

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, MARCH 13, 2007, COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:	MAYOR	M. BLAKE
	DEPUTY MAYOR	P. MEAGHER
	COUNCILLORS	J. CARBERY J. CHADI S. CLARKSON L. FLETT S. GERMAIN R. REBUS C. SLADE J. VYBOH L. WILTZEN
	REGIONAL MANAGER	B. NEWELL
	CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	K. GREIG
	LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	A. ROGERS

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

PRAYER: The Mayor asked everyone to join her in Prayer.

AGENDA: Resolution # 07-050
MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES: **Council Meeting – February 27, 2007**

Resolution # 07-051
MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 27, 2007 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS:

Dr. Michel Sauvé re: Pedestrian & Traffic Safety

Dr. Michel Sauvé thanked Council for the opportunity to speak this evening and proceeded to relate the details of a pedestrian/traffic collision that occurred on January 31st, in which 15-year old Briana Kowaluk Noseworthy was fatally injured. Dr. Sauvé noted that Briana's parents have been incredibly courageous throughout the ordeal and generously gave the gift of life to others by donating Briana's organs.

Dr. Sauvé then addressed the issue of how to make pedestrian crossings safer for children. He discussed measures to slow down the speed of traffic, such as engineering, educating motorists and increased enforcement. Specifically, Dr. Sauvé suggested that the following measures be considered by the Municipality:

- Change the engineering of pedestrian-triggered lights to cycle normally during peak pedestrian hours, similar to the operation of regular traffic lights.
- Use of photo radar technology at pedestrian crossings
- Increasing traffic enforcement initiatives to reduce the speed of motorists.
- Adoption of a municipal policy which bans the use of cell phones by employees while operating municipal equipment and/or vehicles.

Dr. Sauvé quoted various statistics to support his request, noting that there are many different ways of looking at safer roads, some of which may not be difficult to address.

Briana's mother, Ms. Melanie Kowaluk, then came forward to address Council. She related the circumstances leading up to the accident and the impact it has had on her family's life. Ms. Kowaluk indicated that something has to be done so that a similar situation doesn't occur and take someone else's child. She questioned the need for industrial vehicles to be using Gregoire Drive instead of the Highway, noting that large vehicles should not be permitted to travel through residential areas if alternate routes are available. Ms. Kowaluk reiterated the need for increased traffic policing in Fort McMurray, particularly in school zones and near crosswalks. Ms. Kowaluk concluded by asking that Council listen to the issues and work toward a resolution to protect the community from experiencing this type of tragedy again.

Mayor Blake and Members of Council extended condolences to Ms. Kowaluk and her family on the loss of Briana. Mayor Blake thanked Dr. Sauvé and Ms. Kowaluk for addressing Council, noting that the suggestions presented will certainly be taken into consideration and a response will be forthcoming in relatively short order.

Resolution # 07-052

MOVED by Councillor Chadi that Dr. Sauvé's and Ms. Kowaluk's presentation on pedestrian and traffic safety be received as information and referred to Administration for appropriate response.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RECESS

A recess occurred from 6:28 p.m. until 6:37 p.m.

Mr. Guy Buchanan, Centron Residential Developments re: Eagle Ridge Update

Mr. Guy Buchanan was in attendance to provide an update on the Eagle Ridge project being undertaken by Centron Residential Developments Ltd. Mr. Buchanan extended an apology to Council with respect to a newspaper ad that had run about the upcoming interchange construction, noting that the ad had been run prematurely and that there is no approval in place for the proposed interchange at this point in time.

Mr. Buchanan provided an overview of the work completed in 2006, and the work scheduled to take place in 2007. He also addressed the recent "stop work order" issue and advised that Centron is working with municipal staff to address the concerns raised by residents and to refurbish/replant the treed area that was destroyed. Mr. Buchanan concluded by restating Centron's commitment to working with the Municipality to develop an attractive family-oriented community.

ARRIVAL

Deputy Mayor Meagher joined the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Resolution # 07-053

MOVED by Councillor Rebus that the Eagle Ridge Update be received as information.

A brief discussion occurred in which Mr. Buchanan responded to questions from Council and provided clarification relative to the installation of park benches, the asphalt trail running through the linear park, initiatives to minimize traffic impacts during construction of the

proposed interchange, and the formula used to create percentages for the allocation of housing to specific sectors of the community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None Scheduled.

COUNCIL UPDATES: **Reporting of Councillors on Boards and Committees**

Deputy Mayor Meagher reported on the following:

- Fort McMurray Tourism Gold Star Awards
- Kudos to staff on maintenance of municipal trail system

Councillor Flett reported on the following:

- Fort Chipewyan Annual Ice Fishing Derby
- Status of Fort Chipewyan Winter Road

Councillor Rebus reported on the following:

- Future Forward Summit

Councillor Clarkson reported on the following:

- Business Revitalization Zone Association
- Future Forward Summit
- Community Identification Committee
- AUMA Community Infrastructure Committee

Mayor's Update

Mayor Blake reported on the following:

- Future Forward Summit
- Provincial Funding Announcement
- Grande Prairie "Fair Share" Agreement Meeting
- Meeting w/Minister of National Revenue
- Memorandum of Understanding with University of Calgary
- Buffalo Narrows Visit and Presentation
- Western Economic Development Funding Announcement for Urban Roadway Rehabilitation program

REPORTS:

Civic Awards Program Policy Review

Resolution # 07-054

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Meagher that the Civic Award Program Policy be approved as amended.

Concern was expressed with respect to there not being a provision to recognize people who don't necessarily fit within the categories defined in the policy, particularly those who are leaving or who have already left the community. It was agreed that Administration would explore this issue at a later date. It was also noted that the various categories are intended to be reflective of both individuals and groups.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Debt Management Policy

Resolution # 07-055

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Meagher that the Debt Management Policy – FIN-120 be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Transit Fleet Addition and Replacement

Resolution # 07-056

MOVED by Councillor Chadi:

- THAT the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo purchase three (3) D40LF Diesel Powertrain buses from New Flyer Industries in the amount of \$1,189,554 plus GST; and
- THAT the purchase be funded from New Deal Transit Grant, subject to Alberta Infrastructure project acceptance.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Athabasca River Bridge Lighting Option

The Acting Manager of Operations and Maintenance was in attendance to speak to this issue and respond to questions from Council.

Resolution # 07-057

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Meagher that the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo decline the option to fund girder lighting on the new Athabasca River bridge.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Off Highway Vehicle Action Plan Implementation

The Manager of Community Services provided an overview of the proposed Off-Highway Vehicle Action Plan and responded to questions from Council.

Resolution # 07-058

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson:

- THAT the Urban Off-Highway Vehicle Action Plan be approved; and
- THAT administration be directed to include the funds necessary for implementation of the Urban Off-Highway Vehicle Action Plan in the 2008 Operating and Capital Budget process.

It was requested that the training component of the action plan be expanded to include rural communities as well, as safe ridership is equally important in both urban and rural settings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAWS:

Bylaw No. 07/005 – Roads & Transportation Bylaw Amendment

Bylaw No. 07/005, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AMEND ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION BYLAW NO. 02/079, was presented to receive second and third readings.

Resolution # 07-059

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that Bylaw No. 07/005, being a bylaw to amend the Roads and Transportation Bylaw, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-060

MOVED by Councillor Chadi that Bylaw No. 07/005 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/007 – Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Vacuum Street Sweepers

Bylaw No. 07/007, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$700,000) FOR THE VACUUM STREET SWEEPERS, was presented to receive second and third readings.

Resolution # 07-061

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Meagher that Bylaw No. 07/007, being a borrowing bylaw to purchase two vacuum street sweepers, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-062

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that Bylaw No. 07/007 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/008 – Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Heavy Equipment Replacements

Bylaw No. 07/008, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF SIX HUNDRED SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SIX DOLLARS (\$606,136) FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENTS, was presented to receive second and third readings.

Resolution # 07-063

MOVED by Councillor Slade that Bylaw No. 07/008, being a borrowing bylaw to replace heavy equipment, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-064

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Meagher that Bylaw No. 07/008 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/015 - Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Jubilee Centre Hot Water Distribution System

Bylaw No. 07/015, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY SIX DOLLARS (\$475,456) FOR THE JUBILEE BUILDING HOT WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, was presented to receive second and third readings.

Resolution # 07-065

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson that Bylaw No. 07/015, being a borrowing bylaw for the installation of the Jubilee Building Hot Water Distribution System, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-066

MOVED by Councillor Wiltzen that Bylaw No. 07/015 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/016 – Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Jubilee Centre Fire Alarm System

Bylaw No. 07/016, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY SIX THOUSAND SIXTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$856,064) FOR THE JUBILEE BUILDING FIRE ALARM SYSTEM, was presented to receive second and third readings.

Resolution # 07-067

MOVED by Councillor Slade that Bylaw No. 07/016, being a borrowing bylaw for the installation of the Jubilee Building Fire Alarm System, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-068

MOVED by Councillor Chadi that Bylaw No. 07/016 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/018 – Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Hangingstone Bridge Rehabilitation

Bylaw No. 07/018, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000) FOR THE HANGINGSTONE BRIDGE REHABILITATION, was presented to receive first reading.

Resolution # 07-069

MOVED by Councillor Carbery that Bylaw No. 07/018, being a borrowing bylaw for the rehabilitation of the Hangingstone Bridge, be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/019 - Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Tolen Drive Bridge Rehabilitation

Bylaw No. 07/019, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,500,000) FOR THE TOLEN DRIVE BRIDGE REHABILITATION, was presented to receive first reading.

Resolution # 07-070

MOVED by Councillor Chadi that Bylaw No. 07/019, being a borrowing bylaw for the rehabilitation of the Tolen Drive Bridge, be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/020 - Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Urban Roadway Rehabilitation 2007

Bylaw No. 07/020, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,500,000) FOR THE URBAN ROADWAY REHABILITATION 2007, was presented to receive first reading.

Resolution # 07-071

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson that Bylaw No. 07/020, being a borrowing bylaw for the Urban Roadway Rehabilitation 2007 Program, be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/021 - Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Rural Street Rehabilitation 2007

Bylaw No. 07/021, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE

INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED FORTY SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED ELEVEN DOLLARS (\$1,546,711) FOR RURAL STREET REHABILITATION 2007, was presented to receive first reading.

Resolution # 07-072

MOVED by Councillor Wiltzen that Bylaw No. 07/021, being a borrowing bylaw for the Rural Street Rehabilitation 2007 Program, be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/022 - Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Thickwood Boulevard Retaining Wall & Sidewalk Replacement

Bylaw No. 07/022, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO TO AUTHORIZE THE INCURRENCE OF AN INDEBTEDNESS BY THE ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) FOR THE THICKWOOD BOULEVARD RETAINING WALL AND SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT, was presented to receive first reading.

Resolution # 07-073

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Meagher that Bylaw No. 07/022, being a borrowing bylaw for the Replacement of the Thickwood Boulevard Retaining Wall and Sidewalk, be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS:

None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Resolution # 07-074

MOVED by Councillor Wiltzen that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER