

COUNCIL MEETING – BUDGET MINUTES

November 10, 12, 18, 23 & 30, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Council Chamber
401 Festival Lane
Sherwood Park, AB

Members Present: Rod Frank, Mayor
Robert Parks, Ward 1
Members of Council attended via electronic means or in person as required. Dave Anderson, Ward 2
Brian Botterill, Ward 3
Bill Tonita, Ward 4
Paul Smith, Ward 5
Linton Delaine, Ward 6
Glen Lawrence, Ward 7
Katie Berghofer, Ward 8

Administration Present: Darrell Reid, Chief Commissioner
Greg Yeomans, Chief Financial Officer
Don Legge, Acting Chief Financial Officer (*November 23*)
Gord Johnston, Assoc. Commissioner, Community Services
Russ Pawlyk, Acting Assoc. Commissioner, Community Services (*November 12*)
Lori Cooper, Assoc. Commissioner, Corporate Services
Stacy Fedechko, Assoc. Commissioner, Infrastructure and Planning Services
Sandy Bugeja, Manager, Governance Support Services & Deputy Clerk
Susanne Semchuk, Legislative Officer

- November 12, 2020 -

2. CALL TO ORDER & TREATY 6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Frank called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with an acknowledgement that Strathcona County Council meets on the traditional lands of Treaty 6 nations – including the Blackfoot, Cree, Dene, Gros Ventres, Métis, Nakota Sioux and Saulteaux, and that the indigenous people were joined by settlers and pioneers who together built this great community of Strathcona County.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1.2 Introduction and Addition and Change Sheets

The Clerk read the additional materials into the record. *See Appendix A – Additional and Replacement Material.*

2020/ CB5

Moved by B. Tonita

THAT the rules be suspended for the duration of the Council Budget Meeting pursuant to section 8.13 of the Meeting Procedures Bylaw to allow for addition of budget material, replacement pages and presentations by way of consensus; and that the Clerk be directed to note all such changes in an appendix to the minutes and to provide an update of all such changes each time the meeting is called to order, to assist members of Council and the public.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA & ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2020/ CB6

Moved by G. Lawrence

THAT the November 10, 2020 Council Budget Meeting agenda be adopted as presented.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.1 Flagged Items Process

Council was provided with an overview of the flagged items process.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 Council Budget Meeting Date Changes

2020/ CB7

Moved by K. Berghofer

THAT the start time for the November 12, 2020 Council Budget date be changed from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm; and

THAT the November 20 and 25 Council Budget dates be cancelled;

THAT Council Budget dates be added on November 23, 2020 with a start time of 1:00 p.m. and November 30, 2020 with a start time of 9:00 a.m.; and

THAT Administration provide notice of these changes to Council and the public.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

4.1 Overview of Proposed Budget

Council was provided with an overview of the proposed budget.

6. COVID-19 PRESENTATION

Council was provided with a presentation summarising the budgetary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

7. DIVISION PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Community Services Division

Council was provided with a budget presentation from the Community Services Division.

7.2 Corporate Services Division

Council was provided with a budget presentation from the Corporate Services Division.

7.3 Infrastructure and Planning Services Division

Council was provided with a budget presentation from the Infrastructure and Planning Services Division.

7.3.1 Utilities

Council was provided with a budget presentation from the Utilities Department.

7.4 Financial and Strategic Management Division

Council was provided with a budget presentation from the Financial and Strategic Management Division.

7.4.1 Fiscal Services

Council was provided with a budget presentation from Fiscal Services.

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.2 Flagged Item Votes

2020/ CB8

Moved by R. Parks

Flagged Item #1

THAT Corporate Finance provide the funding information for all open projects included in the planned capital spend (e.g. what is financed by reserves and what is financed by debt).

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

Council recessed at 4:10 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. on November 12, 2020.

- November 12, 2020 -

Mayor Frank reconvened the meeting with a Treaty 6 Acknowledgement at 1:30 p.m. with all members of Council present, with the exception of Councillor Berghofer.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1.3 Introduction and Addition and Change Sheets

The Clerk read the additional materials into the record. *See Appendix A – Additional and Replacement Material.*

10. CLOSED SESSION

2020/ CB9

Moved by B. Tonita

THAT Council meet in private to discuss matters protected from disclosure under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act* sections 24 and 25, at 1:35 p.m.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, and G. Lawrence

Carried

Councillor Berghofer joined the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

10.1 Human Resources Presentation

FOIP Section 24, advice from officials

FOIP Section 25, economic interests of the municipality

Name	Reason/ Purpose
Darrell Reid	Strategic Leader of the Organization
Lori Cooper	Strategic Leader of the Organization
Russ Pawlyk	Strategic Leader of the Organization
Greg Yeomans	Strategic Leader of the Organization
Stacy Fedechko	Strategic Leader of the Organization
Sandy Bugeja	Legislative Advice/ Clerk
Debra Smith	Presenter
Jay Bohachyk	Necessary to perform role
Don Legge	Necessary to perform role
Susanne Semchuk	Meeting support

2020/ CB10

Moved by R. Parks

THAT Council revert to open session at 2:20 p.m. and recess until 2:25 p.m.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Opposed (1): B. Botterill

Carried

7. DIVISION PRESENTATIONS

7.5 Senior Administration Division and Elected Officials

Council was provided with a budget presentation from the Senior Administration Division and Elected Officials.

11. CAPITAL BUDGET

11.1 Capital Budget Presentation

Council was provided with a presentation on the Capital Budget.

Councillor Smith left the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.3 Flagged Item Votes

Flagged Item #2

2020/ CB11

Moved by L. Delaine

THAT Corporate Finance provide detailed information on all the planned spend projects included on page 197 of the budget materials.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

Council recessed at 4:40 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. November 18, 2020.

- November 18, 2020 -

Mayor Frank reconvened the meeting with a Treaty 6 Acknowledgement at 9:01 a.m.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1.4 Introduction and Addition and Change Sheets

The Clerk read the additional materials into the record. *See Appendix A – Additional and Replacement Material.*

8. FEES, RATES AND CHARGES BYLAW

Council was provided with an introduction to the Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

12. FLAGGED ITEMS RESPONSES

12.1 Response to Flagged Items #1 and #2

Council was provided a presentation on Flagged Items #1 and #2.

13. BUDGET AND RELATED APPROVALS

13.1 Budget Discussion and Approval

Council continued its budget discussion.

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.4 Flagged Item Votes

2020/ CB12

Moved by R. Frank

Flagged Item #3

THAT Administration provide options (including impacts) for reducing the proposed 2021 Municipal Tax Dollar Increase from 1.19% to 0% for Council's consideration.

In Favor (7): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Tonita, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Opposed (2): B. Botterill, and P. Smith

Carried

9. COMMUNITY PARTNERS PRESENTATIONS

9.1 RCMP

Council was provided with a presentation from the Strathcona County RCMP.

9.2 Strathcona County Library

Council was provided with a presentation from the Strathcona County Library.

9.3 Heartland Housing Foundation

Council was provided with a presentation from the Heartland Housing Foundation.

Councillor Smith left the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.4 Flagged Item Votes

2020/ CB13

Moved by B. Tonita

Flagged Item #4

THAT Administration work with the RCMP to provide options for reducing their proposed budget request for 2021 by approximately \$500,000.

In Favor (6): R. Frank, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Opposed (2): R. Parks, and L. Delainey

Carried

14. EMERGING ITEMS

14.1 Letter of Support for the Alberta Junior Hockey League and Western Hockey League

2020/ CB14

Moved by R. Parks

THAT the rules of procedure pursuant to section 8.13 of the Meeting Procedures Bylaw be suspended to allow an addition to the Council Budget agenda related to a letter of support for the Alberta Junior Hockey League and Western Hockey League.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

2020/ CB15

Moved by R. Parks

THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, sign a letter to Minister Doug Schweitzer and Minister Leela Aheer in support of Alberta Junior Hockey League and Western Hockey League teams' request for support from the Government of Alberta related to funding during the pandemic.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

ACTION: Office of the Mayor
DUE: Immediately

Council recessed at 5:27 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. on November 23, 2020.

- November 23, 2020 -

Mayor Frank reconvened the meeting with a Treaty 6 Acknowledgement at 1:00 p.m.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1.5 Introduction and Addition and Change Sheets

The Clerk read the additional materials into the record. *See Appendix A – Additional and Replacement Material.*

12. FLAGGED ITEMS RESPONSES

12.2 Response to Flagged Item #3 and #4

Council was provided a presentation on Flagged Item #4.

2020/ CB16

Moved by B. Tonita

THAT the proposed RCMP funding request for 2021 be reduced by \$487,140 so that the total proposed RCMP funding request for 2021 is \$12,990,428.

In Favor (2): B. Tonita, and G. Lawrence

Opposed (7): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, P. Smith, L. Delainey, and K. Berghofer

Defeated

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.5 Flagged Item Votes

2020/ CB17

Moved by L. Delaine

THAT funding for the Community Broadband project in the amount of \$850,000 be removed from the proposed 2021 Operating Budget, and that the amounts for 2021-OPS-43 be deferred to future years.

Withdrawn

Councillor Delaine withdrew the motion with the consent of Council.

2020/ CB18

Moved by P. Smith

Flagged Item #5

THAT Information and Technology Services provide more information on the projected year over year Capital and Operating costs of the Community Broadband Project as well as information on at what points in the project Council will be able to provide input and make decisions on proceeding with the project.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Opposed (1): B. Botterill

Carried

12. FLAGGED ITEMS RESPONSES

12.2 Response to Flagged Item #3 and #4

Council was provided a presentation on Flagged Item #3.

2020/ CB19

Moved by L. Delaine

THAT Administration proceed with implementing "Option 4 – Hybrid," as set out on slide 8 of the November 23, 2020 Council Budget presentation "2021-2024 Multi-Year Budget: Addressing the Proposed Tax Rate Increase," in preparing the proposed 2021 budget motions for Council's consideration.

In Favor (6): R. Frank, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Opposed (3): R. Parks, D. Anderson, and B. Botterill

Carried

Council recessed at 3:50 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. November 30, 2020.

- November 30, 2020 -

Mayor Frank reconvened the meeting at with a Treaty 6 Acknowledgement 9:00 a.m.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1.6 Introduction and Addition and Change Sheets

The Clerk read the additional materials into the record. *See Appendix A – Additional and Replacement Material.*

5. OVERVIEW OF FLAGGED ITEMS PROCESS

5.6 Flagged Item Votes

2020/ CB20

Moved by L. Delainey

Flagged Item #6

THAT Council make a decision on the possible deferment or cancellation of the projects set out in the November 30, 2020 "Open Capital Project" chart, prepared by Councillor Delainey, prior to the conclusion of the 2021 budget process.

In Favor (2): L. Delainey, and G. Lawrence

Opposed (7): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, and K. Berghofer

Defeated

12. FLAGGED ITEMS RESPONSES

12.3 Response to Flagged Item #5

Council was provided a presentation on Flagged Item #5.

13. BUDGET AND RELATED APPROVALS

2020/ CB21

Moved by P. Smith

THAT the 2021 ward budget for each Councillor be reduced by \$10,000 and that the ward budget for the Office of the Mayor be reduced by \$15,000.

In Favor (4): R. Frank, R. Parks, P. Smith, and L. Delainey

Opposed (5): D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Defeated

2020/ CB22

Moved by R. Parks

THAT capital project "Missing Links Sidewalk" program be cancelled for 2021.

Opposed (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Defeated

2020/ CB23**Moved by** R. Frank

THAT the 2021 Consolidated Operating Budget, including a 0.0% per cent municipal tax revenue increase, a 1.19% per cent Utility rate increase, and a 0.0% per cent Library increase, with revenues matching expenses at \$377.6M, be adopted;

THAT the 2021 Consolidated Capital Budget (including a consolidated capital approval of \$58.9M) be adopted;

THAT the proposed annual Consolidated Operating Budgets for the years 2022-2024 (including projected 2.10%, 1.36% and 1.0% per cent tax revenue increases respectively) be approved to be brought forward for Council's consideration at the Council Budget Meeting for the 2022 budget; and

THAT the proposed annual Consolidated Capital Budgets for the years 2022-2025 (including projected consolidated capital budgets of \$111.9M, \$51.3M, \$55.3M, and \$81.7M respectively) be approved to be brought forward for Council's consideration at the Council Budget Meeting for the 2022 budget.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

Mayor Frank call for a brief recess and reconvened the meeting at 2:55 p.m. with all of Council present with the exception of Councillor Delainey.

13.2 Bylaw 49 - 2020: 2021 Fees, Rates and Charges (Repeals Bylaw 37-2019)

2020/ CB24**Moved by** G. Lawrence

THAT Bylaw 49-2020 to establish 2021 Fees, Rates and Charges for the provision of Municipal, Utility and Library Services be given first reading.

In Favor (8): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

Councillor Delainey rejoined the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

2020/ CB25**Moved by** R. Frank

THAT Bylaw 49-2020 be given second reading.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delainey, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

2020/ CB26

Moved by D. Anderson

THAT Bylaw 49-2020 be considered for third reading.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

2020/ CB27

Moved by B. Botterill

THAT Bylaw 49-2020 be given third reading.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

13.4 Subsequent Motions

2020/ CB28

Moved by L. Delaine

THAT Administration provide a report by the end of the first quarter of 2021 on the current utility reserves, including any information on the establishment of an optimal reserve level and how the reserve funds are allocated.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

ACTION: Corporate Finance
DUE: Q1 2021

2020/ CB29

Moved by P. Smith

THAT Administration provide a report by the end of the first quarter of 2021 on the rationale for changing the meter replacement program from 5 to 8 years and on how this change will impact any operational or capital savings.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried

ACTION: Utilities
DUE: Q1 2021

2020/ CB30

Moved by K. Berghofer

THAT Administration provide a report by the end of the first quarter of 2021 on the fees associated with water meter calibration for utilities.

In Favor (9): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, B. Botterill, B. Tonita, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Carried
ACTION: Utilities
DUE: Q1 2021

2020/ CB31

Moved by R. Frank

THAT by the end of Q2, Administration report to Council on Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) opportunities to stabilize and reduce costs through various mechanisms (i.e. reallocation of costs from lower valued services to higher valued services, acceptable service and service level reductions, partnerships, new revenue opportunities, etc.)

In Favor (7): R. Frank, R. Parks, D. Anderson, P. Smith, L. Delaine, G. Lawrence, and K. Berghofer

Opposed (2): B. Botterill, and B. Tonita

Carried
ACTION: Corporate Planning
DUE: Q2 2021

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Frank declared the meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m., November 30, 2020.

Mayor

Director, Legislative & Legal Services