

**MACKENZIE COUNTY  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**October 31, 2014  
10:00 a.m.**

**Fort Vermilion Council Chambers  
Fort Vermilion, AB**

**PRESENT:**

Bill Neufeld	Reeve
Walter Sarapuk	Deputy Reeve
Jacque Bateman	Councillor
Peter F. Braun	Councillor
Elmer Derksen	Councillor
John W. Driedger	Councillor
Eric Jorgensen	Councillor
Josh Knelsen	Councillor
Ricky Paul	Councillor
Lisa Wardley	Councillor

**REGRETS:**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Joulia Whittleton	Chief Administrative Officer
Mark Schonken	Interim Director of Finance
Ron Pelensky	Director of Community Services & Operations
John Klassen	Director of Environmental Services & Operations
Byron Peters	Director of Planning & Development
Grant Smith	Agriculture Fieldman
Carol Gabriel	Manager of Legislative & Support Services

**ALSO PRESENT:** Members of the public.

Minutes of the Special Council meeting for Mackenzie County held on October 31, 2014 in the Council Chambers at the Fort Vermilion County Office.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 1. a) **Call to Order**

Reeve Neufeld called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

**AGENDA:** 2. a) **Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION 14-10-779** **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the agenda be approved as presented.

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**CARRIED**

**MINUTES FROM  
PREVIOUS MEETING:**

3. a) None

**DELEGATIONS:**

4. a) None

**BUSINESS:**

5. a) **2015 Operating Budget Draft**

Mark Schonken presented the draft 2015 operating budget.

- Significant Budget Changes
  - Revenue – taxation, water sales, provincial grants
  - Expenses – wages and salaries, professional fees, enhanced policing, repairs and maintenance (bridges), dust control.

Discussion was held regarding additional areas for dust control.

**MOTION 14-10-780**

**MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the 2015 dust control budget be limited to \$800,000 and that priorities be discussed at a later date.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION 14-10-781**

**MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That the 2015 dust control budget be set at \$1M and that administration bring back additional information including dust control policies, mapping, hamlet road plans, etc.

**CARRIED**

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 11:18 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Mark Schonken continued the presentation of the draft 2015 operating budget.

- Significant Budget Changes
  - Expense – gravel, and grants to local governments

**MOTION 14-10-782**

**MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That a letter be sent to the Town of High Level requesting additional information and justification regarding the following 2015 capital requests:

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- Extension of water and sewer services for the leased tenants at the airport
- Airport lawn equipment items, and
- Costs for the training grounds fire hydrant.

**CARRIED**

Mark Schonken continued the presentation of the draft 2015 operating budget.

- Significant Budget Changes
  - Expense – depreciation

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 12:03 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Mark Schonken continued the presentation of the draft 2015 operating budget.

- Cash Flow Requirement
- Long Term Debt
- Assessment and Estimated Tax Revenues
- Review of Water and Sewer Rates

**MOTION 14-10-783**

**MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That water and sewer rates remain the same as 2014.

**MOTION 14-10-784**

**MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the vote on Motion 14-10-783 be TABLED to after the recess.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION 14-10-783**

**MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That water and sewer rates remain the same as 2014.

**CARRIED**

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 1:45 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

**MOTION 14-10-785**

**MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That any 2014 surplus revenue from water and sewer be contributed to the Water Reserve.

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**CARRIED**

Discussion regarding honorariums, contract graders, and minimum tax rate on vacant oil field properties.

Discussion regarding water rates for seniors.

**BUSINESS:**

**5. b) Fort Vermilion Recreation Board – Request for 2014 Operating Funds**

**MOTION 14-10-786**

**MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the last quarter of the 2014 operating funds for the Fort Vermilion Recreation Board be released and that the 2015 operating funds not be released until the documents requested by the Finance Committee are received.

**CARRIED**

**IN CAMERA SESSION:**

**6. a) None**

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

**7. a) Next Meeting Date**

Special Council (Budget) Meeting  
Thursday, December 4, 2014  
10:00 a.m.  
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**8. a) Adjournment**

**MOTION 14-10-787**

**MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the Special Council Budget meeting be adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

**CARRIED**

These minutes were approved by Council on November 12, 2014.

(original signed)

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Bill Neufeld  
Reeve

(original signed)

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Joulia Whittleton  
Chief Administrative Officer

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