

**DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2008 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Present **Council:** Mayor Harwood; Councillors Kosolowsky, Quibell and Johansson  
**Staff:** Carolyn Bonnicks, Administrator; and Becky Mercereau, Deputy Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

**STAFF REPORTS**

**2008 Proposed Budget**

The Administrator reviewed the 2008 Proposed Budget with Council and highlighted the following:

- the Twelve Mile Road Electrical Extension amounts have changed;
- BC Hydro grant-in-lieu of taxes has increased;
- amounts for the transfers from other governments are now the actual amounts;
- the police and school tax amounts may change as they have not yet been approved;
- the Peace River Regional District 911 charges are now included in the general taxes charged by the Peace River Regional District;
- staff training has increased to allow for Rhonda Reschke and Johanna Dupuis to attend training for MAIS;
- an ammonia detector and intruder alarm system were added to the capital projects for the arena;
- a revised quote for the columbarium was received and now shows in the budget as \$27,500.00;
- added bike racks as a capital project;
- the concrete pad pool has decreased;
- have decided to purchase a more expensive slip in water tank for safety reasons;
- added more money to the Capital Works/Machinery and Equipment Fund from the extra funds being received from the BC Hydro grant-in-lieu funds;
- new plow truck lease added to budget;
- some of the street lights in Beryl Prairie can be removed as there are no children at those houses anymore waiting for the school bus;
- Council would like more information on what the Community Foundation's vision will be for Hudson's Hope and what types of grants they are planning to give out;
- discussion on how much it will cost the District if we will be required to reduce carbon emissions by a certain percentage; and
- the Administrator advised that the District has not yet signed the Climate Change Charter which will require us to reduce carbon emissions.

**Annual Financial Plan Bylaw No. 747, 2008**

The Administrator advised that the Annual Financial Plan Bylaw No. 747, 2008 will need first reading at the Council meeting of April 28, 2008. The new grant amount from BC Hydro still needs to be added into this Bylaw. Council discussed the following issues with the bylaw:

- the airport paving project may not occur in 2011 unless major funding can be obtained;

- the airport will need to have something done to it, before it becomes a liability, especially if the community grows; and
- major capital projects in the future will include purchasing a new grader, plow truck and garbage truck.

The Administrator advised that this year an explicit statement needs to be written by the District that includes the proportions of revenue proposed to come for various funding sources, the distribution of property taxes amount property classes, and the use of permissive tax exemptions. Council discussed the funding sources, and agreed that some of the sales of service provided by the District need to be increased. The Administrator will provide Council with a proposed statement.

#### **2008 Tax Rates Bylaw No. 748, 2008**

The Administrator advised that the mill rates have decreased by one in each class. The tax rates for the Peace River Regional District Hospital have more than doubled due to the new hospital to be constructed in Fort St. John. Council discussed whether tax rates should be lowered because we may want to transfer more funds into reserves. The Administrator advised that because of low capital projects in 2008, significant transfers will already be made to the reserve funds in 2008 and additional taxation was not necessary. The Administrator discussed the diagrams which showed the percentage of taxes that will be collected from each property class for 2008 compared to 2006 and 2007.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Meeting Dates**

Council agreed that a Public Meeting be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 1:00 pm.

##### **Recycle Bins**

Councillor Kosolowsky advised that the recycle bins at Shop Easy have been full the past few times Mrs. Kosolowsky has taken cardboard there. The Administrator requested that she write down each time that the bins are full, so that staff can determine whether more bins need to be provided or whether the pick up needs to be done more frequently.

##### **North Peace Economic Development Committee**

Mayor Harwood expressed her concern with being on the North Peace Economic Development Committee, as she does not see the benefits for Hudson's Hope. She will provide the cost amounts to Council.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Council was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Certified Correct:

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Clerk

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Mayor