

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICES IN FORT McMURRAY, ON TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2005, COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

MAYOR	M. BLAKE
DEPUTY MAYOR	C. SLADE
COUNCILLORS	J. CARBERY J. CHADI S. CLARKSON L. FLETT S. GERMAIN P. MEAGHER R. REBUS J. VYBOH L. WILTZEN
ACTING REGIONAL MANAGER	B. FEDORAK
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	S. KANZIG
LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR	A. ROGERS

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

1. PRAYER

The Mayor asked everybody to join her in the Prayer.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Mayor asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the Agenda be amended by removing Pages 29 (Agenda Bill # 05-052 – 2004 Audited Financial Statements) and 32 (Agenda Bill # 05-054 - Taxation Strategy Report) and replacing it with the revised pages provided; and that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. PRESENTATIONS

3-A. MR. JOHN STELTER, KPMG RE: REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO 2004 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

05/079

Mr. Stelter advised that KPMG is the external auditor for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and the purpose of this evening's presentation is to provide a summary of audit findings for the year ended December 31, 2004. As a result of the Audit, KPMG has provided an unqualified opinion on the consolidated financial statements of the Municipality. In addition, KPMG has provided separate unqualified audit opinions on the municipal financial information returns for FCSS and the Local Authorities Pension Plan. KPMG was engaged separately and has reported on the MacDonald Island Park Corporation, Fort McMurray Public Library and Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation. The report also confirms that KPMG is independent with respect to the Municipality and all related entities.

The Municipality's consolidated financial results continue to demonstrate growth. Financial assets, including cash and investments, are approximately \$126 Million and physical assets are in excess of \$350 Million. Growth pressures will continue to present challenges over the next few years and the key challenge faced is the increase in the level of long-term debt. The Municipality is currently well within legislated debt limits; however, the level of debt continues to grow and this trend is expected to continue with increasing demands on service and infrastructure.

Revenues and expenditures have increased by 27% and 17%, respectively, from the previous year. The increased revenue is attributed mainly to taxes, utility costs and the activities of the Municipality's subsidiary corporations. The excess of revenue over expenditures has already been committed, with funds being transferred to the Capital Infrastructure Reserve, Emerging Issues Reserve, various other reserves and capital projects.

The Capital fund had expenditures of approximately \$24 Million in 2004, \$11 Million of which was financed through external resources, such as grants. The remainder of capital expenditures were primarily funded by a net transfer from Reserves, a net transfer from the operating fund, and a debenture draw of \$4.9 Million. Reserve funds at the end of 2004 have increased by approximately \$34 Million; however, the majority of reserve balances have been committed for development activities over the next while in order to meet the increasing growth and development faced by the Municipality.

Mr. Stelter concluded by noting that managing growth and debt levels while maintaining current infrastructure and services will be key issues faced by the Regional Municipality in the coming months and years.

3-B. MR. DAROLD STURGEON, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO RE: TAXATION STRATEGY REPORT
05/080

Mr. Sturgeon provided a brief overview of the history of taxation for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, beginning in 2002 with the blending of the urban and rural non-residential classes into one non-residential class. He noted that 2005 marks the final year of a three-year tax rate ratio strategy implemented by Council. As such, it was timely to conduct a detailed review of the Municipality's tax strategy, which has resulted in the report presented to Council this evening.

The current tax rate strategy was effective in increasing revenues using a public consultative process; however, the Municipality now needs to ensure that its taxation strategy is fair and equitable while meeting the financial demands resulting from growth. The total tax burden is one measure of equity, and is defined as the total tax dollars spent per square foot of property. The total tax burden best represents the views of residents, as it is all-encompassing and looks at the total taxes payable as opposed to just the municipal portion. Utilizing the total tax burden methodology will provide a solid means of developing future taxation strategies.

In 2004, both urban residential and urban non-residential overall tax burdens were lower than in 1996; however, the urban residential total tax burden is increasing due to fair market value increases in property assessment. There is significant room to adjust the non-residential property assessment class to bring the total burden to just 1997 levels. A provincial comparison was conducted and the following conclusions were realized for this Municipality: the non-residential tax burden is the lowest in Alberta among municipalities with a population greater than 35,000; the urban residential total tax burden is the second highest in Alberta among municipalities with a population greater than 35,000; and rural residential tax burden is the lowest in Alberta when compared with municipalities with populations of less than 1,200.

The Regional Municipality is faced with many challenges at the present time, including capital infrastructure, the capital funding gap and operating budget challenges to ensure that financial and human resources are available to effectively deliver services to residents. By utilizing the total tax burden methodology, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo will have the lowest tax burden in Alberta for both urban residential and non-residential assessment classes by 2008. This strategy does not consider the rural residential assessment class at this time. As better information is made available for analysis, further discussions occur to ensure urban and rural residential ratepayers are treated fairly and equitably.

The impact of this strategy over the next three years would see non-residential ratepayers realizing increases in the total tax burden and revenues provided to the Municipality, and urban residential ratepayers would see a decrease resulting in tax savings. The total tax burden methodology would also realize a net gain in revenues over the next three years. Mr. Sturgeon also pointed out that estimated tax rates for the next three years are based on current analysis; however, the actual impact on the tax rate is subject to change as an annual review of the total burden is conducted. Implementing the total tax

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burden methodology will distribute the tax burden more equally between urban residential and non-residential ratepayers and return tax burdens to levels similar to those in 1997.

Mr. Sturgeon concluded by noting that the total tax burden methodology provides a solid foundation on which to build a tax strategy because it is based on fairness and equity. Utilizing this strategy will also implement the lowest tax burden for urban residential and non-residential property tax classes by 2008. Although this methodology is fair and equitable, as well as competitive, it will not immediately resolve the capital funding gap challenges that exist. Senior level government support and assistance is still required.

3-C. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PRESENTATION

I. AGENDA BILL # 05-052 - 2004 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
05/081

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-052, dated April 20, 2005 and prepared by Darold Sturgeon, Corporate Services, regarding the 2004 Audited Financial Statements.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2004 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

II. AGENDA BILL # 05-053 - 2004 EMERGING ISSUES RESERVE TRANSFER TO 2005 EMERGING ISSUES RESERVE
05/082

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-053, dated April 20, 2005, and prepared by Darold Sturgeon, Corporate Services, regarding the 2004 Emerging Issues Reserve Transfer to the 2005 Emerging Issues Reserve.

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that \$2,954,707, representing the uncommitted balance in the 2004 Emerging Issues Reserve as at December 31, 2004, be transferred to the 2005 Emerging Issues Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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III. AGENDA BILL # 05-054 - TAXATION STRATEGY REPORT

05/083

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-054, dated April 15, 2005, and prepared by Darold Sturgeon, Corporate Services, regarding the Taxation Strategy Report.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher:

1. THAT the “total tax burden methodology”, which is based on a provincial comparison of the total tax dollars paid per square foot of one sample property for each of the urban residential and non-residential property assessment classes, be adopted for the purpose of developing the Municipality’s taxation strategy for the years 2006 to 2008; and
2. THAT the taxation strategy outlined in the Taxation Strategy Report, dated April 19, 2005, be used as a basis for developing the tax rate bylaw for 2006.

Mr. Ulliac came forward and clarified that when Council originally took the direction of blending the urban and rural non-residential assessment classes, the intent was to establish a more fair and equitable tax rate by having all non-residential assessed as one class. He noted that the strategy brought forward emphasizes fairness. Although the tax burden on the non-residential class will increase, it will only reach a level equal to what was imposed in 1997.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 12, 2005

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 12, 2005 were submitted for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 12, 2005 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4-B. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

There was no business arising out of the Minutes.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

6. UPDATES

A. REPORTING OF COUNCILLORS ON VARIOUS BOARDS/COMMITTEES (COUNCILLORS CARBERY, CHADI, CLARKSON, GERMAIN & REBUS)

Councillor Carbery reported on the following:

- Fort McMurray Regional Airport Commission
- Public Works & Transportation Standing Committee
- Resources Development Review Committee
- MacDonald Island Park Corporation

Councillor Chadi reported on the following:

- MacDonald Island Park Corporation
- Public Works & Transportation Standing Committee
- Audit Budget Standing Committee
- Upcoming Keyano College Graduation in Fort Chipewyan
- Upcoming Community Meeting in Fort Chipewyan

Councillor Clarkson reported on the following:

- Lower Townsite East End Loop Road and Waste Water Tertiary Treatment Open Houses
- BRZ Monthly Luncheon Meeting
- Downtown Business Watch Meeting
- Roles & Responsibilities Workshop for Council
- City of Edmonton "State of the City" Address
- Business Reception for Mayor Stephen Mandel
- Tour of Hay River and Fort Smith recreational facilities with the Arctic Winter Games International Committee

Councillor Germain reported on the following:

- Thanks to Northern Alberta Athletic Association for successfully operating Thickwood Arena
- Tour of Diversified Transportation facilities
- Community Clean-Up Initiatives
- Alberta Municipal Affairs Roles & Responsibilities Workshop
- Nomination of Jack Shields and Lorraine Jackson for future naming recognition
- Tour of RCMP facilities
- 10th Anniversary of Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and thanks to Councillor Carbery for his work on the amalgamation initiative.

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Councillor Rebus reported on the following:

- Tour of 9-1-1 Facility
- Planning & Development Standing Committee
- Presentation at Moberly Hall School on role of Mayor and Council
- CNRL Open House Presentation
- Community Services Standing Committee
- Public Works & Transportation Standing Committee
- Roles & Responsibilities Workshop
- Wood Buffalo Builders Association Luncheon
- Audit Budget Standing Committee

6-B. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Blake reported on the following:

- 10th Anniversary of Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
- Media coverage relative to Wood Buffalo Business Case
- State of the City Address in Edmonton
- Meeting with Minister of Sustainable Resources
- Upcoming "State of the Region Address" hosted by Chamber of Commerce on May 16th
- Visit from Mayor Stephen Mandel and delegation from City of Edmonton
- Recruitment Efforts for Regional Manager position
- April 28 – National Day of Mourning
- Classroom on Wheels "COW" Initiative

7. REPORTS

7-A. AGENDA BILL # 05-055 - STRATEGIC PLAN

05/084

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-055, dated April 12, 2005, and prepared by Councillor Sharon Clarkson, regarding the Strategic Plan.

Councillor Clarkson advised that the Strategic Plan is the culmination of the work of many partners, and supports Council's commitment to a participative process. It also ensures that Council is looking at the issues from all directions. Having a strong Strategic Plan will allow residents to understand the direction of Council, while meeting the communities' needs. It is a vision of where this Municipality will go, not just where it wants to go. Councillor Clarkson then provided an overview of some of the targets identified within the Plan, noting that each target has measurable standards. She also noted that the Strategic Plan is a "living" document that will evolve to meet the needs of the Municipality, its communities and citizens.

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson that the Strategic Plan be approved.

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Concern was expressed relative to the timing of the strategic planning process and it was suggested that it could take place in a more timely fashion. Mayor Blake indicated that the Strategic Plan before Council adds new initiatives for 2008, but does not change those initiatives previously approved for 2005-2007.

Ms. Fedorak also clarified that the timelines specified in the Plan are essentially deadlines for completion of the initiative, and are not indicators as to when a specific initiative or target will be undertaken. Ms. Fedorak further noted that she and the Mayor have had discussions with respect to how Council could best engage the public before getting into setting priorities. It is expected that some recommendations will be brought forward later this year to address that issue.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-B. AGENDA BILL # 05-056 - STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

05/085

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-056, dated April 19, 2005, and prepared by Bev Fedorak, Regional Manager's Office, regarding the Strategic Implementation Plan.

Ms. Fedorak provided an overview of the Strategic Implementation Plan, noting that Administration has reviewed the departmental budgets and financial plans for the next two years with the intent of linking every initiative to Council's strategic direction. There are nine functional areas which relate to all five of the success factors identified in the Strategic Plan. Within each core function, there are a number of projects and initiatives that must be satisfied. Each of the initiatives and core functions focus primarily on quality of life, growth management, preserving what we have, building partnerships, creating a sustainable future, and ensuring community safety. Each of these initiatives has been incorporated in the 2005 approved budget and will be included in 2006 budget preparations. Later this year, Administration will report back to Council on the status of each of these initiatives and make recommendations for possible amendments to this plan.

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that the Corporate Strategic Initiatives, dated April 26, 2005, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-C. AGENDA BILL # 05-057 - NEW MUNICIPAL LOGO

05/086

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-057, dated April 26, 2005, and prepared by Julia Harvie-Shemko and Chris Bolivar, Communications, regarding the New Municipal Logo.

Ms. Harvie-Shemko advised that a new logo has been developed to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, and also to showcase the dynamic nature of the community.

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The new logo features a wood buffalo at the core, representing durability and endurance. The aurora borealis is also represented in the arc, and symbolizes the inspiration we draw from the environment, which is manifested in our ties to the oil sands as a key part of our economy. The four sections of the arc also signify the four cornerstones of native culture – mental, emotional, physical and spiritual aspects. Lastly, the new logo has been designed in a one-colour application using “energy blue” to reflect the vitality of the community and Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the new stylized municipal logo and signature be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

EXIT

Councillor Carbery declared a conflict of interest and excused himself from the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

7-D. AGENDA BILL # 05-058 - PROPOSED LAND PURCHASE AND SALE – PORTION OF LOT 1, PLAN 012 0302 (DIVERSIFIED TRANSPORTATION SITE)
05/087

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-058, being Report No. PD-037-2005, dated April 13, 2005, and prepared by Stephen Clarke, Planning & Development, regarding the Proposed Land Purchase and Sale – Portion of Lot 1, Plan 012 0302 (Diversified Transportation Site).

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh:

1. THAT the Municipality purchase Lot 1, Plan 012 0302 from the Province for the net price of \$2,209,852.50, plus subdivision costs for a total project cost of \$2,300,000.00. Total project cost is to be funded from the Operating Reserve; and
2. THAT following the subdivision of the land, the Municipality sell approximately 30 acres to Diversified Transportation Ltd. for the sum of \$50,000 per acre (\$1,500,000.00) plus an administration fee of 7%, subject to Diversified Transportation Ltd. entering into an agreement with the Municipality to participate in the utility and road development costs on an equitable basis. The sale proceeds shall be applied to the Operating Reserve with the excess funds to be applied to the Land Asset Addition Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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RETURN

Councillor Carbery returned to the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

**7-E. AGENDA BILL # 05-059 - PROPOSED LAND PURCHASE AND SALE – BLOCK 24,
PLAN 752 0462 (FORESTRY SITE)
05/088**

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-059, being Report No. PD-038-2005, dated April 20, 2005, and prepared by Stephen Clarke, Planning & Development, regarding the Proposed Land Purchase and Sale – Block 24, Plan 752 0462 (Forestry Site).

MOVED by Councillor Chadi:

1. THAT Block 24, Plan 752 0462 containing 51.28 acres more or less, be purchased from the Province for \$4,242,500.00. Total cost, including sub-division to be \$4,500,000.00 and to be funded from the Operating Reserve; and
2. THAT future sale proceeds for this land be used to replenish the Operating Reserve and any excess funds be allocated to the Land Asset Addition Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**7-F. AGENDA BILL # 05-060 - APPOINTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
05/089**

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-060, being Report No. PL-029-2005, dated March 30, 2005, and prepared by Stephen Clarke, Planning & Development, regarding the Appointment of Development Officer.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that Ms. Beth Sanders be appointed as a Development Officer for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**7-G. AGENDA BILL # 05-061 - GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) RFP FOR
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
05/090**

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-061, being Report No. PD-044-2005, dated April 19, 2005 and prepared by Stephen Clarke, Planning & Development, regarding the Geographic Information Systems RFP for Aerial Photography.

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MOVED by Councillor Clarkson that the contract for aerial photography be awarded to Land Data Technologies Ltd. at a cost of \$109,093.00, plus GST.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**7-H. AGENDA BILL # 05-062 - EMERGING ISSUES RESERVE FUND REQUEST –
REPLACEMENT OF ARTIFICIAL ICE SYSTEMS**
05/091

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-062, dated April 12, 2005, and prepared by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the Emerging Issues Reserve Fund Request – Replacement of Artificial Ice Systems.

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh:

1. THAT the replacement of the three artificial ice systems (C.A. Knight Recreation Centre, Thickwood Heights Community Centre and Frank Lacroix Minor Hockey Arena) for a total cost of \$1,152,500.00 be approved;
2. THAT \$177,500.00 of the remaining funds from the Phase II of the C.A. Knight Centre's roof and HVAC projects be utilized to fund the replacement of the C.A. Knight Recreation Centre's artificial ice system; and
3. THAT the funding shortfall of \$975,000 for the replacement of the artificial ice systems at Thickwood Heights Community Centre and Frank Lacroix Minor Hockey Arena be funded from the Emerging Issues Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-I. AGENDA BILL # 05-063 - 2005 SPORTSFIELD TRACTOR
05/092

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-063, dated April 6, 2005, and prepared by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the 2005 Sportsfield Tractor.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the purchase of a new tractor using funds (\$45,000.00) from the Other Parks Reserve be authorized.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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7-J. AGENDA BILL # 05-064 - JANVIER SOUTH DENE MUNICIPAL OFFICE FUNDING SHORTFALL
05/093

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-064, dated April 13, 2005, and prepared by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the Janvier South Dene Municipal Office Funding Shortfall.

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson:

1. THAT Community Services Department (Community Development Division) project an over-expenditure of \$180,557.40 for the construction of the Janvier South Dene Municipal Office.
2. THAT the \$180,557.40 be funded from the Community Services Department's 2005 Operating Budget; and
3. THAT in the event the \$180,557.40 cannot be accommodated in the Community Services Department's 2005 Operating Budget, the balance be funded from the 2005 Corporate Operating Budget surplus.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-K. AGENDA BILL # 05-065 - BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL 2005 REQUEST FOR SUPPORT
05/094

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-065, dated March 30, 2005, and prepared by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the Blueberry Festival 2005 Request for Support.

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh:

1. THAT an allocation of \$2,500.00 be funded through the Joint Initiatives Program and \$2,000.00 from the Civic Grants Fund subject to the Blueberry Society acquiring a special event permit from the Municipality;
2. THAT an additional \$10,000.00 be allocated from the Joint Initiatives Program to support a one-time fireworks display in commemoration of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's 10-Year Anniversary and Alberta's Centennial, subject to the Blueberry Society acquiring a fireworks permit;
3. THAT a Community Development Coordinator be assigned as a municipal liaison to provide up to 35 hours of support to the Wood Buffalo Blueberry Society (approximate cost: \$980.00);

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4. THAT the Operations and Maintenance Department provide 38 barricades, 30 traffic vests and two stop-and-go paddles for the Blueberry Parade on September 3, 2005, and provide street sweeper services along Franklin Avenue following the parade (approximate cost: \$500.00);
5. THAT RCMP provide traffic control for the fireworks display around the Athabasca River on September 2, 2005 and for the parade on September 3, 2005 in the downtown area (approximate cost: \$650.00);
6. THAT the Fire Department provide one ambulance on site at the fireworks display on September 2, 2005 and a fire engine for participation in the parade on September 3, 2005 (approximate cost: \$1,000.00);
7. THAT the Communications Department provide the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo float for the parade on September 3, 2005 (approximate cost: \$500.00); and
8. THAT the Parks & Recreation Division deliver and pick up 10 garbage bins with bags in various areas around the Athabasca River for the fireworks display on September 2, 2005 and 300 metres of snow fencing, 25 steel fence posts and a post pounder for the dog agility portion of the festival on September 3 and 4, 2005 (approximate cost: \$250.00).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-L. AGENDA BILL # 05-066 - COMMUNITY PLAN ON HOMELESSNESS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING – PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL FUNDING
05/095

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-066, dated April 5, 2005, and presented by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the Community Plan on Homelessness & Affordable Housing – Provincial & Federal Funding.

MOVED by Councillor Chadi:

1. THAT \$135,000.00 be allocated from the Community Plan on Homelessness & Affordable Housing to the Fellowship Baptist Church for renovations to the Drop-In Centre and to cover the costs of staffing the centre until January, 2006;
2. THAT a call for proposals for funding be completed in the fall of 2005 for the purpose of allocating Alberta Seniors 2005/2006 funding as well as those funds carried over from this call for proposals; and

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3. THAT Administration continue to partner with the Wood Buffalo Homelessness Initiatives Steering Committee to further support the implementation of the Community Plan on Homelessness and Affordable Housing.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-M. AGENDA BILL # 05-067 - 2005 ABORIGINAL DAY CELEBRATION REQUEST FOR SUPPORT
05/096

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-067, dated April 8, 2005, and presented by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the 2005 Aboriginal Day Celebration Request for Support.

MOVED by Councillor Slade:

1. THAT one staff person from the Community Services Department represent the Municipality on the Aboriginal Day Planning Committee on an ongoing basis; and
2. THAT a \$4,000 grant be allocated to the 2005 Aboriginal Day Planning Committee through the Joint Initiatives Program, subject to the Committee acquiring a Special Event Permit from the Municipality.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7-N. AGENDA BILL # 05-068 - AUMA RESOLUTIONS – ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY AND TAX RATE INEQUITIES – MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CLASS
05/097

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-068, dated April 20, 2005 and presented by Mayor Melissa Blake, regarding the AUMA Resolution – Assessment Methodology and Tax Rate Inequities – Machinery and Equipment Property Assessment Class.

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that in order to provide for a fair and equitable distribution of the municipal tax burden amongst the various property assessment classes, Administration be directed to develop two resolutions for presentation at the Fall Conference of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association. The resolutions are to focus on an amendment to the Municipal Government Act that would allow local government authorities to tax the machinery and equipment assessment class at a different rate than the non-residential assessment class; and to eliminate

the government regulation that grants an automatic 23% reduction on machinery and equipment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. BYLAWS

**8-A. BYLAW NO. 05/012 - MACDONALD ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE (AGENDA BILL # 05-069)
05/098**

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-069, dated April 14, 2005, and presented by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the MacDonald Island Redevelopment Steering Committee.

Bylaw No. 05/012, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MACDONALD ISLAND REDEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE TO IMPLEMENT THE NEXT STEPS OF FACILITY DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A 52-METRE POOL, A LEISURE POOL AND AN ARENA, was presented to receive all three readings.

MOVED by Councillor Carbery that Bylaw No. 05/012 be given first reading.

Concern was expressed relative to putting together a Steering Committee without giving them a specific target. It was clarified that the Committee's role is to advise the consultant in terms of how to communicate and get feedback from the community. It is hoped that everyone, from school kids to seniors, will make their views known. It was also pointed out that there are three members of Council who sit on the MacDonald Island Park Corporation and it is their responsibility to represent Council's interests in any discussions and/or deliberations.

Ms. Fedorak further clarified that several studies have been conducted with respect to what is needed in terms of recreation facilities. Based on those studies, concept options will be developed and presented to the public for feedback. The Steering Committee will then consider the feedback received and could come back with a list that's much larger than a 52-metre pool and an additional arena. Concern was again expressed relative to the potential for piecemeal development, and it was then requested that the Committee consider all aspects of future development, including, but not limited to, a cultural centre, library facility, commercial hotel development, and indoor playground.

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MOVED by Councillor Meagher that Bylaw No. 05/012 be given second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Councillor Chadi that Bylaw No. 05/012 be considered for third and final reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson that Bylaw No. 05/012 be given third and final reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8-B. BYLAW NO. 05/013 - LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT – CHANGES TO PROVISIONS FOR EATING AND DRINKING FACILITIES AND PARKING REGULATIONS (AGENDA BILL # 05-070)
05/099

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-070, being Report No. PD-008-2005, dated April 6, 2005, and presented by Stephen Clarke, Planning & Development, regarding the Land Use Bylaw Amendment – Changes to Provisions for Eating and Drinking Facilities and Parking Regulations.

Bylaw No. 05/013, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AMEND BYLAW NO. 99/059, BEING THE LAND USE BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO, was presented to receive first reading.

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that Bylaw No. 05/013 be given first reading and a Public Hearing scheduled to take place on May 10, 2005.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8-C. BYLAW NO. 05/014 - MACDONALD ISLAND PARK CORPORATION EXTENSION TO LINE OF CREDIT (AGENDA BILL # 05-071)
05/100

Reference was made to Agenda Bill # 05-071, dated April 20, 2005, and presented by Carole Bouchard, Community Services, regarding the MacDonald Island Park Corporation Extension to Line of Credit.

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
- TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2005

Bylaw No. 05/014, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPALITY TO GUARANTEE THE OPERATING LINE OF CREDIT ARRANGED BY MACDONALD ISLAND PARK CORPORATION, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION PROVIDING FACILITIES AND SERVICES TO RESIDENTS OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO, WHICH GUARANTEE WILL BE SPECIFICALLY LIMITED, was presented to receive first reading.

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson:

1. THAT a loan guarantee of \$275,000.00 for an operating line of credit be authorized for the MacDonald Island Park Corporation from June 30, 2005 to June 30, 2008; and
2. THAT Bylaw No. 05/014 be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion.

10. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no New and Unfinished Business.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the meeting adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYOR

CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER