

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BLACK
DIAMOND, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD MARCH 30, 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, Peace Officer Jim Berry (arrived at 1:16pm for presentation)

ORDER Mayor Sharlene Brown called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

ITEMS **Budgets**
Town Manager Joanne Irwin presented Council with the following proposed operating budgets:

- ◆ Legislation
- ◆ Special Projects
- ◆ Fire Department
- ◆ Disaster Services
- ◆ FREMS

Res. 2009-099 Moved by Councillor Michel Jackson that Council agree to pay the invoice received from FREMS in the amount of \$30,376.96 as presented.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

The additional operating budgets were also presented by Ms. Irwin:

- ◆ Building – Ms. Irwin advised Council that the current building permit fees had not been reviewed in approximately 9 years, and were considered to be quite low, and further that she has requested Building Inspector John Bennett to compare our rates with those of surrounding municipalities. She is also reviewing the current payment process where no funds are paid until the building permit is completed and the applicant picks up the permit. She explained that the concern arises when large commercial or condo developments make an application for a building permit, then decide not to pick it up for whatever reason. By this time, our Building Inspector has done all the work, without any remuneration for his time. Once the figures are available, she will forward it to Council with her recommendation.
- ◆ Cemetery – discussion occurred surrounding the capital plans put forward by the Cemetery Board and the fact that the MD of Foothills is considering absorbing the operations side of the Cemetery. It was agreed to reduce the amount of the capital reserve portion of the budget as it was not known at this point how much would be required, or when.
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ EDC

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The capital purchase of an aerial fire truck as proposed by the Fire Chief was also discussed in detail. Ms. Irwin confirmed that the Fire Department's capital reserves as at the end of December 2008 were \$141,907.03. Further, that an anticipated additional surplus is expected in 2008 (due to an agreement with the MD of Foothills related to the use of the existing pumper) of \$28,207.31 is expected once the year end entries are in which would total \$170,114.34 (subject to Council's approval of the year end entries to be provided). The Fire Chief has advised that all the references of the company located in the US are positive and that the aerial fire truck that he is considering is used, and is shorter than the usual aerials, and so it will fit into the fire hall, without the need for costly renovations to the fire hall. Councillor Bill Price questioned if the truck would need any special additions or amendments to it to be sure it met Canadian Standards. A further question was made by Council as to the cost anticipated for winterizing the vehicle so that it would be suitable to our climate. Ms. Irwin advised Council that she would obtain that information from Mr. Campbell and provide it to Council.

Res. 2009-100

Moved by Mayor Sharlene Brown that Council agree to recess the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Res. 2009-101

Moved by Mayor Sharlene Brown that Council agree to reconvene the meeting at 1:16 p.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Ms. Irwin and Peace Officer Jim Berry presented Council with the Protective Services budget and supporting rationale.

Res. 2009-102

Moved by Councillor Judy Thomson that Council agree to payout the existing lease on the Dodge Charger.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Councillor Sharon Hart had to leave at this point due to work responsibilities.

Ms. Irwin presented Council with the requisition requests from the Library and Marigold.

Res. 2009-103

Moved by Mayor Sharlene Brown that Council agree to pay the Library Board requisition for \$54,896.00 and the Marigold Invoice for \$9,334.20 as presented.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

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Res. 2009-104

Moved by Councillor Mike Ross that the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2009 for the wage grids as supplied by HR Group Inc., for the Town of Black Diamond employees be set at 2.16% based on the COLA used by the Local Authorities Pension Plan.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Ms. Irwin then suggested that Council consider amending the recommended wage grid for the Parks & Recreation Manager to be the same as that accepted for the Public Works Manager and supplied supporting rationale.

Res. 2009-105

Moved by Councillor Michel Jackson that Council agree to amend the wage grid established for the Parks & Recreation Manager to equal that of the Public Works Manager, given that the scope of both positions are that of Department Manager.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Ms. Irwin then advised Council that Fire Chief Campbell indicated that the aerial truck being considered was at (or would be prior to purchase) National Fire Protection Association Standards and that the estimate for equipping the vehicle for our winters would be approximately \$2000.00. Council discussed the merits of the proposal and possible funding alternatives (MSI grant vs. debenture) and decided to deliberate further during the March 31, 2009 Budget meeting.

Councillor Judy Thomson had to leave at this point due to work responsibilities.

Ms. Irwin presented Council with the proposed Administration Budget.

Res. 2009-106

Moved by Councillor Tyler Bray that Council agree to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

MAYOR

TOWN MANAGER