

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BLACK
DIAMOND, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD APRIL 29, 2009
AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE**

PRESENT: Mayor Sharlene Brown
Councillors Tyler Bray, Sharon Hart, Michel Jackson, Bill Price, Mike Ross and Judy Thomson
Town Manager Joanne Irwin, Fire Chief Jamie Campbell

ORDER: Mayor Sharlene Brown called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ITEMS: **Budgets**
Fire Chief Jamie Campbell presented Council with some additional information on the proposed Aerial Fire Truck (capital budget item) that he had recently travelled to the United States to inspect. Fire Chief Campbell provided Council with a powerpoint presentation containing numerous pictures of the 1994 aerial and advised Council that while he had called and questioned the company selling the aerial about the measurements of the vehicle (before arranging to travel and view it) and had been assured that the information posted on the website was accurate, when he physically measured the truck, it was not the 29” that had been advised and in fact, was too long to park in the Fire Hall without a small addition being done. The company selling the fire truck realized that the error was theirs and assured Chief Campbell that they would of course cover the air fare and hotel accommodations whether the Town ultimately decided to consider purchasing the vehicle or not. Chief Campbell further advised Council that the rest of the vehicle’s condition was very good and that he was completely in favour of continuing with the purchase. He advised Council that he considers that a 12’ x 17’ addition to the south bay of the Fire Hall (to the west so as not to disturb the existing parking lot, etc.) would be the most prudent way to accommodate the vehicle. Further, he estimates that the cost of the addition should not exceed \$5,000.00 as the entire Fire Department stands ready as volunteers and that includes the majority, if not all, of the trades people that may be required. He further advised Council that he has those funds available, from both a separate fund that the department has raised from working casinos, to not purchasing a few items in this current budget if necessary. In addition to this, he advised that the company selling the vehicle had further offered to reduce the cost of the vehicle by \$3,000.00 US to add an additional cushion, in view of this dilemma being their error. Chief Campbell answered several of Council’s questions and advised that the west side of the Fire Hall is wood etc., and is not bricked, so that is why the actual cost is relatively low. When questioned why the Town is not considering a larger vehicle, if we have to do an addition anyway, Chief Campbell

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advised that in Canada the only vehicle he had found that was comparable was a 102' high platform vehicle (not an aerial) and that the purchase price of that vehicle was \$475,000.00 Canadian. The aerial that is under discussion is what will reach what we have now. Further, both the towns of Okotoks and High River have 75' aerials now, and consider them to be adequate for their needs.

Res. 2009-166

Moved by Councillor Jackson that Council agree to proceed with the purchase of the 1994 Simon Duplex 75' LTI Quint, as the previous concerns regarding this fire truck have now been satisfied; and that Council further agree to authorize Fire Chief Jamie Campbell to proceed with an addition to the west wall of the south bay at the Fire Hall as discussed, obtaining all development, building permits etc., as is necessary, and with Fire Chief Campbell providing the funds for the addition from the sources mentioned; and that Council further agree to authorize Administration to use existing reserves to bridge finance the debenture issue which will be funded in mid-June, and then to use the debenture to pay back the impacted reserves.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Fire Chief Campbell left immediately following his presentation at 9:50 a.m.

Town Manager Joanne Irwin the provided Council with an updated Budget Comparison sheet of all of the budgets previously presented and identified some minor changes that had been made to a few of the budgets. These changes included:

- ◆ the anticipated 2009 MSI Operating grant Project Profile that had previously been viewed in the Administration budget as income to offset expenses, would now be \$21,213.00 (slightly higher);
- ◆ the EDC budget had been amended to include \$1080.00 for a photo contest, \$5000.00 for the Tourist Information Booth, the Parade expenses had been reduced slightly and the fringe festival and chili cook-off line items had been reduced to zero, \$12,200.00 were brought in from reserves to purchase the proposed mall signs and expenses increased as well by 12,200.00, as requested by Mayor Brown. The net result of these changes to that budget was zero.
- ◆ The Legislation budget income was increased to allow for \$1225.00 to come from reserves to cover the previously unknown cost of the hosting of the CRP breakfast on April 24, 2009. The expenses were increased as well, so the net result of these changes to that budget was zero.

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Recess

Res. 2009-167

Moved by Councillor Michel Jackson that Council agree to recess the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Reconvene

Res. 2009-168

Moved by Mayor Sharlene Brown that Council agree to reconvene the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Town Manager Joanne Irwin provided Council with the three viable options that she had calculated for their consideration and discussion, and outlined the impact that each of the various options would have on the tax owing for 9 properties chosen from throughout the town ranging in value from lower priced residences up through to a 2-3 year old residential property. She also advised council that any other combination of scenarios could be discussed, as the pertinent information was on a spreadsheet and so numbers could be entered and the impact reviewed. Ms. Irwin also provided Council with the Capital Budget request for 2009 for their consideration. It was noted that a few of the capital projects are grant dependant, and may either have to be re-considered at a later date for alternate financing if the grant applied for is unsuccessful, or held over for another year. After much discussion, Council decided to reduce the total amount being requested for reserves for Parks and Recreation, the Arena and Public Works (streetlight reserve) and to increase the road repairs line item, so that Public Works could ensure some of the roads in town that are in much need of repair are done. The net reduction (after other sources of revenue factored in) between the total amount requested as compared to the total amount provided via the budgets was \$122,390.00.

Res. 2009-169

Moved by Councillor Tyler Bray that Council agree to approve the proposed operating and capital budgets as follows:

Operating:

department	2009 Revenue	2009 Expenses	2009 Net from taxes
Council	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 129,995.00	\$128,760.00
Admin	\$ 305,920.00	\$ 674,358.00	\$368,438.00
Fire	\$ 80,435.00	\$ 200,239.00	\$119,804.00
Emerg Mgmt	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 136,450.00	\$ 11,450.00
EMS/Fire	\$ -	\$ 36,792.00	\$ 36,792.00
Stars	\$ -	\$ 1,986.00	\$ 1,986.00
Bylaw	\$ 89,800.00	\$ 205,845.00	\$116,045.00
Building	\$ 73,450.00	\$ 73,450.00	\$ -
PW-Common	\$ 25,543.00	\$ 126,708.00	\$101,165.00
PW Storm	\$ -	\$ 31,694.00	\$ 31,694.00

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PW Roads	\$	90,600.00	\$	554,033.00	\$463,433.00
PW Water	\$	459,420.00	\$	459,420.00	\$ -
PW Sewer	\$	410,000.00	\$	410,000.00	\$ -
PW Garbage	\$	141,000.00	\$	141,000.00	\$ -
FCSS	\$	82,024.00	\$	100,694.00	\$ 18,670.00
Cemetery	\$	-	\$	42,683.00	\$ 42,683.00
Planning	\$	60,000.00	\$	126,599.00	\$ 66,599.00
EDC	\$	59,284.77	\$	125,119.77	\$ 65,835.00
Twin Arenas	\$	217,494.00	\$	522,065.00	\$304,571.00
Recreation	\$	3,500.00	\$	215,438.00	\$211,938.00
Library	\$	-	\$	54,896.00	\$ 54,896.00
Marigold	\$	-	\$	9,334.00	\$ 9,334.00
Special Proj.	\$	3,700.00	\$	44,000.00	\$ 40,300.00
DARE	\$	-	\$	3,182.00	\$ 3,182.00

Capital:

Department	Income	Source	Expense
Administration	146,895.00	see op.budget	146,895.00
Fire	310,000.00	debenture&reserves	310,000.00
Emerg.Mgmt	125,000.00	Provincial claim	125,000.00
Bylaw	6,000.00	capital reserves	6,000.00
Recreation	16,509.00	see operating	16,509.00
Comm.Services	22,543.00	capital reserves	22,543.00
Roads	30,000.00	see operating	30,000.00
Roads	2,000.00	see operating	2,000.00
Water*	164,000.00	*dependent on grant	164,000.00
Water	11,500.00	see operating	11,500.00
Sewer	7,500.00	see operating	7,500.00
Sewer*	415,103.00	*dependent on grant	415,103.00
Water	560,000.00	Water Exploration grant & offsite levies	560,000.00

and that Council further agree that Administration is to prepare the tax bylaws.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Res. 2009-170

Moved by Councillor Sharon Hart that Council agree to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

MAYOR

TOWN MANAGER