Councillor
L. Flett, Councillor (via teleconferencing)
S. Germain, Councillor
G. Janvier, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
R. Rebus, Councillor
J. Vyboh, Councillor

Absent: S. Clarkson, Councillor

Administration: K. Kloss, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
S. Kanzig, Chief Legislative Officer
D. Elliott, Deputy CAO
B. Broomfield-Andrews, Legislative Assistant
A. Wojtkiewicz, Recorder/Legislative Assistant

Call to Order

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer

The Mayor asked everyone to join her in Prayer.

Agenda

10-052 Moved by Councillor Meagher that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes

1. Council Meeting – February 23, 2010

10-053 Moved by Councillor Allen that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on, February 23, 2010 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Delegations

2. Mr. Ahsen Butt and Mr. Ian Dirom re: Corporate Networks Business Center

Mr. Ahsen Butt, CEO, Corporate Networks, Mr. Ian Dirom, Development Partner, Corporate Networks, Mr. Pat Lucier, Development Director, Corporate Networks, and Mr. Ron Lea, Architect Partner, FOLIO Architects, presented to Council their vision on construction and development of a Class A Business Centre with underground parking. They see this vision as revitalizing the heart of the region and a viable option to meet any short term and interim office space needs for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. The request presented to Council was to review the information and consider appropriate action for immediate implementation.

10-054 Moved by Councillor Blair that the presentation made by Mr. Ahsen Butt, Mr. Ian Dirom, Mr. Pat Lucier, and Mr. Ron Lea re: Corporate Networks Business Center be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A lengthy discussion occurred relative to the Accommodations Master Plan and whether this proposal might be considered as part of it.

10-055 Moved by Councillor Vyboh that administration prepare a status report on options for accommodations that will address the Accommodations Master Plan needs.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports

3. Appointment of Interim Chief Administrative Officer

Councillor Meagher put forward the following recommendation: "That Mr. Kelly Kloss be appointed as interim Chief Administrative Officer of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo until the position is filled on a permanent basis".

10-056 Moved by Councillor Byron that Council move in camera to discuss a personnel matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10-057 Moved by Councillor Byron that Council reconvene in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council met in camera from 7:00 p.m. to 7:24 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred from 7:25 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Discussion occurred relative to the importance of the Chief Administrative Officer's position within the organization.

10-058 Moved by Councillor Meagher that Mr. Kelly Kloss be appointed as interim Chief Administrative Officer of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo until the position is filled on a permanent basis.

CARRIED

For: Allen, Blake, Flett, Germain,
Janvier, Meagher, Rebus, Vyboh

Opposed: Byron, Blair

4. 2009 Capital Budget Amendments

Mrs. Elsie Hutton, Chief Financial Officer, came forward and spoke to the amendments being presented.

Exit

Councillor Flett left the meeting at 8:20 p.m. as teleconferencing was no longer available due to technical difficulties.

10-059 Moved by Councillor Allen that the Capital Budget be amended as summarized in Attachment 1 – Capital Budget Amendments, Projects with identified Budget Savings – March 9, 2010.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Reserve Bids for Tax Recovery Auction

Councillor Meagher put forward the following recommendation: "That the reserve bids and sale conditions be established as listed in Attachment 1 – Reserve Bids and Sale Conditions for Tax Sale Properties, dated February 1, 2010".

Mr. Henk van Waas, General Manager, Assessment and Taxation Department, came forward and spoke to the Tax Recovery process.

10-060 Moved by Councillor Janvier that this matter be deferred to the March 23, 2010 Council Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. 2009 Capital Budget Amendments

10-061 Moved by Councillor Allen that the Capital Budget be amended as summarized in Attachment 2 – Capital Budget Amendments, Cancelled Projects – March 9, 2010.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Envision Wood Buffalo

Mr. Dennis Peck, General Manager, Planning and Development, Mr. Jean Ehlers, Manager, Long Range Planning & Development, and Mr. Martin Frigo, Planner I, Planning and Development presented background information about Envision Wood Buffalo as the long-term Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

10-062 Moved by Councillor Rebus that the Envision Wood Buffalo Plan be accepted as a guiding document for the Municipality.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

New and Unfinished Business**7. Notice of Motion re: Disclosure of Municipal Expenditures (*Councillor Byron*)**

The following motion was put forward at the February 23, 2010 Council meeting by Councillor Byron: "That Administration be directed to make public, information regarding municipal expenditures on projects, otherwise protected by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, after the business risk has been removed".

Administration will bring back options on how this information will be made public.

10-063 Moved by Councillor Byron that Administration be directed to make public, information regarding municipal expenditures on projects, after the business risk has been removed, ensuring it does not violate the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CARRIED

For: Allen, Blair, Blake, Byron,
Germain, Janvier, Meagher, Vyboh
Opposed: Rebus

8. Notice of Motion re: Addition of Programs to 2010 Tax Rate Bylaw (*Councillor Byron*)

The following notice of motion was put forward at the February 23, 2010 Council meeting by Councillor Byron:

“THAT Administration be directed to add to the 2010 Tax Rate Bylaw, coming before Council in the coming months, the following two programs:

- (i) That would permit seniors to deduct from their property taxes \$300.00; and
- (ii) That would permit local business property owners to deduct from their property taxes \$1,000.00 for beautification initiatives, such as outdoor artwork, or creating a “meeting place” for our community”.

It was explained that such programs can not be tied to the Tax Rate Bylaw. A lengthy discussion occurred regarding re-wording of the motion to remove reference to the Tax Rate Bylaw while maintaining the intent of the recommendations. The recommendations were then submitted as follows:

THAT Administration be directed to investigate the following two programs:

- (i) That would permit seniors to deduct from their property taxes \$300.00; and
- (ii) That would permit local business property owners to deduct from their property taxes \$1,000.00 for beautification initiatives, such as outdoor artwork, or creating a “meeting place” for our community.

It was requested that the recommendations be voted on separately.

10-064 Moved by Councillor Byron that Administration be directed to investigate a grant program that would permit seniors to claim a grant up to \$300.

CARRIED

For: Blair, Byron, Germain, Janvier,
Meagher, Vyboh

Opposed: Allen, Blake, Rebus

Councillor Byron requested that the second recommendation be tabled to March 23, 2010 in order to receive direction from administration in terms of potential pecuniary interest.

10-065 Moved by Councillor Byron that the motion be tabled to March 23, 2010.

CARRIED

For: Allen, Blair, Blake, Byron,
Germain, Janvier, Rebus, Vyboh
Opposed: Meagher

Recess

A recess occurred from 10:04 p.m. to 10:14 p.m.

9. Notice of Motion re: Review of Municipal Parking Policy (*Councillor Vyboh*)

The following notice of motion was put forward at the February 23, 2010 Council meeting by Councillor Vyboh, and is now submitted for consideration.

10-066 Moved by Councillor Vyboh that Administration be directed to review the municipal parking policy regarding:

1. Downtown area;
2. Residential areas; and
3. A dialogue with oil companies and their contractors to discuss the potential of creating staging areas where company trucks can be parked so as to alleviate the pressure on residential street parking.

Councillor Vyboh presented background information supporting his Notice of Motion.

CARRIED

For: Blair, Byron, Germain, Janvier,
Vyboh
Opposed: Allen, Blake, Meagher,
Rebus

New and Unfinished Business

Notice of Motion re: Draft a Letter to the Electoral Boundaries Commission

Councillor Vyboh served the following Notice of Motion which will be brought forward at the next regular Council meeting for consideration:

“THAT Administration be directed to draft a letter to the Electoral Boundaries Commission supporting the recommendation in their interim report of creating an additional provincial constituency in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.”

Updates

Mayor's Update

Mayor Blake reported on the following:

- Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee
- Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation
- Meeting with Jim Foote, Keyano College President
- Wood Buffalo Safe Communities, Curb the Danger Presentation
- 2010 Capital Budget meeting
- Lower Athabasca Regional Advisory Committee
- Shoot Out on the Syne
- KA-OS 91.1 radio station fundraiser auction
- Gold Star Gala
- Meeting with His Excellency Ambassador and Head Delegation of the European Union and Associate Advisor to the Economic and Commercial Affairs

Reporting of Councillors on Boards and Committees

Councillor Blair reported on the following:

- Fort Chipewyan Fishing Derby

Councillor Allen reported on the following:

- Gold Star Gala
- Clearwater Heritage River Society
- Royal Bank Cup 2012

Councillor Meagher reported on the following:

- Gold Star Gala
- Shoot Out on the Syne
- Letter to Joannie Rochette, Olympic Medalist
- Communities in Bloom “Winter Lights”

Councillor Vyboh reported on the following:

- Teacher's Convention in Edmonton – Make the City Better

Councillor Germain reported on the following:

- Royal Bank Cup 2012
- 2nd Annual Shamrock Shindig
- Vista Ridge Visit
- Andrew Nikiforuk Presentation
- MacDonald Island Board Meeting

Councillor Janvier reported on the following:

- Arctic Winter Games

Adjournment

10-067 Moved by Councillor Blair that the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer