

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL (BUDGET) MEETING**

Friday, February 23, 2007

10:00 am

**Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, AB**

PRESENT:	Bill Neufeld	Reeve
	Walter Sarapuk	Deputy Reeve
	Peter Braun	Councillor (teleconference)
	John W. Driedger	Councillor
	Ed Froese	Councillor
	Willy Neudorf	Councillor
	Greg Newman	Councillor
	Jim Thompson	Councillor
	Lisa Wardley	Councillor
	Stuart Watson	Councillor

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:	William (Bill) Kostiw	Chief Administrative Officer
	Carol Gabriel	Executive Assistant
	Joulia Whittleton	Director of Corporate Services
	Paul Driedger	Director of Planning & Emergency Services
	John Klassen	Manager of Utilities & Facilities

Minutes of the Special Council (Budget) meeting for Mackenzie County held on Friday, February 23, 2007 at the Council Chambers in Fort Vermilion, Alberta.

CALL TO ORDER: 1. a) Call to Order

Reeve Neufeld called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

AGENDA: 2. a) Adoption of agenda

MOTION 07-157 MOVED by Councillor Froese

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

Councillor Braun joined the meeting via teleconference at 10:15 am.

MOTION 07-158

MOVED by Councillor Neudorf

That the Chief Administrative Officer report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

BUSINESS:

Council reviewed factors to be considered when making final decisions regarding the 2007 operating and capital budgets.

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 11:21 am and reconvened the meeting at 11:34 am.

MOTION 07-159

MOVED by Councillor Newman

That the additional revenue collected in 2006 from sales of water remain in the general operating revenue.

CARRIED

3. a) Reserves

3. b) Long Term Debt and Debt Limit

MOTION 07-160

MOVED by Councillor Newman

That the County's maximum debt limit be set at 40% of the total allowable debt limit and the minimum reserves be set at 20% of the total allowable debt limit.

CARRIED

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 12:00 pm and reconvened the meeting at 12:44 pm.

Discussion was held regarding service levels and the mill rate.

3. c) 2007 Operating and Capital Budget Review

MOTION 07-161

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That administration proceed with providing grant funding to other organizations as approved in the 2007 interim operating budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council reviewed the proposed 2007 operating and capital projects.

MOTION 07-162

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the 2007 interim budget be approved as discussed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 07-163

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That Council approve the following emergent equipment purchases:

	Approx. Cost	Funding
Snow Blower (La Crete)	\$15,000.00	Operating Budget
Bobcat (Zama)	\$30,000.00	Capital Budget
Pickup Truck (Admin.)	\$35,000.00	Capital Budget

CARRIED

Councillor Braun left the meeting at 3:23 pm.

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 3:23 pm and reconvened the meeting at 4:24 pm.

Councillor Neudorf left the meeting at 4:23 pm.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

MOTION 07-164

MOVED by Councillor Newman

That consideration be given to move in camera to discuss the following issues under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Regulations 18 (1) at 4:25 p.m.

- 3. d) Town of High Level Negotiations
- 3. e) Union Negotiations

CARRIED

MOTION 07-165

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That Council move out of camera at 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED

3. d) Town of High Level Negotiations (In-Camera)

MOTION 07-166

MOVED by Councillor Thompson

That the discussion regarding the Town of High Level negotiations be accepted for information.

CARRIED

3. e) Union Negotiations (In-Camera)

MOTION 07-167

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That Council retain the services of Neuman Thompson to assist in the union negotiations.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

4. a) Adjournment

MOTION 07-168

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the Special Council meeting be adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were approved on Tuesday, March 13, 2007.

(signature on file)
Bill Neufeld, Reeve

(signature on file)
Carol Gabriel, Executive Assistant