

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, December 08, 2015, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor

Absent: C. Tatum, Councillor

Administration: M. Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer
S. Harper, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Mayor M. Blake called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes from Council Meeting - December 1, 2015

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on December 1, 2015 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

For: M. Blake, T. Ault, L. Bussieres, P. Meagher, J. Stroud, A. Vinni

Opposed: K. McGrath

Presentations

2. Elsie Hutton, Chief Financial Officer re: 2016 Capital and Operating Budgets, 2017 - 2021 Capital and Financial Plans
(6:07 p.m. – 7:55 p.m.)

Elsie Hutton, Chief Financial Officer; and Kola Oladimeji, Director of Finance, provided a presentation on the 2016 Capital and Operating Budgets, and the 2017-2021 Capital and Financial Plans.

Arrival:

Councillor J. Cardinal entered the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Nathan Petherick, Brown and Associates Planning Group, on behalf of Pacific Investments, requested that Council consider an amendment to the 2016 Capital Budget to include \$15,000,000 to support the construction of the South MacKenzie water line to allow for water servicing to the Prairie Creek Business Park.

Reegan McCullough, Executive Director; Oil Sands Community Alliance, spoke relative to the declining competitiveness of the oil industry in the region as a result of global oil prices and the need for the Municipality and industry to work together to find a mutually beneficial solution to reduce the amount of assessment appeals.

Exits and Returns:

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 7:02 p.m. and reentered at 7:05 p.m.

Councillor L. Bussieres exited the meeting at 7:03 p.m. and reentered at 7:04 p.m.

Peter Fortna, resident, came forward to express thanks to Council for all their hard work in preparing the budget.

Jeffrey O'Donnell, Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee, spoke to the community of Conklin's excitement for the commencement of construction on the Conklin Multiplex Project, citing that it will provide a much needed facility in the community.

Arrival:

Councillor S. Germain entered the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Diane Slater, resident, expressed concern over the 2016 Capital and Operating Budgets, requesting that Council pass an interim budget and take the time to reassess spending needs in 2016.

Mike Durocher, resident, expressed concern over the proposed spending in the 2016 Capital and Operating budgets, suggesting that a more cautious spending plan and a reduction in taxes collected might be more prudent considering the current economic climate.

Gene Ouellette, resident, presented Council with some research information suggesting that the proposed spending levels as presented in the 2016 Capital and Operating budgets are inflated for the region.

Ian Dirom, resident, expressed his concern suggesting that the proposed budgets are inflated, public engagement on the budget process needs to be improved, and the budget documents lack comprehensiveness.

Recess and Exit:

A recess occurred from 7:56 p.m. to 8:12 p.m., at which time Councillor T. Ault left the meeting due to illness. Before departing, Councillor Ault requested that another member of Council present his proposed amendment to the Operating Budget for Council's consideration.

With the consent of Council, it was agreed that the remaining items on the agenda would be dealt with first due to their time sensitive nature, and that deliberations on the 2016 Capital and Operating budgets would resume thereafter.

Bylaws

3. **Bylaw No. 15/026 - Land Use Amendment - Keyano Clearwater Campus (Lots 1-5, Block 2, Plan 5030TR; Lot 12, Block 2, Plan 5030TR; Lot 1, Plan 3790 NY; Lot 15MR, Block 2, Plan 922 0240; Lot 2, Block 2, Plan 772 2192)**
(8:13 p.m. – 8:25 p.m.)

Mayor M. Blake declared the public hearing open at 8:13 p.m.

Bradley Evanson, Director of Planning and Development, and Dan Fitzgerald, Planner II, provided an introductory presentation, citing that the bylaw will allow Keyano College to pursue a greater mix of commercial and office uses on site.

David Symes, IBI Group, provided a brief presentation on behalf of Keyano College in support of Bylaw 15/026, citing that the amendment will streamline the process for future development by removing the need to come forward for various other amendments.

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that Bylaw No. 15/026, being an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059 specific to Lots 1-5, Block 2, Plan 5030TR; Lot 12, Block 2, Plan 5030TR; Lot 1, Plan 3790 NY; Lot 15MR, Block 2, Plan 922 0240; and Lot 2, Block 2, Plan 772 2192 be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Bylaw No. 15/026 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Bylaw No. 15/027 Offsite Levy Bylaw**
(8:26 p.m. – 8:27 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that Bylaw No. 15/027, being an Offsite Levy Bylaw, be read a first time; and that a non-statutory public hearing be held on January 12, 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports

5. **Selection Committee Recommendations - Annual Committee Appointments**
(8:28 p.m. – 8:37 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni:

- THAT Keith Haxton be appointed to the Composite Assessment Review Board as an acting member, effective immediately, until December 31, 2017;
- THAT Donald Gorman, Jennifer Reid and Samuel Odemuyiwa (acting) be appointed to the Composite Assessment Review Board, effective January 1, 2016, until December 31, 2017;

- THAT remuneration for Local and Composite Assessment Review Board Members be set at the same level as provincial remuneration rates for Municipal Government Board Members.
- THAT Elliot White, representing UDI Wood Buffalo, be appointed to the Land Planning and Development Advisory Committee effective immediately to October 31, 2016; and
- THAT the following appointments be approved, effective January 1, 2016:

Advisory Committee on Aging:

- Verna Murphy, urban public-at-large representative, Pam Burns, Seniors Resource Committee representative, and Paul McWilliams, Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council representative, to December 31, 2017;

Combative Sports Commission:

- Brenda Fortais, Neal Perry, Rene Wells, and Alex Wong to December 31, 2017;

Communities in Bloom Committee:

- Erin Alexanders to December 31, 2016;
- Julia Bennett, Jacob Connolly, Qasim Malik, Julie Moretto, and James Sedgwick to December 31, 2017;

Community Identification Committee:

- Cathy Dreier, representing the Fort McMurray Historical Society, Carol Cleminson, and Jerry Bussieres, to December 31, 2017;

Community Services Committee:

- Funke Banjoko, Maxime Duval-Charland, and Robert Parmenter to December 31, 2017;

Fort McMurray Airport Authority:

- Joanne Day to December 31, 2019;

Landlord and Tenant Advisory Board:

- James Marten to December 31, 2016;
- Kashif Hussain, Samra Ilyas, Paul St. John, and Robert Woodward to December 31, 2017;

Library Board:

- Amanda MacPherson to December 31, 2016;
- Roy Amalu to December 31, 2017;
- Amelia Schofield, Pratik Tripathi, and Greg White to December 31, 2018;

Public Art Committee:

- Ana Maria Mendez-Barks, and Sharon Heading to December 31, 2018;

Regional Advisory Committee on Inclusion, Diversity and Equality:

- Zubair (Zak) Akthar to December 31, 2016;
- Janice Bailey, Sara Eweida, and Cristabell Simb to December 31, 2017;

Regional Recreation Corporation:

- Nicholas Germain, and Francesca Shannahan to December 31, 2016;
- Allan Grandison to December 31, 2017;
- Jonathan Grant, Mark Hodson, and David Tien to December 31, 2018;

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board:

- Ali Farhat to December 31, 2016;
- Alethea Austin, Stacey Houston, Debbie Moses, and Rene Wells to December 31, 2017;

Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation:

- Jennifer Best, Maggie Farrington, and Jason Shulz to December 31, 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Intervenor Status in Supreme Court of Canada

(8:38 p.m. – 8:55 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo make application to be granted intervenor status at the Supreme Court of Canada, in the case of Edmonton East (Capilano) Shopping Centres Ltd. v. City of Edmonton.

David Leflar, Chief Legislative Officer, provided a presentation and explanation on the report requesting the Municipality to pursue intervenor status in the Supreme Court of Canada case of Edmonton East (Capilano) Shopping Centres Ltd. v. the City of Edmonton. Mr. Leflar noted that being granted intervenor status would allow the Municipality to argue in favour of having the Supreme Court of Canada issue a judgement acknowledging that the courts are responsible for holding the Assessment Review Board accountable to the correct interpretation of the law.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

New and Unfinished Business**7. 2016 Capital and Operating Budgets, 2017 - 2021 Capital and Financial Plans**
(8:56 p.m. – 10:18 p.m.)

As previously agreed to, discussion resumed on the 2016 Capital and Operating Budgets as all other scheduled business items had been dealt with.

2016 Capital Budget, 2017-2021 Capital Plan

The following motion was put forward for consideration:

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud:

1. THAT the 2016 Capital Budget in the amount of \$464,157,791 and \$492,128 Public Art Fund transfer totaling \$464,649,919 be approved as set out in Attachment 1, 2016 Capital Budget, dated December 8, 2015, as follows:

Capital Infrastructure Reserve	\$373,628,022
Debenture Financing	51,707,690
Grants	38,995,275
Others (Offsite Levy/Developer Charges etc.)	<u>318,932</u>
Total	<u>\$464,649,919</u>

2. THAT the net budget reduction on multi-year projects in progress totaling \$72,800,291 as set out on Attachment 2, 2016 Capital Budget – Multi-Year Projects – In Progress – Cash Flow Changes, dated December 8, 2015, be approved.
3. THAT the new multi-year projects totaling \$150,159,303 as set out on Attachment 3, 2016 Capital Budget New Multi-Year Projects – Cash Flow, dated December 8, 2015, be approved.
4. THAT the cash flow on multi-year projects totaling \$552,261,753 as set out on Attachment 4, 2017 - 2021 Capital Plan – Multi-Year Projects – Cash Flow – Funded, dated December 8, 2015, be approved.

The following motion was then brought forward:

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the proposed Operating Budget be deferred until after the report from the operational review is received, and that Council adopt an interim operating budget equal to 90% of the 2015 Operating Budget, to be in effect until March 31, 2016.

DEFEATED

For: L. Bussieres, S. Germain, K. McGrath, A. Vinni

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

The following amending motion was then brought forward relative to the main motion:

Moved by Councillor L. Bussieres that Capital Project #193 – Casman Centre Building Management System Upgrade, in the amount of \$85,000 be moved from unfunded to funded in 2016.

Exits and Returns:

Councillor S. Germain exited the meeting at 9:17 p.m. and reentered at 9:18 p.m.

Councillor J. Stroud exited the meeting at 9:18 p.m. and reentered at 9:19 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud:

1. THAT the 2016 Capital Budget in the amount of \$464,242,791 and \$492,128 Public Art Fund transfer totaling \$464,734,919 be approved as set out in Attachment 1, 2016 Capital Budget, dated December 8, 2015, as follows:

Capital Infrastructure Reserve	\$373,713,022
Debenture Financing	51,707,690
Grants	38,995,275
Others (Offsite Levy/Developer Charges etc.)	<u>318,932</u>
Total	<u>\$464,734,919</u>

2. THAT the net budget reduction on multi-year projects in progress totaling \$72,800,291 as set out on Attachment 2, 2016 Capital Budget – Multi-Year Projects – In Progress – Cash Flow Changes, dated December 8, 2015, be approved.
3. THAT the new multi-year projects totaling \$150,159,303 as set out on Attachment 3, 2016 Capital Budget New Multi-Year Projects – Cash Flow, dated December 8, 2015, be approved.
4. THAT the cash flow on multi-year projects totaling \$552,261,753 as set out on Attachment 4, 2017 - 2021 Capital Plan – Multi-Year Projects – Cash Flow – Funded, dated December 8, 2015, be approved.

Exits and Returns:

Councillor L. Bussieres exited the meeting at 9:36 p.m. and reentered at 9:38 p.m.

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 9:44 p.m. and reentered 9:47 p.m.

Councillor S. Germain requested that the record reflect that he supports the 2016 Capital Budget, and the Conklin Multiplex project, in principle, but believes the project to be overfunded at \$50,000,000.

A request was made to have the design documents for the Doug Barnes Cabin project shared with Council to allow for a review of the design prior to the commencement of construction.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2016 Operating Budget, 2017-2018 Financial Plan

The following motion was put forward for consideration:

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath:

- THAT the 2016 Operating Budget, in the amount of \$860,708,200 be approved, representing \$520,495,300 for Municipal operations and \$340,212,900 as a transfer to the Capital Infrastructure Reserve; and
- THAT the 2017 – 2018 Financial Plan in the amount of \$889,417,400 and \$903,112,000 respectively, with funding transfers to the Capital Infrastructure Reserve of \$353,852,500 and \$350,065,800 respectively, be used as the basis for the development of the respective subsequent budgets.

Councillor S. Germain then put forward the following motion on Councillor T. Ault's behalf:

Moved by Councillor S. Germain that that the 2016 Operating Budget be reduced by \$30 million in accordance with the following:

- (a) the amount to be transferred to Capital Infrastructure Reserve to be reduced by \$20 million;
- (b) an additional reduction of \$10 million achieved in part by managing the elimination of 30 vacant full-time equivalent ("FTE") positions throughout 2016, and in part through other measures at Administration's discretion provided that the amount budgeted for Community Investment Program grant funding must not be reduced.

CARRIED

For: L. Bussieres, J. Cardinal, S. Germain, K. McGrath, P. Meagher, A. Vinni

Opposed: M. Blake, J. Stroud

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

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath:

- THAT the 2016 Operating Budget, in the amount of \$830,708,200 be approved, representing \$510,495,300 for Municipal operations and \$320,212,900 as a transfer to the Capital Infrastructure Reserve, and
- THAT the 2017 – 2018 Financial Plan in the amount of \$859,417,400 and \$873,112,000 respectively, with funding transfers to the Capital Infrastructure Reserve of \$333,852,500 and \$330,065,800 respectively, be used as the basis for the development of the respective subsequent budgets.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

Christmas Greetings were extended by Council to all residents of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer