

TOWN OF RIMBEY

TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY JANUARY 10TH, 2006 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

Call to Order Mayor, Dale Barr, called the regular council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Mayor Dale Barr
Councillor Rhonda Rae Stewart Tarney
Councillor Dave Huff
Councillor Wayne Clark
Councillor David Karroll
Town Manager – Russ Wardrope
Municipal Treasurer – Bernice Birtsch
Recreation Director – Rick Kreklewich
Recording Secretary – Melissa Beebe
Rimbey Review – Josh Skapin

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Motion 01/06

Moved by Councillor Stewart Tarney that the Regular Council Meeting Minutes from December 13th, 2005 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Adoption of Agenda

Motion 02/06

Moved by Councillor Karroll to accept the agenda as presented with the following additions:

Reports
11.2 Town Manager's Report

Information
12.6 Town of Lac La Biche

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Reports – Municipal Treasurer

Bernice Birtsch, Municipal Treasurer, presented an overview of the financial statement for the month ending December 2005. Processing of December expenses and revenues is expected to be completed by the end of January. The Annual Audit will begin on January 24th.

Motion 03/06

Moved by Councillor Clark to accept the Municipal Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 2005.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Reports – Recreation

Rick Kreklewich, Recreation Director, presented a report for the month ending December on the following:

- Offered a lot of public and shimmy skating time during the holidays but attendance was low and will reevaluate schedules for next year.
- New Years eve celebration was a huge success with approximately 300 in attendance.
- Community Christmas party had a reasonable attendance and will be reviewing options to have more local business participation in the event.

Motion 04/06

Moved by Councillor Karroll to accept Recreation Services report as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Delegation – Jack Webb owner “Monteray Jacks”

Jack Webb owner of Monteray Jack’s presented concerns regarding the no smoking law brought down by the provincial government. They are as follows:

- Some smoking customers are refusing to come back.
- Lounges are picking up the smoking business, which creates an unfair playing field.
- Advised that Smoking area has to be self-contained with own ventilation system.
- Advised that separate staff is required for smoking area.

Mr. Webb has investigated the no smoking policies and acknowledges the economic and enforcement concerns arising from a Municipal Bylaw. As a business owner I would not have voluntarily made it non smoking. I am asking Council to bring in a gold standard bylaw for the town to make it a level playing field.

Mayor commented that Council has deliberated on the smoking issue and believe it to be a health issue. Health care is a responsibility of the province not the municipality. Enforcement becomes an issue since smaller municipalities do not have the resources to enforce a non-smoking bylaw. The RCMP are responsible for enforcement of a Provincial statute such as the Smoke Free Act. Citizens need to express to the province and the MLA’s their concerns in regards to the provincial law and whether to change it to make a level playing field for all of Alberta.

Mr Webb thanked council for their time and expressed his hope that the Smoke Free Act would not have a negative impact on his business since the guidelines of this law are very vague.

Mayor Barr and Council thanked Mr. Webb for his presentation and indicated that we should allow the province time to implement the new act. Council recommended that we submit another letter to Alberta Health supporting that the smoking ban bylaw be changed to a gold standard across the province.

Motion 05/06

Moved by Councillor Karroll that a letter be submitted to Alberta Health supporting the Smoking Free Act be enforced to a gold standard across the province.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

2006 Interim Budget

Under the requirements of the Municipal Government Act, Municipal Treasurer provided an interim operating budget in the amount of \$575,000.00 to accommodate routine operations, pending finalization of the 2006 Operating budget.

Motion 06/06

Moved by Councillor Stewart Tarney to approve the interim operating budget in the amount of \$575,000.00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Reports - Council

The following reports were provided by Council:

Councillor Karroll

- The Town Open House was not well attended and the program should be re-evaluated in terms of location and promotion prior to any future plans.

Councillor Clark

- Youth Centre is set to open up the week of January 9th.

Councillor Huff

- Nothing to report

Councillor Stewart Tarney

- Nothing to report

Mayor Dale Barr

- The provincial government released 1.2 million to assist a private company in development of supportive living housing in Ponoka. Rimoka's submission that was rejected was 500,000 less than what was awarded to a commercial venture. A joint inter-municipal letter to the Minister and MLA is being drafted to register the municipal concern.
- Like to Thank Bernice Birtsch and the rest of the town staff for the work they did on the raffle that was a great success. The project is moving ahead. Again thank you and thank you to council for their support.

Motion 07/06

Moved by Councillor Clark to accept Council and Mayor's reports as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Report – Town
Manager's

The following report was provided by the Town Manager:

Supportive Living Project

- Provincial Government has allocated 1.2 million to a private firm to develop a 20 supportive living unit in Ponoka and not to the Rimoka Foundation.

All Candidates Forum

- Federal Election all candidates forum will be held Thursday, January 19th in the Community Centre at 7:00 pm.

Work in Progress

- Road Signs application for the Rimbey highway sign replacement was approved and replacement will start in the spring.
- Recycling requires a consolidation into a single all encompassing project. Require a needs assessment to be completed and then a comprehensive recycling program put into effect.

Future Planning

- Council will need to set aside days for budget and strategic planning sessions.

Motion 08/06

Moved by Councillor Huff to accept Town Manager's Report as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Information Items

Motion 09/06

Moved by Councillor Clark that the following items be accepted as information:

- AUMA Urban Perspective
- AUMA Notes to Council-December 2005
- 2006 Great Kids Award
- FCM – Election Alert
- Power Transmission Tariff Increases
- Town of Lac La Biche

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Recess

Mayor Barr called a short recess at 7:20 p.m.

Josh Skapin withdrew from meeting.

Reconvene

Mayor Dale Barr called meeting back to order at 7:30 p.m.

Into Camera

Mayor Barr asked that the meeting go into camera to discuss development and personnel issues.

Motion 10/06

Moved by Councillor Stewart Tarney that the meeting move into camera at 7:35 pm with all council present.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Out of Camera

Motion 11/06

Moved by Councillor Stewart Tarney that the meeting move out of camera at 9:10 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

Adjournment

Motion 12/06

Moved by Councillor Huff that the meeting be adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

MAYOR

TOWN MANAGER