



Council Meeting

Jubilee Centre Council Chamber
9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray

Tuesday, January 27, 2009
6:00 p.m.

Agenda

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Adoption of Agenda

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Regular Meeting – December 9, 2008

Delegations

2. Mr. Mark Wyllie re: First United Church Assessment Request
3. Mr. Marcel Ulliac, General Manager, Strategic Initiatives, and Mr. Jeff Penney, Manager, Economic Development re: Regional Economic Strategy Update (verbal presentation)
4. Ms. Linda Ball and Mr. Mark Hodgson re: Leadership Wood Buffalo Update

Those individuals in attendance at the meeting will be provided with an opportunity to address Council regarding an item on the agenda, with the exception of those items for which a Public Hearing is required or has been held. Consistent with all delegations, each presentation will be allowed a maximum of five minutes.

Business Arising Out of Delegations

5. Re-amortization of Local Improvement Tax Payments for the Fort McMurray First United Church

Public Hearings – None scheduled

Bylaws

6. Bylaw No. 09/010 – Closure of Undeveloped Government Road Allowance (Highway 63 Eco-Industrial Park) (*1st reading*)

Reports

7. Council Expense Summary – January 1-December 31, 2008

New and Unfinished Business

Updates

- Mayor's Update
- Reporting of Councillors on Boards and Committees
- Administrative Update

Adjournment

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, AB, on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

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

Administration: R. Burkard, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Kanzig, Chief Legislative Officer
K. Greig, Deputy CAO – Corporate
S. Motkaluk, Deputy CAO – Operations
K. Kloss, Deputy CAO – Community and Protective Services
J. Callahan, Legislative Officer
B. Broomfield-Andrews, Recorder/Legislative Assistant

Call to Order

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

Opening Prayer

The Mayor asked everyone to join her in Prayer.

Agenda

08-289 Moved by Councillor Meagher that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes

1. Council Meeting – November 25, 2008

08-290 Moved by Councillor Vyboh that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 25, 2008 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Delegations

2. Mr. Guy Buchanan, Centron Residential re: Update on Eagle Ridge (Parcel D) Progress

Mr. Guy Buchanan, President of Centron Residential Corporation, was in attendance and provided an overview and update of the Eagle Ridge (Parcel D) construction progress, interchange, and regional pathways. Mr. Buchanan advised that the goal of Centron Residential is to produce a variety of housing choices in a setting that will attract people and encourage them to plant roots in the community. Mr. Buchanan concluded his presentation by responding to questions from Council.

Business Arising Out of Delegations

3. Eagle Ridge Progress Update

08-291 Moved by Councillor Germain that the presentation from Mr. Guy Buchanan be accepted as information.

In response to further questions and concerns from Council, Mr. Buchanan provided clarification with regard to a trail maintenance program, snow clearing, the type of commercial outlets planned for the commercial space, parking spaces allotted for visitors, and restrictions on the regulations and guidelines pertaining to down payments. A concern was expressed to Mr. Buchanan regarding the use of the name Clearwater Townhouses in that the name Clearwater could have the connotation that these units would be situated in the Lower Townsite, so this may not be a good marketing choice.

Voting then occurred to accept Mr. Buchanan's presentation as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Hearings

There were no Public Hearings scheduled.

Bylaws

There were no Bylaws scheduled.

Reports

4. Appointments to Council Committees

08-292 Moved by Councillor Vyboh that the following appointments be approved, effective January 1, 2009:

- Assessment Review Board
 - Dan Deck, Peggy Neville and Elmer McRae (alternate) to December 31, 2009

- Cameron Donald, Deborah Kerr, and Ryan Westcott to December 31, 2010
- Communities In Bloom Committee
 - Amber Ritchie, and Dannette Scott to December 31, 2010
 - Marike Kobayashi, Eileen Mayner and Dawn Sidoroff to December 31, 2011
- Community Identification Committee
 - Peter Fortna and Margaret Malcolm to December 31, 2010
- Community Services Advisory Committee
 - Jennifer Kennett, Iris Kirschner and Tim Mayner to December 31, 2010
- Fort McMurray Regional Airport Commission
 - Joe Koch, Jay Little and Terry Vacheresse to December 31, 2011
- Landlord and Tenant Advisory Board
 - Darryl Marchand, Murray (Mac) McLellan and Christine Matthews to December 31, 2010
- Library Board
 - Dave Rebbitt, Jim Schneider and Kevin Thornton to December 31, 2011
- MacDonald Island Park Corporation
 - Michael Cachia to December 31, 2010
 - Kristy MacGregor and David Tien to December 31, 2011
- Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equality
 - Sandra Bessey, Roan Corbett and Heather Thomas to December 31, 2010
- Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
 - Doug Harris to December 31, 2010
 - Ross Jacobs and Jodi Klippenstine to December 31, 2011
- Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation
 - Maureen MacDonald to December 31, 2009
 - Steve Auty and Kim Jenkins to December 31, 2011

Exit

Councillor Meagher left the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. 2009 Canadian College Athletic Association Men's National Volleyball Championship

08-293 Moved by Councillor Germain that \$20,000.00 be allocated from the Joint Initiatives Fund for the Canadian College Athletic Association's 2009 Men's National Volleyball Championship hosted

by Keyano College Huskies Athletics.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Awarding of Naming Rights – Syncrude Youth Centre at the Archie Simpson Arena

08-294 Moved by Councillor Allen:

- THAT the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo enter into a ten – year naming rights agreement with Syncrude Canada Limited for the multi-purpose room located in the Archie Simpson Arena in Fort Chipewyan for the sale price of \$500,000 (including GST);
- THAT the 2008 Capital Budget be amended as identified in Attachment 1- Capital Budget Request - Archie Simpson Arena, dated December 9th, 2008; and
- THAT article 3.07(O) of Council Policy PRL-040-2006 be waived.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Council Expense Summary – January 1-September 30, 2008

08-295 Moved by Councillor Clarkson that the Council Expense Summary for the period January 1 – September 30, 2008 be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Council Expense Budget – Request for Adjustment

08-296 Moved by Councillor Clarkson:

- THAT Councillor Gordon Janvier be authorized to exceed his total 2008 budget allocation of \$15,000 by an additional \$3,000; and
- THAT the additional budget allocation be accommodated within the existing Legislative (Council) Operating Budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Fort McMurray Ashlar Club’s Request for Refund of Property Tax Overpayment

08-297 Moved by Councillor Vyboh:

- THAT the Fort McMurray Ashlar Building Club’s request for refund of property tax in the amount of \$56,243.75 for the property legally described as Plan 9121064, Block 2, Lot 13 be approved due to an application of an incorrect tax rate;
- THAT \$56,243.75 be utilized from the Corporate Services Division 2008 operating budget to fund the property tax overpayment;

- THAT in the event the entire amount cannot be accommodated within the Corporate Services Division 2008 operating budget, the balance be funded from a 2008 corporate operating surplus; and
- THAT in the event a 2008 corporate operating surplus is insufficient or non-existent, the funds be committed from the 2008 Emerging Issues Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. 2009 Operating Budget, 2010-2011 Financial Plan

Elsie Hutton, Financial Planning Officer, and Patty King, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, were in attendance. Ms. Hutton provided an overview of the budget review process and the operating budget guidelines. The budget is no longer a stagnant document, and is subjected to amendments on an ongoing basis. The 2009 Operating Budget represents an increase of \$166,325,133 over the 2008 amended Operating Budget, with the increases related to population growth within the Municipality, inflationary costs to sustain municipal services at the current service level standards, and program and service level changes. The \$169M in reserve transfers represents 33% of the total operating budget. The funds identified in the reserve for allocation to the 2009 capital budget represents current years tax funding. The \$138.6M in salaries and benefits are the second highest expenditure area comprising 27% of the operating budget. With respect to the 2010 and 2011 financial plan increases of \$120M and \$130.5M respectively, the two largest expenditures are the transfer to the Capital Infrastructure Reserve to support current infrastructure needs, and salaries and benefits.

The following motion was presented by Councillor Allen: “THAT the 2009 Operating Budget in the amount of \$518,852,570 as set out in Attachment 1, 2009 Operating Budget, dated December 9, 2008, be approved; and THAT the 2010 – 2011 Financial Plan in the amount of \$639,232,620 and \$769,745,120 respectively, as set out in Attachment 2, 2009 Operating Budget, 2010-2011 Financial Plans, dated December 9, 2008, be used as the basis for the development of the respective subsequent budgets.”

A concern was expressed in that the contracted Chief of Staff position may be perceived as being hired by Council or Administration to perform the duties of an elected official.

The following amendment to the motion was presented by Councillor Byron: “THAT Attachment 1 (2009 Operating Budget) be amended by removing all costs associated with the contracted Chief of Staff position.”

The Mayor responded that the Chief of Staff position has been in the budget for the past three years, and provided the rationale in having the position commence at this time. If Council decides to remove the funds budgeted for this position then this position would cease to exist, and the Mayor indicated she would be adamantly opposed to having the position removed.

A lengthy discussion ensued with regard to the contracted Chief of Staff position. Concerns were expressed as to the salary level and responsibilities of the position, and that the individual filling the

position does not live in Fort McMurray. It was clarified during discussion that the role of the person in this position would be to assist the Mayor in an advisory manner and that the position would be a direct liaison to the Mayor. It was noted that the Chief of Staff position is a contracted term position that is equivalent to the term of office and will be reviewed at the end of the year.

Voting then occurred on the amending motion, which reads as follows:

08-298 Moved by Councillor Byron that Attachment 1 (2009 Operating Budget) be amended by removing all costs associated with the contracted Chief of Staff position.

DEFEATED

For: Blair, Byron, Flett, Germain, Janvier

Opposed: Allen, Blake, Clarkson, Rebus, Vyboh

Voting then occurred on the original motion, which reads as follows:

08-299 Moved by Councillor Allen:

- THAT the 2009 Operating Budget in the amount of \$518,852,570 as set out in Attachment 1, 2009 Operating Budget, dated December 9, 2008, be approved by Council; and
- THAT the 2010 – 2011 Financial Plan in the amount of \$639,232,620 and \$769,745,120 respectively, as set out in Attachment 2, 2009 Operating Budget, 2010-2011 Financial Plans, dated December 9, 2008, be used as the basis for the development of the respective subsequent budgets.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Blair, Byron

11. 2009 Capital Budget, 2010-2013 Financial Plan

Elsie Hutton, Financial Planning Officer, and Patty King, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, were in attendance. Ms. Hutton advised that the capital budget includes items that have a value in excess of \$10,000.00 and a useful life of three years or more. The capital budget process will continue to be very dynamic. As well, the 2009 amounts have been withheld from individual capital projects to ensure an open competitive tendering process. Elsie Hutton provided an overview of the capital budget guidelines and the budget review process.

Wes Holodniuk, General Manager, Public Works, was in attendance and responded to questions from Council with regard to urban road rehabilitation and school zone pedestrian signal crossings.

Mr. Rodney Burkard, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that Administration is awaiting the Accommodations Master Plan from the consultant. There are several projects within the

Accommodations Master Plan, such as the South Municipal Facility and the Civic Centre, that would be inappropriate for Council to consider for approval at this point without having had an opportunity to review the Master Plan in its entirety.

The following motion was then presented.

08-300 Moved by Councillor Rebus that Attachment 1 (2009 Capital Budget, 2010-2013 Financial Plan) be amended by moving the South Municipal Facility and the Civic Centre projects from funded to unfunded capital projects.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

08-301 Moved by Councillor Vyboh:

- THAT the proposed 2009 Capital Budget in the amount of \$537,303,022, as set out in Attachment 1, as amended – 2009 Capital Budget and 2010 – 2013 Financial Plan, dated December 9, 2008, be approved.
- THAT the proposed 2010 – 2013 Capital Financial Plan as set out in Attachment 1, as amended – 2009 Capital Budget and 2010 – 2013 Financial Plan, dated December 9, 2008, be used as the basis for development of the respective subsequent budgets.
- THAT the proposed multiple year projects as set out in Attachment 2, as amended – 2009 Capital Budget – Multiple Year Projects (Budget by Year), dated December 9, 2008, be approved.
- THAT the provisions of Attachments 1 and 2 remain confidential pursuant to section 25 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CARRIED

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

12. 2008 Capital Budget Amendment – Purchase of a 2006 Chevrolet Suburban

08-302 Moved by Councillor Clarkson that:

1. THAT the 2008 Capital Budget be amended as identified in Attachment 1 – Capital Budget Amendment Request – Purchase of 2006 Chevrolet Suburban, dated December 9, 2008;
2. THAT \$25,700 be utilized from the Community and Protective Services Division 2008 operating budget to fund the purchase of the 2006 Chevrolet Suburban;
3. THAT in the event the entire amount cannot be accommodated within the Community and Protective Services Division 2008

operating budget, the balance be funded from a 2008 corporate operating surplus;

4. THAT in the event a 2008 corporate operating surplus is insufficient or non-existent, the funds shall be committed from the 2008 Emerging Issues Reserve.

CARRIED

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

13. 2008 Capital Budget Amendment – Parks and Recreation Facility Upgrade and Cancellation of Forestry Building Renovation

The following motion was presented by Councillor Allen: “THAT the 2008 Capital Budget be amended as identified in Attachment 1 – Capital Budget Amendment Request – Forestry Building Renovations, dated December 9, 2008; and THAT the 2008 Capital Budget be amended as identified in Attachment 2 – Capital Budget Amendment Request – Parks and Recreation Facility Upgrade, dated December 9, 2008.”

Carol Theberge, General Manager, Community Services, and Glen Smith, Manager, Parks, were in attendance. Concern was expressed with respect to expending \$2.5M to renovate the existing Parks and Recreation building, and another \$45M to construct a larger facility next door. It was suggested that the option of utilizing modular units be considered for temporarily housing staff on an interim basis.

Voting then occurred on the motion.

08-303 Moved by Councillor Allen:

- THAT the 2008 Capital Budget be amended as identified in Attachment 1 – Capital Budget Amendment Request – Forestry Building Renovations, dated December 9, 2008;
- THAT the 2008 Capital Budget be amended as identified in Attachment 2 – Capital Budget Amendment Request – Parks and Recreation Facility Upgrade, dated December 9, 2008; and
- THAT Administration be directed to review options for the use of the lands designated for the south municipal facility particularly with respect to the use of modular units as an interim solution.

CARRIED

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 8:18 p.m. to 8:39 p.m.

Return

Councillor Meagher returned to the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

14. Unfunded 2009 Councillor Budget Requests

The Mayor advised that each of the following items will be dealt with individually, with the Councillor sponsoring the initiative advising of their support for the item. Each item will be considered for approval by Council and if approval is provided, the item will then be referred to Administration for review and possible 2009 budget amendment.

Archie Simpson Arena Artificial Ice

1. The following motion was presented by Councillor Blair: “THAT the proposed Archie Simpson Arena Artificial Ice project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Blair advised that with the collapse of the previous arena, recreational use is needed in Fort Chipewyan. Providing artificial ice will help to support a healthy life-style for residents. Councillor Blair explained the “brine system” of maintaining artificial ice. Councillor Flett encouraged Council and Administration to visit Fort Chipewyan to listen to the concerns of residents. A lengthy discussion followed during which discussion occurred regarding the cost to maintain artificial ice and the personnel required for maintenance, the difficulty in retaining professionals in Fort Chipewyan due to the lack of a recreational facility, concern regarding possible delays of the arena project due to the installation of artificial ice, and legal liability. It was suggested to wait for the completion of the rural core amenities review before approving a proposed artificial ice project. Carol Theberge, General Manager, Community Services, and Salem Abushawashi, General Manager, Engineering Department, were in attendance and responded to questions from Council.

08-304 Moved by Councillor Rebus that the motion be amended to read that the proposed Archie Simpson Arena Artificial Ice project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2010 budget amendment.

DEFEATED

For: Allen, Meagher

Opposed: Blair, Blake, Byron,
Clarkson, Flett, Germain, Janvier,
Rebus, Vyboh

Voting then occurred on the original motion, which reads as follows:

08-305 Moved by Councillor Blair that the proposed Archie Simpson Arena Artificial Ice project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED

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

Fort Chipewyan Community Swimming Pool/Library

2. The following motion was presented by Councillor Flett: “THAT the proposed Fort Chipewyan Community Swimming Pool/Library project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Flett advised that last summer Health Canada advised that it is not safe to swim in Lake Athabasca anymore. During the discussion that followed, concerns were expressed with regard to adequate resources within the region to maintain a pool in Fort Chipewyan, the benefit of having a central library in Fort Chipewyan, and that any decisions should wait until a core services review has been completed.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-306 Moved by Councillor Flett that the proposed Fort Chipewyan Community Swimming Pool/Library project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED

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

Portable Structures for Anzac, Janvier and Conklin

3. The following motion was presented by Councillor Janvier: “THAT portable structures for Anzac, Janvier and Conklin as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Janvier advised that with regard to the portable structures for Anzac, Janvier and Conklin, he has researched the costs associated with installing these structures and has presented his findings to Councillors for their review.

Exit

Councillor Rebus exited the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-307 Moved by Councillor Janvier that portable structures for

Anzac, Janvier and Conklin be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Portable Structures for Saprae Creek

4. The following motion was presented by Councillor Meagher: “THAT portable structures for Saprae Creek as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Germain advised that the Vista Ridge Board has expressed an interest in having the portable structures moved closer to their site, thereby enabling them the opportunity to use the structures to help make Vista Ridge an all season park. A concern was expressed with regard to the sustainability of these structures.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-308 Moved by Councillor Meagher that portable structures for Saprae Creek be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anzac – Asphalt Roadside Walkways

5. The following motion was presented by Councillor Janvier: “THAT Anzac – Asphalt Roadside Walkways as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Return

Councillor Rebus returned to the meeting at 9:54 p.m.

Councillor Janvier advised that residents of Anzac have expressed concerns in that along the main road between Highway 881 and the roadway into the community, there are no roadside paths or sidewalks. This is a safety concern of residents. A short discussion ensued with regard to options to consider as to the type of material to be used in the construction of the proposed walkways.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-309 Moved by Councillor Janvier that Anzac – Asphalt Roadside Walkways be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED

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

Anzac, Janvier and Conklin – Street Lights

6. The following motion was presented by Councillor Janvier: “THAT Anzac, Janvier and Conklin – Street Lights as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Janvier advised that the lack of street lights in the communities of Anzac, Janvier and Conklin has been a safety concern to residents for some time. A lengthy discussion ensued with regard to current rural standards for street lighting, completion of the rural core amenities study, and the risks associated with changing the existing standards for street lighting. Wes Holodniuk, General Manager, Public Works, was in attendance and responded to questions of Council.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-310 Moved by Councillor Janvier that Anzac, Janvier and Conklin – Street Lights be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED

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

The Thickwood Splash Park Project

7. The following motion was presented by Councillor Vyboh: “THAT the Thickwood Splash Park project as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Vyboh advised that there are approximately 2400 school age children, and an equal number of non-school age children that would benefit from having a splash park in this area, and that this item is a quality of life issue.

Following a brief discussion, voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-311 Moved by Councillor Vyboh that the Thickwood Splash Park project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

DEFEATED

For: Blair, Byron, Flett, Janvier,

Vyboh
Opposed: Allen, Blake, Clarkson,
Germain, Meagher, Rebus

Enhanced Street Cleaning

8. The following motion was presented by Councillor Allen: “THAT Enhanced Street Cleaning in the Lower Townsite, as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Allen advised that this proposal is to enhance the downtown area for cleanliness. A short discussion ensued with regard to costs for this proposal, and various options to deal with engaging citizens to contribute towards keeping the downtown core litter free.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-312 Moved by Councillor Allen that Enhanced Street Cleaning in the Lower Townsite be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Saprae Creek – Drainage Issues (Skating Rink)

9. The following motion was presented by Councillor Rebus: “THAT Saprae Creek – Drainage Issues (skating rink) as identified in Attachment 1, Summary of Councillor 2009 Budget Requests, dated December 9, 2008 be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Rebus advised that resulting from an upgrade to the Saprae Creek skating rink, it was recently discovered that there are rivers flowing under the rink.

Voting then occurred on the motion, which reads as follows:

08-313 Moved by Councillor Rebus that Saprae Creek – Drainage Issues (skating rink) be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED

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

Conklin Road Development (Spruce Drive)

10. The following motion was presented by Councillor Janvier: “THAT the Conklin Road

Development (Spruce Drive) project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.”

Councillor Janvier advised that a group of affordable housing units in the community of Conklin are not on a roadway. Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Association has requested Council support to cover some of the costs associated with the roadway development. A suggestion was made to investigate sharing the costs of this proposal with the Provincial Government.

08-314 Moved by Councillor Meagher that the motion be amended by adding “and that the Municipality explore cost sharing opportunities with the Province of Alberta”.

DEFEATED

For: Blake, Meagher

Opposed: Allen, Blair, Byron,
Clarkson, Flett, Germain, Janvier,
Rebus, Vyboh

Voting then occurred on the original motion, which reads as follows:

08-315 Moved by Councillor Janvier that the Conklin Road Development (Spruce Drive) project be referred to Administration for further investigation and potential 2009 budget amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

New and Unfinished Business

There was no new or unfinished business.

Updates

Mayor's Update

Mayor Blake reported on the following:

- Alberta Beverage Container Recycling
- St. Anne's School 25th Anniversary
- Wood Buffalo Recreation Society Christmas Party
- Jenny Flett's 100th Birthday Celebration
- Santa Clause Parade and Float Award Winners
- TD Canada Trust Grand Opening in Timberlea
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- Anzac Community Event and Civic Awards

Reporting of Councillors on Boards and Committees

Councillor Germain reported on the following:

- Selection Committee

- MacDonald Island Park Corporation – Recruitment

Councillor Meagher reported on the following:

- Santa Clause Parade
- Heritage Park Old Fashioned Christmas
- Santa Skate

Councillor Blair reported on the following:

- Christmas Parties in Fort Chipewyan
- Santa’s Anonymous
- Ice Rink in Fort Chipewyan

Councillor Flett

- Jenny Flett’s 100th Birthday Celebration

Councillor Clarkson

- Building Communities Committee

Adjournment

08-316 Moved by Councillor Meagher that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Request To Make A Presentation At A Council Meeting Or Public Hearing

Requests to make a public presentation must be received by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday immediately preceding the scheduled meeting/hearing. *Presentations are a maximum of 5 minutes in duration.* Additional information may be submitted to support your presentation.

CONTACT INFORMATION

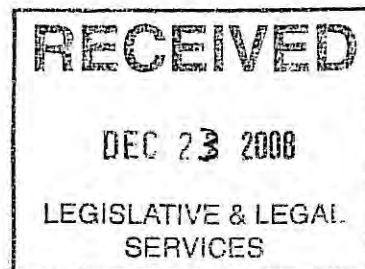
| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Name of Presenter: | MARK NYLLIE |
| Mailing Address: | |
| Telephone Number: | (Day) If we cannot confirm your attendance, your request may be removed from the Agenda. |
| E-Mail Address (if applicable): | |

PRESENTATION INFORMATION


| | |
|---|---|
| Preferred Date of Presentation: | Jan. 27, 2009 |
| Topic: | First United Church LIP |
| Please List Specific Points/Concerns: If speaking at a Public Hearing, clearly state your support or opposition to the bylaw along with any related information: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following May 24, 2005 presentation to council, it was agreed to amortize our 2005 payment into remaining 18 years of 2. assessment. The church received first notice of payments past due on the original schedule by registered letter in April, 2008. 3. Asking for 2005, 2006, 2007, & 2008 payments on original schedule. Revised 2008 payment has been made in full. |
| Action Being Requested of Council: | Amortize revised 2006 & 2007 payments into remaining 15 years of assessment, starting with 2009 payment. |

As per Procedure Bylaw No. 06/020, a request to make a presentation may be referred or denied.

Please return completed form, along with any additional information, to:
Chief Legislative Officer
 Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
 9909 Franklin Avenue
 Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2K4
 Telephone: (780) 743-7001
 Fax: (780) 743-7028



Please Note: All presentations are heard at a public meeting; therefore, any information provided is subject to FOIP guidelines and may be released upon request.



First United Church 2009 L.I.P. Adjustment Request

Follow-up to May 2005
Council Decision

January 27, 2009

Background

- Presented to Municipal Council in May 2004 after which paid 2004 L.I.P. commitment of **\$6,035.12** for 20 year debenture on Plan: 616AO Block: 6 Lots: 7 & 8
- Were also invited by Mayor and Council to return to Council annually, if need be, to seek help should our finances demand it
- Returned to Council May 24, 2005 seeking redress on 2005 LIP where council agreed to allocate 2005 payment over remaining 18 years of debenture at **\$6,371.46** annually

Background (cont'd)

- Taxation and Assessment Dept. attempted to forward 2006 and 2007 LIP notices to Church but these were not received
- Received notice, by registered letter, from Municipality of past due LIP payments for 2005, 2006, & 2007 plus notice for 2008 LIP in May/08 on original schedule \$6,035.12/yr
- Arranged payment of 2008 revised LIP in two installments - \$4,000.00 on Oct 24/08 and \$2,371.46 on Dec 23/08

Community Support

- Weekly meeting place for:
Alcoholics Anonymous
Cocaine Anonymous
Apostolic Faith
- Food Bank Donations
Spaghetti supper for community
- Large venue for local:
Baptisms
Weddings
Funerals

Request

- Long-term debt carried by Church includes \$150,000 "mortgage" with United Church of Canada (UCC) and \$108,314.85 on LIP
- Current bank balance is ~ \$20k with outstanding bills of ~ \$25k including ~ \$10k to UCC and ~ \$12k to LIP
- Are committed to meeting our LIP obligation over the timeframe allotted and are asking Council to allocate 2006 & 2007 payments over remaining 15 years of debenture

Request

- Following discussions with Assessment and Taxation Department:
 - Asking relief from any penalties due for late payments of 2006 & 2007 LIP
 - are also proposing to Council annual LIP payment of **\$7,220.99** for 2009 – 2023
- Would allow church to continue focusing on outreach and service to the wider community with a managed payment of the debenture

**Subject: Re-Amortization of Local Improvement Tax Payments for the
Fort McMurray First United Church****APPROVALS:**

Henk van Waas, General Manager, Assessment and Taxation
Kevin Greig, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Rodney Burkard, Chief Administrative Officer

Administrative Recommendation(s):

THAT the outstanding balance of \$12,742.92 owed by the Fort McMurray First United Church as per the provisions of Local Improvement Bylaw No. 03/034 be re-amortized in equal annual payments for the remaining 15 years of the 20-year term.

Summary:

The Fort McMurray First United Church is requesting that the collection of 2006 and 2007 Local Improvement Tax payments be deferred and collected in equal payments over the remaining 15 years of the 20-year term. Under the Municipal Government Act, section 347(1) (c), Council approval is required to re-amortize Local Improvement Tax payments.

Background:

On June 10, 2003, Council passed Bylaw 03/034 commonly known as the Gordon Avenue Local Improvement Bylaw, which consisted of asphalt paving with concrete curb gutter and sidewalk. The Fort McMurray First United Church is exempted from municipal property taxes by the Municipal Government Act, but not from Local Improvement Tax. The Fort McMurray First United Church expressed concern at the time the Local Improvement Project was being considered with respect to the impact to the Church and its ability to pay due to membership fluctuations.

In 2005, the Fort McMurray First United Church was granted a deferral of the 2005 Local Improvement Tax payment to be collected over the remaining 18 years of the 20-year term.

Each Municipality must annually prepare and mail tax notices for all properties shown on the tax roll. Upon reviewing outstanding taxes in 2008, the Municipality's records indicate that the 2006 and 2007 Local Improvement Tax for the Fort McMurray First United Church was unpaid. As the Fort McMurray First United Church does not pay property taxes, there is some ambiguity in terms of whether or not the Local Improvement Tax notices were sent. In March 2008, administration sent a registered letter to the Church advising them of the unpaid Local Improvement Tax. Once the Church received the registered letter, the Municipality was contacted and the 2008 Local Improvement Tax was paid.

Budget/Financial Implications:

There will be no significant impact to the 2009 operating budget.

Rationale for Recommendation(s):

Administration is unable to substantiate whether or not appropriate notification was sent to the Fort McMurray First United Church for the 2006 and 2007 Local Improvement Tax. The Fort McMurray First United Church is demonstrating every effort to pay its Local Improvement Tax by paying the 2008 Local Improvement Tax; however, the Church is facing financial hardship due to fluctuating membership and is unable to pay the 2006 and 2007 Local Improvement Tax. If the Fort McMurray First United Church's request to re-amortize the 2006 and 2007 Local Improvement Tax payments is not approved, it could limit their charitable activities within the Municipality.

Subject: Bylaw No. 09/010 – Closure of Undeveloped Government Road Allowance (Highway 63 Eco-Industrial Park)

APPROVALS:

Dennis Peck, General Manager, Planning and Development
Kevin Greig, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Rodney Burkard, Chief Administrative Officer

Administrative Recommendation(s):

THAT Bylaw No. 09/010, being a bylaw to close a government road allowance, be read a first time; and

THAT the subject property be transferred to the Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation once Bylaw No. 09/010 has received third and final reading.

Summary:

Administration requests that an undeveloped government road allowance in the Highway 63 Eco-Industrial Park be closed to incorporate a portion of the land into the Eco-Industrial Park. Under the Municipal Government Act, any proposed road closure requires Council approval and bylaw adoption.

Background:

Land Services is requesting the closure of an undeveloped government road allowance (Road) within the boundaries of the Highway 63 Eco-Industrial Park (Attachment 2). As part of the development of the Industrial Park, municipal roads are being built to allow access to the site; therefore, the road will no longer be required and future use as a transportation corridor is not anticipated. Development is not permissible on any road plan; consequently, the road must be closed in order for development to occur.

Section 18 (1) of the *Municipal Government Act* states, that a municipality has direction, control and management of all roads within the municipality. The Municipality has administrative control over the undeveloped government allowance, but ownership lies with the Crown. Upon closure of the undeveloped government road allowance, title is transferred from the Minister of Transportation to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo at no cost. Ministerial approval of the closure is not required as the subject area is located within the boundaries of the Urban Service Area. The proposed bylaw has been reviewed by Land Titles to ensure the accuracy of legal descriptions (Attachment 1).

Upon closure of the Road, the Municipality intends to transfer the land to Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation (WBHDC) at no cost. WBHDC will in turn consolidate a portion of the land with lots in the Industrial Park. Section 70(2) of the Municipal Government Act

permits a municipality to dispose of land at below market value without advertising if it is to be used by a non-profit organization. Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation qualifies as a non-profit organization under Section 241(f) of the Municipal Government Act.

Rationale for Recommendation(s):

The Planning and Development Department supports the closure of the undeveloped government road allowance. The closure will have no impact on Municipality operations as the undeveloped road allowance is not required to access any parcel of land. In addition, the closure will create more lands available for development in the Eco-Industrial Park.

Attachments:

1. Bylaw No. 09/010
2. Subject Area Map

BYLAW NO. 09/010

BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLOSING AND CREATING TITLE TO UNDEVELOPED GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCES

WHEREAS application has been made to the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to close an undeveloped government road allowance pursuant to the requirements of section 22 of the Municipal Government Act, c.M-26, RSA 2000, as amended;

WHEREAS the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo deems it expedient to provide for the purpose of closing certain roads, or portions thereof, situated in the said municipality, and thereafter disposing of same;

WHEREAS, notice of the intention of Council to pass a bylaw has been given in accordance with Section 606 of the Municipal Government Act; and

WHEREAS, Council was not petitioned for an opportunity to be heard by any person claiming to be prejudicially affected by the bylaw,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo in the Province of Alberta hereby enact as follows:

1. The following described road allowance is hereby closed for the purpose of creating title subject to the right of access granted by other legislation:

Meridian 4 Range 9 Township 90

All of the original government road allowance adjoining the west boundary of the South West Quarter of Section 5

Excepting thereout all mines and minerals

2. This Bylaw shall become effective when it has received third and final reading and has been signed by the Mayor and Chief Legislative Officer.

READ a first time this _____ day of _____, 2009.

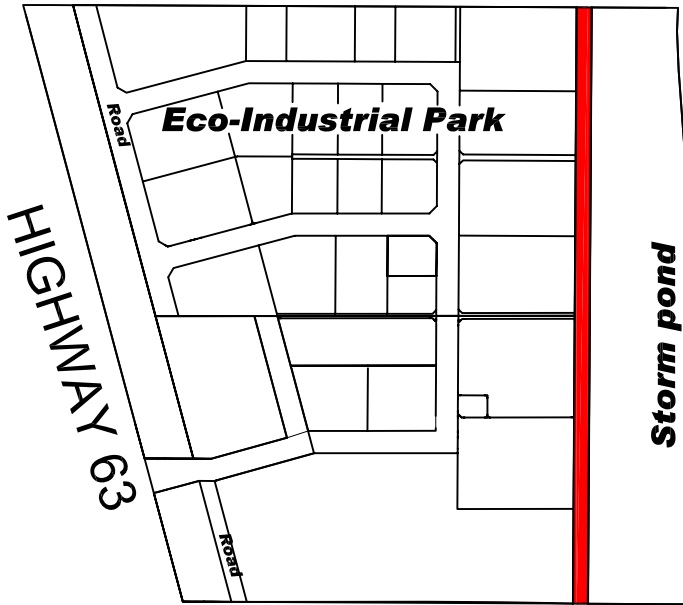
READ a second time this _____ day of _____, 2009.

READ a third and final time this _____ day of _____, 2009.

SIGNED and PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer



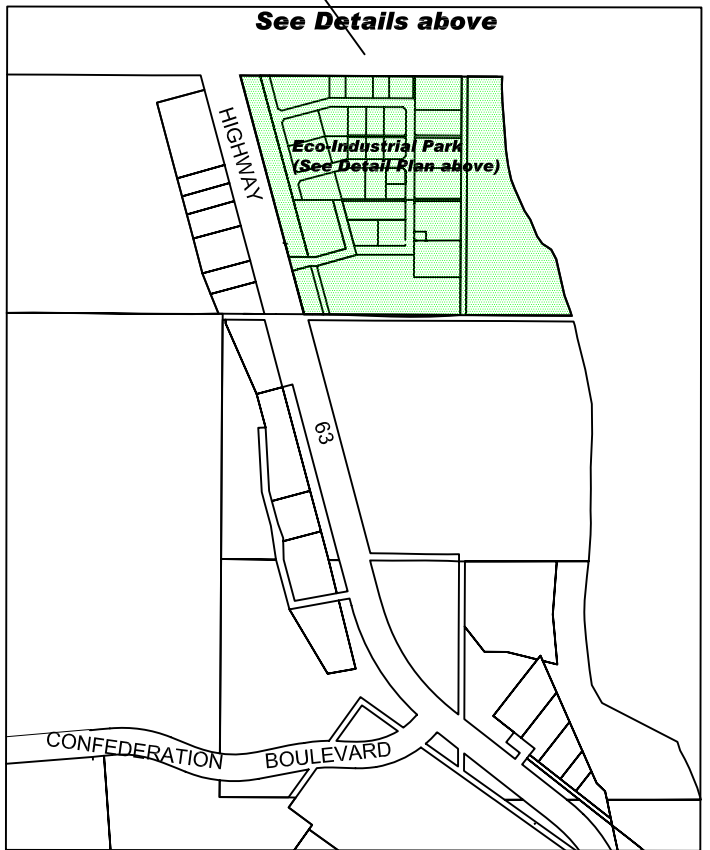
Detail Plan

Legend (Detail Plan)

 **Proposed Road Closure**

Legend (Key Plan)

 **Eco-Industrial Park**



Key Plan

Subject: Council Expense Summary – January 1-December 31, 2008**APPROVALS:**

Audrey Rogers, Acting Chief Legislative Officer

Kevin Greig, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Administrative Recommendation(s):

THAT the Council Expense Summary for the period January 1 – December 31, 2008 be received as information.

Summary:

The current Elected Officials Compensation, Travel, Expense and Support Policy requires that quarterly reports on expenditures for each member of Council be presented to Council for review.

Background:

Administration records and monitors expenses for elected officials and reports expenditures on a quarterly basis. The attached Council Expense Summary (Attachment 1) reflects all expenses submitted for the period January 1-December 31, 2008. This summary also includes those expenditures resulting from participation on Provincial Boards/Committees and periods in which a Councillor performed the duties of Deputy or Acting Mayor.

Individual budgets are monitored on an ongoing basis, and budget adjustments are made by Council throughout the year, as needed. Despite the fact that some budgets required adjustment in 2008, and a number of individual budgets were exceeded, total budget allocations for each Council Member remain within approved limits. The 2009 Operating Budget reflects a number of budget adjustments, which is reflective of changing economic conditions and the increased cost of conference registration, travel and accommodations, thereby decreasing or possibly even eliminating the need for further adjustment throughout the year.

Rationale for Recommendation

The 2008 Council Expense Summary demonstrates solid fiscal leadership by all Council Members in 2008, in keeping with the provisions of the Elected Officials Remuneration, Expense, Travel and Support Policy.

Attachments:

1. 2008 Council Expense Summary for the period January 1 – December 31, 2008.

2008 COUNCIL EXPENSE SUMMARY

Total Expenses Submitted for the Period January 1-December 31, 2008

| Councillors | Annual Budget | YTD Expenses | Percentage Expended | Other Committees | Deputy Mayor |
|---|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Blake, Melissa - Business Travel | 25,000 | \$13,322.00 | 53.29% | | |
| Blake, Melissa - Conference Travel | 6,592 | \$7,229.00 | 109.66% | | |
| Blake, Melissa - Public Relations | 25,000 | \$3,722.00 | 14.89% | | |
| Blake, Melissa - Conference Registration | 4,840 | \$650.00 | 13.43% | | |
| MAYOR - TOTAL | 61,432 | \$24,923.00 | 40.57% | | |
| Allen, Mike - Expenses | 1725 | 0.00 | 0.00% | | 881.40 |
| Allen, Mike - Training & Development | 5000 | 5,388.60 | 107.77% | | |
| ALLEN - TOTAL | 6725 | \$5,388.60 | 80.13% | | |
| Blair, David - Expenses | 41700 | 33,131.35 | 79.45% | | |
| Blair, David - Training & Development | 5000 | 1,808.75 | 36.18% | | |
| BLAIR - TOTAL | 46700 | \$34,940.10 | 74.82% | | |
| Byron, Mila - Expenses | 1725 | 200.00 | 11.59% | | |
| Byron, Mila - Training & Development | 5000 | 1,683.65 | 33.67% | | |
| BYRON - TOTAL | 6725 | \$1,883.65 | 28.01% | | |
| Clarkson, Sharon - Expenses | 1725 | 860.00 | 49.86% | | |
| Clarkson, Sharon - Training & Development | 5000 | 2,218.75 | 44.38% | | |
| CLARKSON - TOTAL | 6725 | \$3,078.75 | 45.78% | | |
| Flett, Sonny - Expenses | 22500 | 11,698.78 | 51.99% | | |
| Flett, Sonny - Training & Development | 5000 | 2,488.30 | 49.77% | | |
| FLETT - TOTAL | 27500 | \$14,187.08 | 51.59% | | |
| Germain, Sheldon - Expenses | 1725 | 0.00 | 0.00% | | |
| Germain, Sheldon - Training & Development | 5000 | 593.65 | 11.87% | | |
| GERMAIN - TOTAL | 6725 | \$593.65 | 8.83% | | |
| Janvier, Gordon - Expenses | 13000 | 11,984.62 | 92.19% | | |
| Janvier, Gordon - Training & Development | 5000 | 5,603.55 | 112.07% | | |
| JANVIER - TOTAL | 18000 | \$17,588.17 | 97.71% | | |
| Meagher, Phil - Expenses | 1725 | 0.00 | 0.00% | \$748.54 | |
| Meagher, Phil - Training & Development | 5000 | 306.10 | 6.12% | | |
| MEAGHER - TOTAL | 6725 | \$306.10 | 4.55% | | |
| Rebus, Renee - Expenses | 6000 | 644.25 | 10.74% | | |
| Rebus, Renee - Training & Development | 5000 | 5,751.67 | 115.03% | | |
| REBUS - TOTAL | 11000 | \$6,395.92 | 58.14% | | |
| Vyboh, John - Expenses | 1725 | 0.00 | 0.00% | | 111.95 |
| Vyboh, John - Training & Development | 5000 | 5,183.21 | 103.66% | | |
| VYBOH - TOTAL | 6725 | \$5,183.21 | 77.07% | | |