

Minutes of a Meeting of the Audit and Budget Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, November 20, 2014, commencing at 3:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Chair
T. Ault, Councillor
L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor (via teleconference)
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor

Absent: G. Boutilier, Councillor
J. Chadi, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor

Administration: M. Ulliac, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
D. Leflar, Chief Legislative Officer
D. Soucy, Senior Legislative Officer (Acting)
S. Harper, Legislative Officer
A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer

Reconvening

The Committee meeting reconvened the Budget Meeting at 3:09 p.m. on Thursday November 20, 2014.

2015 Proposed Capital Budget and 2016 - 2020 Capital Plan (continued)

1. Power Point Presentation - Overview of 2015 Proposed Capital Budget and 2016 - 2020 Capital Plan

Elsie Hutton, Chief Financial Officer and Kola Oladimeji, Director, Finance, were present to address the Committee. E. Hutton updated the Committee on what exercises Administration has done based on the budget discussions of November 6 and November 13, 2014.

E. Hutton spoke to funding capacity limitations, budget changes for multi-year projects, un-resourced capital grant requests, process for proposed changes, funding shortfall options such as increase tax revenue, further review of existing capital projects and reduction of the proposed 2015 operating budget, and upcoming challenges.

2. Review of the Revisions to the Resourced Capital Projects

Members of Administration provided the rationale for the various changes proposed with respect to the resourced capital projects and answered questions of the Committee.

Councillor T. Ault exited the meeting at 4:35 p.m. and returned at 4:37 p.m.

The following items/questions were raised for action and or additional information:

- Design of Conklin Multi-Plex to be provided to Committee members for review;

- Are the Conklin Multi-Plex and the Northside Recreation Centre being built to LEED Gold standards;
- What is the total cost of the survey being done relative to the Indoor Recreation and Community Facilities Master Plan; and
- Assurance that further construction of Prairie Loop Boulevard has provision for a different lighting structure at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and McLeod Street; and

Recess

A break occurred at 5:52 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 6:37 p.m.

3. Audit and Budget Committee Prioritization

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the North Side Multi Use Leisure Facility - Grant (Ref: 460) be moved to the unresourced list pending final approval of design and scope.

CARRIED

For: T. Ault, M. Blake, L. Bussieres, J. Cardinal, K. McGrath, P. Meagher

Opposed: J. Stroud

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the Conklin Multiplex – Construction (Ref: 14) be moved to the unresourced list pending final approval of design and scope.

DEFEATED

For: T. Ault, L. Bussieres, K. McGrath

Opposed: M. Blake, J. Cardinal, P. Meagher, J. Stroud

2015 Proposed Operating Budget

4. Power Point Presentation - Overview of the 2015 Proposed Operating Budget and 2016 - 2017 Financial Plan

E. Hutton presented the 2015 proposed operating budget, outlining the proposed staffing increases based on positions approved by Council in 2014.

5. 2015 Proposed Operating Budget Changes

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the 2015 Operating Budget be amended by adding one additional Full Time Employee - Underground Services - Fort Chipewyan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the 2015 Operating Budget be amended by adding one additional Full Time Employee - Labourer - Fort Chipewyan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the 2015 Operating Budget be amended by adding \$190,000 for Dust Suppressant (cold mix) – specific roads within Janvier.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Next Steps and Recommendation(s)

It was suggested that the process for budget deliberations be reviewed with the possibility of setting the dates early in the year and holding the meetings within a one-week period.

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the 2015 Proposed Capital Budget and 2016 - 2020 Capital Plan, and the 2015 Proposed Operating Budget be forwarded to Council for approval.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

For: T. Ault, M. Blake, J. Cardinal, K. McGrath, P. Meagher, J. Stroud

Opposed: L. Bussieres

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Chair

Chief Legislative Officer