

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICES IN FORT McMURRAY, ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2007, COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	MAYOR	M. BLAKE
	COUNCILLORS	M. ALLEN D. BLAIR M. BYRON S. CLARKSON S. GERMAIN G. JANVIER P. MEAGHER R. REBUS J. VYBOH
	CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	B. NEWELL
	CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	K. GREIG
	LEGISLATIVE OFFICER	A. ROGERS
<b>ABSENT:</b>	COUNCILLOR	J. CHADI

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**2008 CAPITAL BUDGET; 2009–2010 FINANCIAL PLAN**

Rod Burkard, Director of Corporate Services and Elsie Hutton, Senior Financial Analyst, provided an overview of the proposed 2008 Capital Budget and 2009-2012 Financial Plans. The 2008 Capital Budget totals slightly more than \$310 Million, with an additional \$153 Million in projects remaining unfunded. The Municipality's debt ratio is hovering very close to the self-imposed 85% limit, with debt servicing sitting at approximately 50%. The budget and financial plans address many projects that are desperately needed throughout the Municipality. Mr. Burkard and Ms. Hutton, along with several other members of Administration then addressed questions from Council.

The following motion was presented by Councillor Clarkson: "THAT the proposed 2008 Capital Budget in the amount of \$310,480,651, as set out in Attachment 1 – Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 2008-2012 Capital Budget and Financial Plan, dated December 10, 2007, be approved."

The following motion was presented by Councillor Germain: "THAT the 2008 capital budget be amended by allocating \$600,000 from the Capital Infrastructure Reserve in 2008 to fund the Miskanaw Golf Course Rehabilitation."

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2007

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It was noted that Administration will be bringing a number of issues forward in the first quarter of 2008, and it was suggested it might be more beneficial to consider the issue at that time, as it would enable Administration to fully review the matter and prepare a report for consideration.

Resolution # 07-425

MOVED by Councillor Allen that the Miskanaw Golf Course funding issue be referred to administration for review and preparation of a report for Council's consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolution # 07-426

MOVED by Councillor Vyboh that the 2008 Capital Budget be amended by allocating \$1 Million from the Capital Infrastructure Reserve for the Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program.

Administration expressed concern with respect to capacity to undertake additional projects and suggested that continuing with the current program of undertaking repairs as needed might be a better fit at this time.

DEFEATED

For: Vyboh

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

**EXIT**

Councillor Blair left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Voting then occurred on the original motion:

Resolution # 07-427

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson that the proposed 2008 Capital Budget in the amount of \$310,480,651, as set out in Attachment 1 – Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 2008-2012 Capital Budget and Financial Plan, dated December 10, 2007, be approved.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Germain

**RETURN**

Councillor Blair returned to the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Resolution # 07-428

MOVED by Councillor Germain that the proposed 2009–2012 Capital Financial Plan, as set out in Attachment 1 – Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 2008-2012 Capital Budget and Financial Plan, dated December 10, 2007, be used as the basis for development of the respective subsequent budgets.

CARRIED

For: Allen, Blair, Blake, Clarkson,  
Germain, Meagher, Rebus

Opposed: Byron, Janvier, Vyboh

### RECESS

A recess was held from 7:40 p.m. until 7:54 p.m.

### 2008 OPERATING BUDGET: 2009 – 2010 FINANCIAL PLAN

Rod Burkard, Director of Corporate Services and Elsie Hutton, Senior Financial Analyst, provided an overview of the proposed 2008 Operating Budget and 2009-2010 Financial Plans. The 2008 Operating Budget includes a significant staffing increase, however, the Municipality will be challenged to recruit professionals with the require competencies. At the present time, the Municipality has more staff than available space, therefore, the new positions cannot be hired until accommodations have been put in place. At this time, it is anticipated that a 3% increase in taxes will be required to balance the budget, however, all alternate funding avenues will be explored before implementing any taxation increase. Mr. Burkard and Ms. Hutton, along with several other members of Administration then addressed questions from Council.

#### Resolution # 07-429

MOVED by Councillor Byron that the proposed 2008 Operating Budget in the amount of \$290,173,165, as set out in Attachment 1 – Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 2008 Operating Budget, dated December 10, 2007, be approved.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Byron

#### Resolution # 07-430

MOVED by Councillor Meagher that the proposed 2009–2010 Financial Plan in the amounts of \$358,061,484 and \$397,811,658 respectively, as set out in Attachment 2 – Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 2008 Operating Budget, 2009-2010 Financial Plan, dated December 10, 2007, be used as the basis for the development of the respective subsequent budgets.

CARRIED

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

**FORT MCMURRAY REGIONAL LANDFILL – CELL 1, PHASE II AWARD**

Resolution # 07-431

MOVED by Councillor Clarkson:

- THAT interim funding for the Fort McMurray Regional Landfill – Cell 1, Phase II in the amount of \$2,458,160.00 be approved from Capital Infrastructure Reserve.
- THAT in the event the Provincial grant funding is received, the Capital Infrastructure Reserve will be repaid.
- THAT tender QU1925 - Fort McMurray Regional Landfill – Cell 1, Phase II be awarded to In-Line Contracting Ltd. in the amount of \$2,458,160.00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Resolution # 07-432

MOVED by Councillor Allen that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF LEGISLATIVE OFFICER