

CITY OF MELFORT

June 11, 2007

Minutes of the City of Melfort Regular Meeting held on Monday, June 11, 2007, in the Council Chambers, Melfort, Saskatchewan, commencing at 5:02 p.m.

PRESENT: COUNCIL: Mayor Phillips and Councillors Lang, White, Elliott, Abbott and Degelman.

STAFF: J. Wade, City Manager; C. Stevenson, City Treasurer; G. Hnatiuk, Director of Works & Utilities; K. Ottenbreit, Director of Planning, Development & Leisure Services and H. Audette, City Clerk.

07-168
Lang
Degelman

MINUTES, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, MAY 14, 2007:

That the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of the City of Melfort held on May 14, 2007, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

DELEGATION

On behalf of the North East Crisis Centre, Ms. Kelsi Carswell appeared before Council to request a tax exemption similar to that extended to other community non-profit organizations. She advised that their taxes were \$1,858.41 in 2006 and are now \$4,687.99 in 2007 due to a reassessment to the commercial class. The North East Crisis Centre previously was denied a tax exemption in 2003 as Council felt their services were a provincial responsibility. Ms. Carswell advised that the Department of Community Resources provides no financial assistance for property tax. The budget received from DCR is not sufficient and the organization fundraises to meet the deficit each year. She urged Council to revisit this issue.

The City Treasurer reported that in the past, this property had been improperly assessed as residential rather than commercial, therefore, the accuracy of the assessment is correct and there are no grounds for appeal. Mayor Phillips thanked the Crisis Centre for their presentation and referred the request to the Legislative & Finance Committee.

07-169
Abbott
Degelman

APPROVE PARTICIPATION IN DUTCH ELM DISEASE COST SHARE PROGRAM:

That we approve the City of Melfort's participation with Saskatchewan Environment, Forest Service Division, in the Dutch elm disease cost-share program from April 1, 2007, to March 31, 2008, for one-half the costs incurred in managing a Dutch elm disease program, up to a maximum provincial contribution of \$3,000.00. **Carried**

07-170
Lang
Degelman

REQUEST GOVERNMENT OF CANADA TO SHARE 1¢ OF THE GST:

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities are looking for an updated fiscal arrangement that will diversify their revenue sources beyond the property tax, which does not respond at the same pace as growth, and provide them with the fiscal capacity to be financially sustainable;

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities generate significant wealth to support the national economy of Canada;

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities are seeking a more equitable distribution of the wealth that is generated in their communities, so that they can remain economically competitive and sustain and enhance the public infrastructure necessary to attract investment;

WHEREAS Canadian municipalities need a permanent share of growth-responsive revenues to assist local governments in addressing many of the challenges they are currently facing, such as: ageing and insufficient infrastructure, growing responsibilities, increasing social and environmental pressures, rapid urbanization and the lack of sufficient financial resources.

WHEREAS in 2003, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities adopted a resolution calling on the federal government to establish revenue-sharing options, beyond sharing of the gas tax revenue, to support municipal responsibilities;

WHEREAS The Government of Canada has acknowledged that it intends to restore fiscal balance among all orders of government;

WHEREAS The Government of Canada continues to record large annual budgetary surpluses;

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Melfort supports FCM in calling upon the Government of Canada to annually share the equivalent of one cent of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues with Canadian municipalities, which would yield approximately \$5 billion per year for all municipalities in Canada. **Carried**

07-171
Abbott
Degelman

ALLOCATE POPULATION FOR BUILDING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM:

WHEREAS, the Government of Saskatchewan's Building Communities Program will provide \$100 million dollars to support the rehabilitation, renovation, retrofitting and new construction of cultural and recreational infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS, the Building Communities Program is designed to benefit regional partnerships and ensure the on-going sustainability of cultural and recreational infrastructure based on a regional plan. A further objective of the Program is to meet the cultural, social and recreational needs of provincial residents by assisting communities in developing and improving basic cultural and recreational infrastructure that contribute to the region's and the province's economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS, the construction of a cultural facility in the North East, including a performing and visual arts element, banquet area and meeting rooms, will improve the ability of the region to attract quality performances and large-scale conventions, creating provincial and national exposure of the North East, resulting in increased economic, social and cultural spin-off benefits for the entire region;

AND WHEREAS, all submissions must include a minimum of three eligible partners that are representative of the region, which includes all municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, First Nations, private contributors, or other public sector organizations with municipal support;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Melfort endorses the regional partnership proposal and agrees to allocate 100% of our population to this project to acquire a per capita contribution from the Building Communities Program. **Carried**

07-172
Degelman
Abbott

APPOINT RESIDENTIAL GROWTH COMMITTEE:

That we approve the following appointments to the Residential Growth Committee, with terms expiring on December 31, 2008:

Councillor Rick Lang, Chairperson
Ralph Paquin, North East School Division
Richelle Rogers, Real Estate
Colleen Ratcliffe, Real Estate
Gord Dmytryk, Chamber of Commerce
Ruth Penner, Member-at-Large
Treena Edwards, Member-at-Large
Shelley Tomlinson, Member-at-Large **Carried**

07-173
White
Elliott

REQUEST TO ENACT PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL C-417:

WHEREAS Canada has yet to properly honour, in a suitable location that is always accessible to the public, the names of all of our Fallen in wars and peacekeeping;

AND WHEREAS, over 115,000 Fallen have their graves in seventy-three countries and hundreds of cemeteries;

AND WHEREAS their remains, by law, cannot be repatriated to Canada;

AND WHEREAS we must create a suitable national shrine to our Fallen;

AND WHEREAS proper recognition will show our gratitude and respect for their sacrifice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Melfort, with the support of the Royal Canadian Legion Melfort Branch No. 30, request that the Government of Canada enact Private Members Bill C-417, the Canadian Soldiersqand Peacekeepersq Memorial Wall Act. **Carried**

07-174
Lang
Abbott

ENDORSE CITY MAYORS' DRAFT LETTER ON TILMA:

That Melfort City Council endorse the draft letter on the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) to be forwarded to the Provincial Standing Committee on the Economy via the City MayorsqCaucus.

And further, that Council approve the financial participation of the City of Melfort in the study of TILMA by the Cities, up to a maximum of \$5,000, to be funded from the Economic Development StudqContingency Reserve. **Carried**

GENERAL SUNDRY COMMUNICATION ITEMS

1. June 14/07: Registration for SUMA NE Reg Mtg . Porcupine Plain.
2. Apr. 13/07: Minutes of NE Area Transportation Planning Committee.
3. May 24/07: Notice of FCM 2007 Annual General Meeting . Calgary.
4. May 17/07: Minutes of the Melfort & District Museum Board.
5. Feb. 22/07: Minutes of the N. Central Transportation Planning Com.

6. June 4/07: Notice of ChildrensqWishmaker Parade . October 13. Council has no objection to the proposed parade route.
7. May 30/07: Sask Water Supply System 2006 Consumer Notification. The 2006 Annual Report is available in the Councillorsqroom.
8. June 6/07: Mayorq thank you letter to Cancer Society re: Relay for Life. Council commended the City staff and 400 volunteers who made the Relay a huge success.
9. May 24/07: Letter from Parkland Place re: handivan service. Referred to the Special Needs Transit Committee.

TAX COLLECTION COMPARATIVE STATEMENT – MAY, 2007

REPORT – CITY TREASURER

- A total of 2,309 tax notices were mailed out May 24th, accompanied by 2,152 assessment notices issued to taxpayers who experienced a change in assessment. SAMA held an open house on June 5, 2007.
- The Treasurer attended the Sask. GFOA Conference in Estevan. The main topics of discussion were tangible capital assets, MAIS and the 2009 income approach.
- Don Graham has been contracted to assist with data collection and condition rating, which is the first step in documenting tangible capital assets.

07-175
Abbott
Degelman

MINUTES, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, JUNE 6, 2007:

That the minutes of the Planning & Development Committee meeting held on June 6, 2007, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

Clause No. 4 of the CODAC minutes dated June 7, 2007, was corrected by deleting the word %May+ and substituting the word %2007+ and deleting the number %5+ and substituting the number %2+, both in the second sentence

07-176
Degelman
Abbott

MINUTES, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, JUNE 7, 2007:

That the minutes of the Community Development Advisory Committee meeting held on June 7, 2007, be received. **Carried**

07-177
Abbott
Degelman

MINUTES, RESIDENTIAL GROWTH COMMITTEE, JUNE 7, 2007:

That the minutes of the Residential Growth Committee meeting held on June 7, 2007, be received. **Carried**

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT – MAY, 2007

BYLAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT – MAY, 2007

The revision and enforcement of the Cat Bylaw was referred to the Works & Utilities Committee for discussion.

07-178
Abbott
Degelman

APPROVE POLICY 7.23 - RESIDENTIAL TAX TITLE INCENTIVE POLICY:

That we approve the new City of Melfort Policy 7.23, entitled %Residential Tax Title Incentive Policy+, as attached. **Carried**

07-179
Degelman
Abbott

APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF ACCESSORY BUILDING – 708 SASK AVE E:

That we, the Council for the City of Melfort, approve the building of a 20qX 20qaccessory structure to be located at 708 Saskatchewan Avenue East;

Further, that this approval be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the Building Official's Report dated June 5, 2007 and compliance with all other Municipal, Provincial and Federal regulations and requirements;

And further, that the Proprietor of the Cara Valla Inn be notified in writing of the approval and the conditions of this approval. **Carried**

**07-180
Abbott
Degelman**

APPROVE RELOCATION OF GARAGE TO 302-306 SASK AVE W:

That we, the Council for the City of Melfort, approve the relocation of a garage from 408 Caskey Drive to 302-306 Saskatchewan Avenue West, as requested by Mr. Darren Fedusiak of Fedusiak Funeral Chapel & Crematorium Ltd.;

Further, that this approval be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the Building Official's Report dated June 5, 2007, and compliance with all other Municipal, Provincial and Federal regulations and requirements;

And further, that Mr. Fedusiak be notified in writing of the approval and the conditions of this approval. **Carried**

Councillor White declared conflict on the following resolution and left the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

**07-181
Degelman
Abbott**

APPROVE RELOCATION OF DUPLEXES INTO THE CITY:

That we, the Council for the City of Melfort, approve the relocation of two duplexes into the City of Melfort, as requested by Mr. Darrin Placsko, to an area to be determined and approved by the City of Melfort Planning & Development Department;

Further, that this approval be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the Building Official's Report dated June 7, 2007, and compliance with all municipal, provincial and federal requirements and regulations;

And further, that Mr. Placsko be notified in writing of this approval and the conditions related to this approval. **Carried Unanimously**

Councillor White returned to the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

REPORT – DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & LEISURE SERVICES

- The department has been extremely busy with land sale agreements.
- An invitation was extended to the public to participate in Canada Day activities. Saskatchewan Express will be performing at the Exhibition Grounds.
- Council and Administration wished Pool Manager, Nicole Dolezsar, the best on her resignation to start a new job in Watrous.
- The Director will pass on the praises from the public to the parks staff on the clean up of Brunswick Park.

**07-182
Elliott
White**

MINUTES, WORKS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE, MAY 17, 2007:

That the minutes of the Works & Utilities Committee meeting held May 17, 2007, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

07-183

White
Elliott**MINUTES, WORKS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE, JUNE 7, 2007:**

That the minutes of the Works & Utilities Committee meeting held on June 7, 2007, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

07-184

White
Elliott**APPROVE PURCHASE OF JOHN DEERE 410J BACKHOE/LOADER:**

That we approve the purchase of a 2007 John Deere 410J Backhoe/Loader from Brandt Tractor Ltd., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, for an amount of One Hundred and Four Thousand and Ten Dollars (\$104,010.00) plus applicable taxes. **Carried**

07-185

Elliott
White**AWARD TENDER FOR 2007 PAVING PROGRAM:**

That the City of Melfort award the 2007 Paving Program tender to Barzeele & Burkosky Ltd., Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, in accordance with their tender bid of One Hundred and Thirty Thousand, Six Hundred and Ninety-eight Dollars (\$130,698.00), GST included. **Carried**

MUNICIPAL POLICING REPORT – APRIL, 2007**REPORT – DIRECTOR OF WORKS & UTILITIES**

- Since the last report, the crew has dug 6 graves, repaired 3 water line breaks, replaced a sewer line and painted school crosswalks. Hole Works Trenching replaced 2 sewer service lines.
- The Director attended a local improvement workshop in Saskatoon.
- Work on spring clean-up began on Friday.
- Preparations are underway for the dust control program.
- Spring sweeping has been completed. The department continues to grade problem areas.
- The Director complimented the Girl Guides on their super job of collecting litter around the landfill.
- The sewer line problem on Park Avenue was the result of a poor installation. The department has decided to camera to the main line before any new services are hooked up.

At 6:18 p.m., the City Treasurer left the meeting and Councillor White declared conflict on the following resolution and left the Chambers.

07-186

Abbott
Degelman**BYLAW 2007-18:**

That Bylaw No. 2007-18, being a bylaw to amend Zoning Bylaw 96-09 to rezone proposed new subdivided Lot 34, Block 50 from C1 . Commercial to R2 . Medium Density Residential, be introduced and read a first time. **Carried**

Councillor White returned to the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

07-187

Lang
Abbott**ACCOUNTS:**

That we approve for payment general cheques 7804 to 8006, inclusive, in the total amount of \$341,423.40. **Carried**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Councillor White reported that the Citizens on Patrol Program has been operational for two weekends and is working well. Applications for volunteers are available at the RCMP Detachment.
- The Recreation Department was commended on their preparations for the Ducks Unlimited Fastpitch Shootout held at Spruce Haven Ball Park.
- Thanks were extended to the volunteers constructing the dugouts at Spruce Haven Ball Park and to the Winter Games Committee for providing funding.
- Mayor Phillips reported on his attendance at the Management meeting this morning and thanked the Community Development Manager for his good work.
- The Mayor attended a reception for the RCMP Musical Ride.

07-188
Abbott
Lang

ADJOURNMENT:

That this meeting be adjourned. **Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk