

Minutes of the Special Meeting (Budget) of the Council of the Village of Chase held
in the Council Chambers of the Village Office at 826 Okanagan Avenue
on Monday, February 24, 2014 at 3:30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor
Councillors

R. Anderson
R. Berrigan
R. Crowe
D. Lepsoe
S. Scott

Chief Administrative Officer
Director of Financial Services
Supervisor of Works
Interim Fire Chief

J. Heinrich
L. Pedersen
P. Regush
B. Lauzon

6 Members of the Public

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Resolution: Moved by Councillor Crowe
Seconded by Councillor Berrigan

"That the agenda be adopted as presented."

CARRIED

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2014-2018 Five Year Financial Plan/Annual Budget

Review of the Deficit Forecast

The Director of Financial Services explained:

- The operating capital and operating cash surpluses combined give the total operating surplus
- In 2013 the Village had \$18 million in assets
- In 2014 it is anticipated that the Village will have an additional \$1.1 million dollars in assets
- In 2013 there was a \$237,000 operating surplus
- In 2014 and several years beyond, there is an anticipated annual deficit that will be funded by surpluses in the water and sewer budgets
- In 2013 there is \$355,000 in operating reserve – that is being utilized almost fully in 2014 for operating project in project

- There is \$1,200,000 in water reserves that will mostly be utilized in 2014
- The Village needs to consider either cutting services or raising taxes as we are currently continuing to draw on our surpluses for operating

Mr. Pedersen then reviewed the detail expenditure and noted:

- There is a request for up to \$10,000 to develop a new Village website – this currently will have to be funded by surplus
- An equipment truck for the fire department will cost approximately \$40,000 – the sale of the 'new' Unit 1 (Fire Chief's truck) can be used to offset the cost of the equipment truck

Moved by Councillor Berrigan

Seconded by Councillor Crowe

"That Administration proceed with the sale of the 'new' Unit 1 with the proceeds going towards the cost of a new equipment van for the Fire Department."

CARRIED

Mr. Pedersen continued reviewing the detail expenditures for 2014:

- A thermal imaging camera requested for the Fire Department would be funded by surplus/operating fund

A pumper/tanker was discussed:

- Mr. Lauzon noted that while a used one would be better for the Village's budget, a new one may need to be considered.
- The sale of the ladder truck could generate funds to put towards a pumper/tanker

Moved by Councillor Crowe

Seconded by Councillor Berrigan

"That Administration proceeds to sell the Fire Department's Ladder Truck and utilize the funds generated to purchase a pumper/tender truck."

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Berrigan

Seconded by Councillor Lepsoe

"That once a pumper/tender truck is acquired, that the Fire Department's Engine #2 be decommissioned from service as soon as possible thereafter."

CARRIED

Detail expenditure review continued:

- \$27,000 was approved in 2013 to purchase a dump box and a mower collection system
- \$18,000 of that \$27,000 has been spent
- \$9,000 is being carried forward from 2013, and \$9,000 will come out of the 2014 budget to finalize the purchases of the mower and dump box

<Councillor Scott entered at this time>

Mr. Regush added:

- The public works backhoe is 23 years old and no longer goes out of first gear
- A replacement backhoe is needed – a new one will cost between \$125,000 and \$150,000 whereas a used one will suit our needs, and will cost much less – approximately \$16,000 a year needed to pay for an MFA lease to purchase a backhoe
- The old one is not worth much to sell, and can be used for loading salt and sand in the yard

Transportation

Mr. Regush explained the reason for the upgrades needed on Cottonwood Street including the water service for fire suppression at the schools, sidewalks to enhance children's safety, and storm drains to better manage storm water. He added that Administration intends to apply for grant money for this project.

Council requested to see a copy of the plans for this project.

Parks

Discussion continued:

- Memorial Park Wi-Fi will cost approximately \$5,000
- Members of the gallery stated they did not believe that Wi-Fi in Memorial Park would be beneficial
- Willson Park footbridge and Coburn Street bridge study can be combined to save money

Moved by Councillor Berrigan

Seconded by Councillor Lepsoe

"That the Volleyball Court proposed for Memorial Park be deleted from the 2014 budget."

Moved by Councillor Crowe
Seconded by Councillor Lepsoe

"That the Volleyball Court proposed for Memorial Park be moved into the 2015 budget."

The vote was taken on the amending motion and it was CARRIED
Councillors Berrigan and Scott opposed

The vote was taken on the main motion as amended and it was CARRIED
Councillors Berrigan and Scott opposed

For clarification:

The \$30,000 for a beach Volleyball court in Memorial Park was moved into the 2015 budget.

Discussion continued:

- The Willson Park handrail is a carry forward from 2013 and is needed for safety along that walkway
- The Centennial Park playground equipment that was budgeted in 2013 has been purchased
- If playground equipment is certified, insurance costs are reasonable

Moved by Councillor Scott
Seconded by Councillor Crowe

"That the 'Mountain Sheep' rock wall project be moved into the 2015 budget."

CARRIED

Mr. Regush explained the plans for the phase 2 walkway project at Willson Park and noted it would include a parking area at the end of Thompson, underground wiring for lighting and other improvements.

It was suggested that the Village could approach the Lions and Rotary Clubs for funding to assist with the next phase Willson Park upgrades.

Other issues that were raised regarding parks projects included costs in a time where fiscal restraint is very important, safety, amenities that enhance walking will attract visitors and new residents.

Moved by Councillor Berrigan
Seconded by Councillor Scott

"That the park enhancement projects except those already acted on (or budgeted in 2013) and the proposed Willson park lighting be moved in the 2015 budget year."

CARRIED

Parks Projects in 2014 - For Clarification:

The following projects/tasks are approved for 2014:

- The Willson Park handrail is a carry forward from 2013 and is needed for safety along that walkway
- Lighting for the existing walkway in Willson Park will be carried out in 2014
- The Centennial Park playground equipment that was budgeted in 2013 has been purchased – installation will take place in 2014
- The study for the design and costs for a walking bridge over Chase Creek from Willson Park, a study of the costs for a walking area for Coburn Street bridge, and a review of the existing bridges and their integrity and possible upgrade requirements are to be funded in 2014

Community Hall

Upgrades to the Community Hall will include better acoustic material, lighting and roof replacement over the addition. Grant funding will be pursued where possible.

It was AGREED that the funds set aside for upgrades to the Community Hall be left in the 2014 budget.

Water and Sewer

The issue of Adams Lake Indian Band and the potential of a financial contribution to the sewer upgrades will be discussed with their Administration.

Mr. Pedersen cautioned against taking money out of sewer surplus to fund the sewer upgrade as there is not a significant amount of cash available and the Village should ensure some cash flow is protected where possible.

Next Budget Meeting

It was AGREED that the next budget meeting of Council be held on March 3, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber to discuss the operating summary.

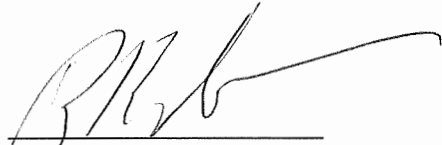
4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Crowe
Seconded by Councillor Scott
"That the meeting be adjourned."

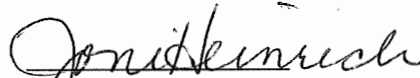
CARRIED

Mayor Anderson declared the Special (Budget) Meeting concluded at 5:25 p.m.

These minutes were adopted by a resolution of Council on March 11, 2014.



Mayor,
R. Anderson



CAO
J. Heinrich