

CITY OF MELFORT

March 7, 2005

Minutes of the City of Melfort Regular Meeting held on Monday, March 7, 2005, in the Council Chambers, Melfort, Saskatchewan, commencing at 5:03 p.m.

PRESENT: COUNCIL: Mayor Collins and Aldermen Lang, Abbott, White, Terry, Degelman and MacNaughton.

STAFF: J. Wade, City Manager; K. Ottenbreit, Director of Planning, Development & Leisure Services; D. Graham, Director of Works & Utilities and H. Audette, City Clerk.

05-39
Degelman
Lang

MINUTES, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2005:

That the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on February 14, 2005, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

05-40
Lang
Degelman

REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN 2005 REVENUE SHARING:

WHEREAS revenue sharing was introduced by the Government of Saskatchewan as an innovative and forward thinking program in the 1970s to provide alternate sources of revenues to Saskatchewan communities from the broader tax revenues of the Province to fund community services, programs and activities to sustain their economic, environmental, cultural and social quality of life based on community choices and priorities; and

WHEREAS in the early 1990s, the Government of Saskatchewan was faced with significant fiscal challenges and requested all Saskatchewan residents, including urban municipalities, to bear the burden of fiscal recovery, which was readily accepted as a necessity by all Saskatchewan communities and this required significant reductions in the revenue sharing available to Saskatchewan communities that necessitated property tax increases, service reductions or deferral of capital expenditures; and

WHEREAS the Government of Saskatchewan, with the \$30 million (\$10 million increase per year) increase they have provided over the past three years, has recognized the need for increased funding to municipalities from the broader Provincial tax base as the Provincial financial position and economy improves; and

WHEREAS it is widely recognized that communities like the City of Melfort need financial stability, predictability, and autonomy to fulfill their community expectations for capacity building and decision-making to sustain the environmental, economic, social and cultural growth of their communities and Saskatchewan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Melfort request the Provincial Government:

1. To continue on the path of reinstating the Revenue Sharing pool to an appropriate level by adding a further \$10 million to the Revenue Sharing pool for 2005.
2. To provide for the appropriate share of the additional \$10 million to the Cities Pool, based on per capita distribution.

3. To commit to working with the Saskatchewan City Mayors Caucus, SUMA and all Saskatchewan Municipalities to develop a formula-based revenue sharing pool, utilizing the provincial tax base indices of personal income, corporate income, fuel and retail sales, that will be predictable and grow as the economy of the Province grows. **Carried**

GENERAL SUNDRY COMMUNICATION ITEMS

1. Jan. 17/05: Minutes of the NE Area Transport Planning Committee.
2. Feb. 17/05: Annual Meeting . June 1; Membership fee due.
3. Feb. 17/05: Minutes of Melfort & District Museum Board.
4. Feb. 23/05: News Release re: Federal Budget %New Deal+
5. Feb. 23/05: FCM Advisory re: %New Deal+
6. 2005 Federal Budget Highlights . Meyers Norris Penny

TAX COLLECTION COMPARATIVE STATEMENT – DEC. 2004/JAN. 2005

MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT – FEBRUARY, 2005

REPORT – FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- The auditors have completed their on-site work and will be meeting with the Treasurer this week.
- Tax Installment Prepayment customers now total approximately 300.
- The Departments will be fine tuning their budgets over the next few weeks.

05-41
Terry
Lang

MINUTES, LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MARCH 1, 2005:

That the minutes of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee meeting held March 1, 2005, be received. **Carried**

05-42
Terry
Lang

APPROVE ICE BOOKING POLICY NO. 7.08:

That the City of Melfort Policy No. 7.08, entitled "*Ice Booking Policy*", be approved as circulated. **Carried**

REPORT – DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & LEISURE SERVICES

- The Main Arena is now shut down and spring maintenance has started on it.
- The Centennial Canada Day celebrations will be held at the Museum this year.
- The Community Development Manager has been attending various trade shows, including Saskatoon, Regina and Lloydminster.
- The Department has submitted the 2005-06 application for the Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program.
- The Leisure Services Advisory Committee is assisting in developing the community needs survey.

MUNICIPAL POLICING REPORT – JANUARY, 2005

- Alderman Degelman questioned the amount of overtime on the January report. The City Manager offered to circulate a report from the RCMP explaining how overtime is calculated and billed out to municipalities.

REPORT – DIRECTOR OF WORKS & UTILITIES

- Crews have been busy undertaking fire hydrant repairs on McLeod Ave. E., sewer repairs on Stovel and Millburn, snow removal around schools, thawing catch basins and preparing for spring in the shop.
- The Department has been working on the MRIF grant application.
- Alderman Terry reported that a change in wind direction resulted in the smoke from a controlled burn at the landfill moving into the city last week.

**05-43
Abbott
Degelman**

ACCOUNTS:

That we approve for payment general cheque numbers 1725 to 1851 inclusive, in the total amount of \$677,191.39. **Carried**

The City Manager advised Council of the AON presentation to be held on March 16th at 10:00 a.m. at the North East Leisure Centre. Lunch will be provided.

**05-44
Degelman
Abbott**

ADJOURNMENT:

That this meeting be adjourned. **Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk