

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, May 22 , 2007, COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

DEPUTY MAYOR	S. GERMAIN
COUNCILLORS	J. CARBERY J. CHADI S. CLARKSON L. FLETT P. MEAGHER R. REBUS C. SLADE J. VYBOH L. WILTZEN
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	B. NEWELL
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	K. GREIG
LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	C. CHISLETT
MUNICIPAL INTERN	N. O'CONNOR

ABSENT:

MAYOR	M. BLAKE
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CALL TO ORDER: Deputy Mayor Germain called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRAYER: The Deputy Mayor asked everyone to join him in Prayer.

AGENDA: Resolution # 07-219
MOVED by Councillor Meagher

- THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES: **Regular Meeting – May 8, 2007**

Resolution # 07-220
MOVED by Councillor Chadi that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 8, 2007 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Hearing – May 8, 2007

Resolution # 07-221

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the Minutes of the Public Hearing held on May 8, 2007 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS:

Ms. Beth Anthony, Executive Director, Justin Slade Youth Foundation re: Update on Dugout

The dugout recently celebrated its one year anniversary. The past year have seen 4200 kids utilize the services available, as a result they have been able to develop new programs and activities. This summer they are hoping to run programs five days a week. The dugout has developed partnerships with the University of Alberta, Youth Justice Committee and the HIV Society (Positive Space Campaign). The dugout has also brought the life skills program into Father Mercredi high school and Second Chance high school. In addition to all of this the dugout has also now started to offer free meeting space to non profit organizations in the community. They are also looking at opening a second and possibly a third dugout location. The dugout has also seen the need to have more outreach workers to assist with the growing demand. The dugout will also be moving to the airways through the new radio station KAOS 99.1 to promote their services. Lastly, they are also hosting the second annual golf tournament this year.

There was a brief discussion by council and they commended the Slade family for turning a tragic loss into an excellent program that benefits many young residents.

Resolution # 07-222

MOVED by Councillor Slade that the presentation from the Justin Slade Youth Foundation be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ms. Debbie McGlennon, UDI WoodBuffalo, re: Forcemain from Lift Station 1B to Wastewater Treatment Facility, expressed concerns that the upgrades to pump 1A be done in a timely manner, a one year time frame and she also wanted to see the issue of the rain water flowing into the sewage system taken care of immediately.

Ms. Olive Wooden, Duck Inn, Anzac, re: Tax Rate Bylaw, expressed her concern over the proposed tax rate bylaw because she is already paying staff a much higher wage to keep them in the rural area and in

addition will now have to pay twice the amount of taxes as well. She also expressed a need to know what return she was getting on her investment of the tax dollars. She stated that there are no incentives to doing business in rural settings. She suggested the possibility of council creating a rebate program for small businesses in rural settings.

Mr. Dave Marshall, resident, re: Forcemain from Lift Station 1B to Wastewater Treatment Facility, expressed his desire that council not support a two million dollar sewer line but does support the upgrading of pump 1A. Mr. Marshall feels that Council should not service property that is owned by the province, that we should buy the land first and then service it.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None Scheduled

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

Councillor Vyboh acknowledged the following people:

- Acknowledged Crystal Chislett and Neil O'Connor for joining the municipality's staff.
- Rolando Inzunza for contribution in raising funds for the Mac to Maui event.
- Late Roy Hawkins for being a tremendous leader in the community.
- Al Hancock for making it to the top of the world.

Councillor Chadi reported on the following:

- AAMDC Conference
- Community planning association event in Red Deer
- Keyano Grad in Fort Chip
- Regrets for not attending Hawkins funeral
- Acts as the Northern Vice Chair for CANAA
- Expressed gratitude to residents within region for the well wishes due to the recent passing of his father.

Councillor Slade reported on the following:

- WBHC thank you supper which was held for staff after working so hard after Edgewater Court fire.

Councillor Clarkson reported on the following:

- Community Crime Reduction Taskforce – for further info visit: www.safecommunities.gov.ab.ca
- Wood Buffalo Leadership graduation ceremony

Deputy Mayor Germain reported on the following:

- Keyano College Convocation
- Educare 10 year fundraising dinner
- Recognition of citizens doing clean up on the streets and communities and schools - "PITCH-IN"
- Recognized Wood Buffalo Housing Corporation for being on the CBC national news

REPORTS:

Canadian Soldiers' and Peacekeepers' Memorial Wall

Correction was made to the report to reference Bill C-417 rather than Bill C-147 (correction made in minutes)

Resolution # 07-223

MOVED by Councillor Meagher:

- THAT Government of Canada be requested to enact Bill C-417, the Canadian Soldiers' and Peacekeepers' Memorial Wall Act; and
- THAT the Mayor write a letter to the Member of Parliament for Fort McMurray-Athabasca to solicit his support for Bill C-417.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rural Service Delivery and Aboriginal Relations – Action Plan

EXIT & RETURN:

Councillor Chadi left the meeting at 6:42 pm & returned at 6:44pm.

Resolution # 07-224

MOVED by Councillor Wiltzen:

- THAT the Rural Service Delivery and Aboriginal Relations Action Plan be accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2007 Capital Budget Amendment - VoIP 2007

Peter Glover, Supervisor of Network Services, was present to answer council's questions.

Resolution # 07-225

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson

- THAT the 2007 Capital Budget be amended by adding the VoIP 2007 project (formerly referred to as Electronic Government Services – Phase I), at a total cost of \$1,700,000; and
- THAT \$1,500,000 be allocated from the Capital Infrastructure Reserve for the purpose of funding the VoIP 2007 Project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Forcemain from Lift Station 1B to Wastewater Treatment Facility

Mr. Salem Abushawashi, Superintendent of Engineering, provided a brief explanation of the project and recommended that the design of the sewer line proceed, which would free capacity in the downtown area and that upgrade to pump 1a is already scheduled for 2008.

JOINED:

Councillor Carbery joined meeting 7:01pm

The cost of the design only would be approximately \$22 million and the building the system would be additional. It was explained that the extra costs could be recouped through off site levies.

Resolution # 07-226

MOVED by Councillor Rebus

- THAT \$2,000,000 be committed in the Capital Infrastructure Reserve for the design of the forcemain from Lift Station 1B to the Wastewater Reclamation Facility per Attachment 1, Capital Budget Amendment Request, May 22, 2007.

CARRIED

For: Carbery, Chadi, Clarkson, Flett,
Germain, Meagher, Rebus, Vyboh,
Wiltzen,

Opposed: Slade

Fort MacKay Community Engagement

Resolution # 07-227

MOVED by Councillor Chadi:

- THAT the date of the Fort MacKay Community Engagement Initiative be changed from June 29, 2007 to June 22, 2007.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RECESS:

A break occurred from 7:38pm to 7:45pm.

BYLAWS:

Bylaw No. 07/035 – Water Utilities Management Bylaw

Bylaw No. 07/035, BEING A BYLAW OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO FOR THE SUPPLY AND MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL WATER UTILITY SERVICES, was presented to receive second and third readings.

Moved by Councillor Meagher:

- THAT bylaw No. 07/035, being a bylaw of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo for the supply and management of municipal water utility services, receive second reading.

Michel Savard, Superintendent of Environment, discussed how the bylaw has been revised from 1985 and that it will deal with clarification on different issues and bring it in line with the Municipal Government Act of today.

Resolution # 07-228

MOVED by Councillor Wiltzen

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/035, be referred to administration for clarification with respect to payment locations and an amendment of section 83 to change the 10m distance to read 15.24m (50ft)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/037 – 2007 Tax Rate Bylaw

Mr. Henk Van Waas, Regional Assessor, gave an overview of the bylaw and offered some background. It was noted that this tax increase is necessary based on the lack of provincial funding and the need to fund capital projects. He also referenced the findings of the Radke report which criticized the municipality for not taxing the oil industry enough.

Resolution # 07-229

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/037 being the 2007 Tax Rate Bylaw be read a second time.

Concerns were raised regarding the following:

- the equality and balance of municipal taxation policies
- concerns over the loss of small rural businesses and the detrimental effect that loss would have on the quality of life of rural residents
- the lack of financial support from the provincial government.

Resolution # 07-230

Moved by Councillor Wiltzen

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/037 be referred to administration for the purpose of amending the urban non-residential tax rate to the same level as rural non-residential tax rate.

DEFEATED

For: Chadi, Flett, Rebus, Wiltzen

Opposed: Carbery, Clarkson, Germain,
Meagher, Slade and Vyboh

Voting then occurred on Councillor Clarkson's motion:

CARRIED

For: Carbery, Clarkson, Germain,
Meagher, Slade and Vyboh

Opposed: Chadi, Flett, Rebus, Wiltzen

Resolution # 07-231

MOVED by Councillor Meagher:

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/037 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/040 – Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Confederation Way – Third Eastbound Lane - Millennium Drive to Highway 63

Resolution # 07-232

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson:

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/040, being a debenture borrowing bylaw for the Confederation Way Third Eastbound Lane, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-233

MOVED by Councillor Meagher:

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/040 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/042 - Smoke-Free Bylaw

Resolution # 07-234

MOVED by Councillor Carbery:

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/042, being the Smoke-Free Bylaw, be read a first time, and a non-statutory public hearing scheduled to take place on Tuesday, June 12, 2007.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw No. 07/044 – Debenture Borrowing Bylaw – Southeast Regional Water Supply Line – Bylaw Amendment

Resolution # 07-235

MOVED by Councillor Chadi:

- THAT Bylaw No. 07/044, being an amendment to Bylaw No. 03/053 for the Construction Completion and Commissioning of the Southeast Regional Water Supply Line, be read a first time.

CARRIED

For: Carbery, Chadi, Clarkson, Flett,

Germain, Meagher, Rebus, Vyboh,
Wiltzen,
Opposed: Slade

NEW BUSINESS:

**Notice of Motion – Installation of Water Saving Devices in
Municipal Facilities (Councillor Carbery)**

Councillor Carbery expressed his view on the strains of our sanitary sewer system and stated that the low flow toilets can reduce water consumption by 30%. He also provided clarification that this motion would only apply to municipally owned facilities and facilities that are to be leased for longer than five years.

Resolution # 07-236

MOVED by Councillor Carbery:

- THAT the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo install low-flow toilets and other low-flow devices in all municipal buildings as soon as possible.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Notice of Motion – Request for Temporary Rent Regulation
(Councillor Vyboh)**

Councillor Vyboh expressed concerns over the high cost of rent in this community, he provided statistics of other cities rent increases and compared it to Fort McMurray's.

Resolution # 07-237

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh:

- THAT Council call on the provincial government for a one-time, one year long temporary rent regulation measure that would limit rent increase within that period to a maximum of 10%.

Resolution # 07-038

MOVED by Councillor Meagher

- THAT the motion be amended to strike out 10% and insert 1%

DEFEATED:

For: Meagher, Slade, Vyboh

Opposed: Carbery, Chadi, Clarkson,
Flett, Germain, Rebus and
Wiltzen

Voting then occurred on Councillor Vyboh's motion:

DEFEATED:

For: Vyboh

Opposed: Carbery, Chadi, Clarkson,
Flett, Germain, Meagher,
Rebus, Slade and Wiltzen

Resolution # 07-039

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh

- THAT the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo write a letter to the Premier of Alberta asking that the Government of Alberta reconsider its position on the matter of rent control.

DEFEATED:

For: Meagher, Rebus, Slade, Vyboh,
Wiltzen

Opposed: Carbery, Chadi, Clarkson,
Flett and Germain

ADJOURNMENT:

Resolution # 07-040

MOVED by Councillor Wiltzen that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER