

CITY OF MELFORT
December 13, 2004

Minutes of the City of Melfort Regular Meeting held on Monday, December 15th, 2004, in the Council Chambers, Melfort, Saskatchewan, commencing at 5:08 p.m.

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

04-238
Degelman
Lang

MINUTES, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, NOVEMBER 15, 2004:

That the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on November 15, 2004, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

04-239
Lang
Degelman

PROCLAMATIONS:

That we approve the following proclamations and that we authorize the Mayor to authenticate same:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PROCLAMATION</u>
February, 2005	Heart & Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan	"Heart & Stroke Month"
January 3-9, 2005	Community Health Services Kelsey Trail Health Region	"Environmental Public Health Week" Carried

04-240
Abbott
White

PURCHASE COAT OF ARMS & CHAIN OF OFFICE:

That we approve the application to the Chief Herald of Canada requesting that the City of Melfort receive a grant of armorial bearings, at a cost to be determined during the design phase of the process as part of the 2005 budget.

Further, that as part of the 2005 Centennial and the 25th Anniversary of City status, we approve the purchase of a Chain of Office at a cost of \$1,899.00 plus taxes and shipping. **Carried**

04-241
White
Abbott

AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT 2005 ANNUAL SUMA CONVENTION:

That the following individuals be authorized to attend the 100th Annual SUMA Convention to be held in Saskatoon from January 29th to February 2nd, 2005:

Mayor Collins
Alderman Abbott
Alderman Degelman
Alderman Lang
Alderman MacNaughton
Alderman Terry
Alderman White
Manager J. Wade **Carried**

04-242
Terry
MacNaughton

2005 BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

That we approve the attached 2005 Board and Committee appointments. **Carried**

04-242(a)
Abbott
White

ENDORSE CITY MAYORS' RESOLUTION – REVENUE SHARING/NEW DEAL:

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 and competition based on community choices and priorities;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Saskatchewan in the 1980s and early 1990s 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. This required significant reductions in the revenue sharing available to Saskatchewan communities that necessitated property tax increases, service reductions or deferral of capital expenditures. In the case of the City of Melfort, in 1990 \$510,437 in revenue sharing grants was received representing 11.2% of the operating budget. In 2003, including the significant escalation of revenue sharing grants of \$30 million over the past three years, the City of Melfort received \$301,077, or 4.55% of the City's operating budget;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Saskatchewan has recognized the need to increase funding to urban municipalities from the broader Provincial tax base as the Provincial financial position and economy improves and through that decision has provided an additional \$30 million to the revenue sharing pool over the past three years. This commitment is acknowledged to be significant recognition of the need to share provincial revenues with communities and has improved their fiscal position but still leaves the revenue sharing pool at a level significantly less than it was in relative terms for urban municipalities and at approximately half of what it would have been had the pool and escalation indexes continued to be in place;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Saskatchewan is to be commended for taking the lead with the Government of Canada to pursue negotiations for the New Deal for infrastructure funding and has committed that no claw back will occur at the Provincial level. The New Deal funding will provide capital infrastructure for community needs but will not address the oncoming municipal financial needs for services and community expectations to maintain and sustain their quality of life, competitive position and community autonomy;

AND WHEREAS it is widely recognized that communities need financial autonomy to fulfill their community expectations, community capacity and decision making to sustain the environmental, economic, social and cultural growth of communities and Saskatchewan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SUMA request the Provincial Government:

1. In recognition of the buoyancy of the Provincial economy, to reinstate the revenue sharing pool to an appropriate level from the general revenues of the province that reflects the original commitments to revenue sharing before reductions occurred through Provincial austerity; and
2. Once the revenue sharing pool is established to an appropriate and acceptable level, that it be indexed utilizing the original revenue sharing tax base indices of personal income, corporate income, fuel and retail sales; and

3. The Provincial Government commit to working with SUMA and all Saskatchewan Municipalities to define the desired outcomes from this new revenue consistent with the principles and criteria for the New Deal negotiations so that municipalities have both the capacity to maintain and grow their infrastructure and sustain the delivery of community expectations through service delivery in a framework of local autonomy, capacity building and accountability.

Carried

GENERAL SUNDRY COMMUNICATION ITEMS

1. Nov, 2004: NC Transportation Planning Committee Newsletter.
2. July 27/04: NCTPC Minutes and notes from Road Trip.
3. Nov. 10/04: Melfort & Area Interagency Committee minutes.
4. Oct. 4/04: NE Area Transportation Planning Committee Minutes.
5. Notice of Public Meeting - January 17, 2005, Choiceland. Alderman White and the Director of Works & Utilities will plan to attend.
6. Nov. 18/04: Memo from Clerk re: debt charges report.
7. Nov. 18/04: Minutes of Melfort & District Museum Board.
8. Nov. 19/04: Ag, Food & Rural Rev - Amendments to *The Noxious Weeds Act, 1984* and *The Pest Control Act*
9. Nov. 2/04: Minutes of Melfort Provincial Centennial Committee.
10. Nov 30/04: News Release - Mayors seek true revenue sharing
11. Nov, 2004: SUMA Urban Voice, Vol. 9, No. 5. Winter 2005 Municipal Leadership Development Program. The City flag is to be sent in to SUMA.
12. Dec. 2/04: Letter from SUMA President Schlosser to Minister of Government Relations re: provincial school tax relief.
13. Nov 23/04: 2005 FCM-CH2M HILL Sustainable Community Awards.
14. Dec. 1/04: Letter from K. Daku, SaskWater re: 2005 water rate.
15. Sep. 8/04: Letter from Government Relations Deputy Minister H. Brooks re: municipal reporting on waterworks. City Manager's response dated Dec. 6/04, is attached.
16. Melfort Fire Department - Chief's Report - 2004. Council members expressed their appreciation to the volunteer members of the fire department.

**04-243
Abbott
White**

AWARD RISK MANAGEMENT & GENERAL INSURANCE SERVICES CONTRACT:

That we award the contract for provision of Risk Management and General Insurance Brokerage Services to the firm of Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc. of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, in accordance with their proposal dated October, 2004. **Carried**

The Risk Management and General Insurance Brokerage Contract was awarded for a minimum term of 3 years to a maximum of 5 years, commencing January 1, 2005, subject to satisfactory performance.

**04-244
White
Abbott**

MINUTES, LEGISLATIVE & FINANCE COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 15, 2004:

That the minutes of the Legislative & Finance Committee meeting held on November 15th, 2004, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

**04-245
Abbott
White**

TAX CANCELLATIONS:

That we approve tax cancellations in the amount of \$323.38, as attached. **Carried**

TAX COLLECTION COMPARATIVE STATEMENT – NOVEMBER, 2004

DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENT – NOVEMBER 30, 2004

MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT – OCTOBER & NOVEMBER, 2004

REPORT – CITY CLERK

- The auditors will be starting their pre-testing on December 15 and 16, 2004.
- The deadline for appeals of the Special Assessment Roll for the McCosh Drive local improvement is December 23, 2004. There have been no appeals lodged to date.
- The City Office will be closed on December 24, 27 and 31 for statutory holidays.

04-246
Terry
MacNaughton

MINUTES, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, DECEMBER 8, 2004:
That the minutes of the Planning & Development Committee meeting held December 8, 2004, be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

04-247
Terry
MacNaughton

MINUTES, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, DEC. 9, 2004:
That the minutes of the Community Development Advisory Committee meeting held December 9, 2004, be received. **Carried**

04-248
Terry
MacNaughton

RENAME PARK AVENUE FROM ORR DRIVE TO SPRUCE HAVEN ROAD:
That we approve the recommendation of the Planning & Development Committee to rename Park Avenue, from Orr Drive to Spruce Haven Road, in honour of former Mayor Bill Frost. **Carried**

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT – NOVEMBER, 2004

REPORT – DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & LEISURE SERVICES

- The Centennial Committee is working on the winter festival activities for January 1, 2005.
- The City video is now complete, in both DVD and VHS format. The department will also try to install it on the website.
- The department is busy preparing the Palace Arena for the provincial curling championships.
- Monitoring of the Free Facility Usage Policy is being undertaken to determine the amount of tourism dollars being generated by the policy.

04-249
Degelman
Lang

APPROVE ERECTION OF STOP SIGNS – STAR CITY & SPRUCE HAVEN ROAD:
That the City of Melfort erect stop signs at the following locations:
1. The north side of Spruce Haven Road and the east side of Star City Road facing westbound traffic.
2. The south side of Spruce Haven Road and the west side of Star City Road facing eastbound traffic. **Carried**

04-250
Lang
Degelman

APPROVE REMOVAL OF TRAFFIC SIGNS – STAR CITY & SPRUCE HAVEN ROAD:

That the City of Melfort remove the following traffic control signs:

1. The `yield_ sign on the east side of Star City Road and the south side of Spruce Haven Road facing north bound traffic.
2. The `stop_ sign on the west side of Star City Road and the north side of Spruce Haven Road facing south bound traffic. **Carried**

04-251
Degelman
Lang

APPROVE DISPATCH SERVICES CONTRACT:

That we authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Dispatch Services Contract between the City of Prince Albert and the City of Melfort, for the provision of specified dispatch services from the 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center for the period January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2006. **Carried**

REPORT – DIRECTOR OF WORKS & UTILITIES

- The extension of Park Avenue to Spruce Haven Road is now complete. Warning signs have been placed on the walking path and the department will likely place pedestrian warning signs on the road as well. Positive comments have been received about the construction of the road.
- A contractor is now on site attempting to solve sewer problems.
- Training of the new grader operator is going well.
- The department is working on budget.
- Four water breaks have been repaired.

04-252
Lang
Degelman

BYLAW 04-12:

That Bylaw No. 04-12, being a bylaw of the City of Melfort to authorize a special assessment with respect to the undertaking of full depth asphalt on McCosh Drive as a local improvement, be introduced and read a first time. **Carried**

04-253
White
Abbott

BYLAW 04-12:

That Bylaw No. 04-12 be read a second time. **Carried**

04-254
Abbott
White

BYLAW 04-12:

That Bylaw No. 04-12 be given three readings at this meeting. **Carried Unanimously**

04-255
Terry
MacNaughton

BYLAW 04-12:

That Bylaw No. 04-12 be read a third time and passed. **Carried**

04-256
Degelman
Lang

BYLAW 04-13:

That Bylaw 04-13, being a bylaw of the City of Melfort to provide for the regulation and control of the Melfort Cemetery be introduced and read a first time. **Carried**

04-257
Terry
MacNaughton

BYLAW 04-13:

That Bylaw 04-13 be read a second time. **Carried**

04-258
Terry
MacNaughton

BYLAW 04-13:

That Bylaw 04-13 be given three readings at this meeting. **Carried Unanimously**

04-259
White
Abbott

BYLAW 04-13:
That Bylaw 04-13 be read a third time and passed. **Carried**

04-260
Lang
Degelman

BYLAW 04-14:
That Bylaw 04-14, being a bylaw of the City of Melfort respecting the construction of certain works as local improvements, the establishment of uniform rates and special assessments thereto, known as the Uniform Rates Bylaw, be introduced and read a first time. **Carried**

04-261
Abbott
White

BYLAW 04-14:
That Bylaw 04-14 be read a second time. **Carried**

04-262
Degelman
Lang

BYLAW 04-14:
That Bylaw 04-14 be given three readings at this meeting. **Carried Unanimously**

04-263
Lang
Degelman

BYLAW 04-14:
That Bylaw 04-14 be read a third time and passed. **Carried**

04-264
White
Abbott

BYLAW 04-15:
That Bylaw No. 04-15, being a bylaw of the City of Melfort to provide procedure in connection with the preparation of the assessment and tax rolls of the City of Melfort and for the payment of taxes and allowable discounts thereon, as well as the imposition of additional percentage charges and penalties for default in payment, be introduced and read a first time. **Carried**

04-265
Abbott
White

BYLAW 04-15:
That Bylaw 04-15 be read a second time. **Carried**

04-266
Terry
MacNaughton

BYLAW 04-15:
That Bylaw 04-15 be given three readings at this meeting. **Carried Unanimously**

04-267
Terry
MacNaughton

BYLAW 04-15:
That Bylaw 04-15 be read a third time and passed. **Carried**

04-268
White
Abbott

ACCOUNTS:
That we approve for payment general cheque numbers 1067 to 1305 inclusive, in the total amount of \$253,182.10. **Carried**

Mayor Collins advised that Council will conduct the Manager's evaluation at a Committee of the Whole meeting in January.

The ACRE Committee Recommendation Report is in the Council room for study.

Council extended best wishes to Garth Forrester, CJVR, on his new employment.

04-269
Degelman
Lang

ADJOURNMENT:

That this meeting be adjourned. **Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk