

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Banff in the Province of Alberta
Town Hall Council Chamber
Wednesday, December 28, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

John Stutz	Mayor
Bob Haney	Councillor
Chip Olver	Councillor
Ossi Treutler	Councillor and Deputy Mayor
Chris MacDonald	Councillor and Acting Mayor (attended via speaker phone)
Karen Sorensen	Councillor
Justin Burwash	Councillor

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Robert Earl	Town Manager
Tom Maier	Manager of Corporate Services
Kelly Gibson	Senior Accountant
Mary Brewster	Manager of Community Services
Michelle Gurney	Manager of Communications
Bruce Bedwell	Manager of Engineering
Mike Dobbin	Manager of Operations
Randall McKay	Manager of Planning & Development
Karen Carlson	Manager of Human Resources
Jake Pryor	Environmental Manager
Cheryl Hyde	Municipal Clerk (Recording Secretary)

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1. Meeting Agenda

COU05-300 Moved by Councillor Treutler to approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Minutes of the December 8, 2005 Special Meeting of Council

COU05-301 Moved by Councillor Sorensen to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2005 Special Meeting of Council as presented.

CARRIED

3.2. Minutes of the December 12, 2005 Special Meeting of Council

COU05-302 Moved by Councillor Sorensen to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2005 Special Meeting of Council as presented.

Minutes approved by: _____

CARRIED

3.3. Minutes of the December 14, 2005 Special Meeting of Council

COU05-303 Moved by Councillor MacDonald to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2005 Special Meeting of Council as presented.

CARRIED

3.4. Minutes of the December 22, 2005 Special Meeting of Council

COU05-304 Moved by Councillor Olver to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2005 Special Meeting of Council as presented.

CARRIED

4.0 2006 BUDGET

Deliberation continued on the 2006 operating budget.

Administration provided the following information and amendments:

- Solid Waste – Utilities: this is reduced from 29,000 to 23,000.
- Solid Waste – General Goods & Supplies: the cost of tires on the bobcats at the waste transfer station is a new addition over last year (\$10,000). This was subtracted from fleet services but fleet services rose because of anticipated fuel costs. The cost of fuel in Fleet Services – Goods and Supplies is expected to increase by as much as \$20,000.
- Fleet Services – Repair and Maintenance: this is reduced from \$50,000 to \$42,000.
- Solid Waste – Insurance Premiums – this should be \$2,500 not \$500.
- Solid Waste – Transfer to Local Agencies: there is an addition of \$3,600 in grant funding from the Bow Valley Waste Commission for bin replacement. (total amount will now be \$43,000)

\$200,000 of the capital grant funding for Banff Refreshing has been allocated to communication. Banff Lake Louise Tourism has requested they be allocated \$10,000 of this funding to be used for marketing purposes during construction. Council directed administration to investigate whether or not the provincial funds can be transferred to another agency, and if so, whether or not the funds would qualify to leverage matching funding from another government agency.

Councillor Burwash indicated that he would like to review Banff Heritage Tourism Corporation funding. Councillor Sorensen declared a conflict of interest as she is contracted by the Heritage Tourism Corporation and left the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Councillor Burwash suggested reducing funding to the Banff Heritage Tourism Corporation from \$50,000 to \$40,000 as the Corporation appears to be on firm financial footing. Council directed administration to find out if a reduction in funding would affect the funding the Corporation receives from Parks Canada, and to prepare a report on the consequences of a funding reduction.

Councillor Sorensen returned to the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

COU05-305 Moved by Councillor Burwash to reduce the overall wages and benefit budget from \$6,527,500 to \$6.5 million.

CARRIED

Olver, Stutz and Sorensen opposed.

COU05-306 Moved by Councillor Treutler to remove \$10,000 from public art (Community Development – Transfer to Capital Reserves) for 2006.

COU05-307 Moved by Councillor MacDonald to amend Motion COU05-305 by changing the amount removed from \$10,000 to \$5,000.

**DEFEATED
MacDonald in favour.**

The vote followed on the Motion COU05-305: to remove \$10,000 from public art (Community Development – Transfer to Capital Reserves) for 2006.

**CARRIED
Olver, Sorensen and Haney opposed.**

COU05-308 Moved by Treutler to reduce overall revenue from taxes to 9,175,000.

**DEFEATED
Treutler in favour.**

COU05-309 Moved by Councillor Treutler to redirect 50% of the existing Environmental Management budget towards funding a half-time Energy Savings Coordinator position.

POSTPONED

The intent of the motion is that one person would act in both positions. Council directed administration to submit a report at the January 23, 2006 regular meeting outlining how such a position would operate.

COU05-310 Moved by Councillor Treutler to postpone Motion COU05-308 until January 23, 2006.

CARRIED

Mayor Stutz noted that the \$52,000 budgeted for leasing parking in Cascade Plaza could be reduced to \$30,000 because the parking will not be required until June 2006.

COU05-311 Moved by Mayor Stutz to support \$30,000 for unbudgeted expenditure for Cascade Plaza parking in 2006.

CARRIED

COU05-312 Moved by Councillor Haney to remove \$23,000 of revenue from the Streets budget for the Bear Street Parkade and offer the spaces as free parking year-round.

Discussion

Administration reported that currently 60 of 70 available spaces in the Bear Street Parkade are leased to a combination of commercial businesses and downtown residents. Administration noted that a decision to change this parking from paid to unpaid may have capital implications such as the cost of removing the doors and covering heating costs.

The vote followed on Motion COU05-311.

**DEFEATED
Haney in favour.**

5.0 INQUIRIES

There were no inquiries.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next special meeting to deliberate the 2006 budget is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2006 from 9 a.m. until noon.

COU05-313 Moved by Councillor Treutler to adjourn at 12:05 p.m.

CARRIED

John Stutz
Mayor

Cheryl Hyde
Municipal Clerk