

MINUTES

Of the Finance & Economic Development Committee meeting held Tuesday, 29 November 2011 at 9:00 a.m., at the MD Office, with the following persons present:

Councillors: Dene Cooper, Chairman Paul Ryan
 Erik Butters Reid Thomas
 Carolyn Montgomery

Administration: Martin Buckley, C.A.O.
 Katherine Van Keimpema, Director of Finance
 Natalie Germann, Executive Assistant
 Greg Birch, Assistant Municipal Manager

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

A. AGENDA

Moved by E. Butters that the agenda be adopted with the following additions:

- Information Item F.2: Additional Hosting Fee Information
- Information Item F.3: Draft Roads Work Plan and Estimated Costs
- Information Item F.4: Seniors' Housing Update
- In Camera Item G1: Land

CARRIED

B. MINUTES

1. Moved by P. Ryan that the minutes of the 15 November 11 Finance & Economic Development Committee meeting be adopted as amended:
- 2.

Page 2, Paragraph 5: change to read:

“The Committee said Administration should monitor the situation and leave the upgrade on hold until after the infiltration report is received and the Committee can make a recommendation on the Exshaw Lagoon Upgrade.”

CARRIED

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES/NOTES

1. The Committee discussed the proposed Exshaw Generator Project. Questions included the weekly generator testing and who would be responsible for it, if the project should be scaled back, and if the generator was a “want to have” or a “need to have”.

The decision was reached that the emergency generator would remain in the budget with funds to come from reserves.

2. The Proposal for Future Provision of FCSS, Recreation and Culture Services was discussed. The Committee agreed that further assessment of the Community Services Needs Study should be done to determine what services should be increased. Until that time, the Committee agreed that a half-time contractor could be hired after the current Community Services Coordinator has left.
3. The Draft 2012 Capital Budget was reviewed. The Committee directed Administration to revise the draft budget to show a tax increase of no more than 5 percent over the 2011 tax revenues, use of no more than \$100,000 from the Tax Rate Stabilization Fund reserve account, with the balance to come from operating reserves and other sources as needed.

D. DELEGATIONS

Richard Pauls of EcDev Solutions Ltd. discussed the MD of Bighorn's Business Directory/Import Substitution Project Final Report with the Committee.

Two databases were compiled, one of businesses within the MD and another of possible tourism providers from outside of the MD. Mr. Pauls said the databases should be posted on the MD website and said keeping the databases up to date should not be a difficult undertaking.

Other information in the report related to local business spending can be used to attract new business that could fill in the gaps outside businesses are now servicing, Mr. Pauls suggested.

E. FINANCE

F. INFORMATION

1. The Committee reviewed the Projected Roads Capital Expenditures 2012 – 2015: Reserves Needed report.
2. The Committee discussed the Community Enhancement Reserves History report: it was decided to review the policy on this reserve account at the next Council strategic planning session.
3. The Committee reviewed the Roads Work Plan and Estimated Costs chart, and received same as information.
4. R. Thomas gave an update on Bow Valley Regional Housing and a proposal submitted to them regarding seniors' housing. That project included a building with several stages of care from high-end apartment rentals to assisted living units.

G. INCAMERA

Moved by C. Montgomery that the Committee go in camera at 2:10 p.m.

Moved by E Butters that the Committee come out of camera at 2:16 p.m.

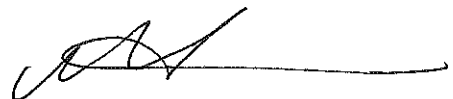
ADJOURNMENT – NEXT MEETING DATE

Next meeting: **Tuesday, January 24, 9:00 a.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.



CHAIRPERSON



SECRETARY