

**LAC LA BICHE COUNTY
STRATEGIC SESSION
COUNTY CENTRE, LAC LA BICHE**

January 14, 2013, 9:30 a.m.

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Strategic Session held on January 14, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Langevin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT	Aurel Langevin	Mayor
	Alvin Kumpula	Councillor
	Robert Richard	Councillor (entered at 9:31 a.m.)
	Guy Piquette	Councillor
	Eugene Uganecz	Councillor
	MJ Siebold	Councillor (entered at 9:34 a.m.)
	Tim Thompson	Councillor
	Gail Broadbent-Ludwig	Councillor / Deputy Mayor
STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	Roy Brideau	Chief Administrative Officer
	Dan Small	General Manager, Corporate Services (in part)
	Gordon Frank	General Manager, Planning, Community Development & Protective Services (in part)
	Jeff Lawrence	General Manager, Operations (in part)
	Al Hoggan	Manager, Transportation Services (in part)
	Karen Gingras	Economic Development Officer
	Bob Macor	Construction & Projects Coordinator (in part)
	Gary Siebold	Manager, Utilities (in part)
	Carroll Girard	Recording Secretary
DELEGATION	Janis Fong	GENIVAR
	Jim Blaney	GENIVAR
	Graeme Langford	Engineer
REGRETS	John Nowak	Councillor

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

SS.13.001 Motion by Councillor Broadbent-Ludwig to approve the January 14, 2013 Strategic Session agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Beaver Hill Road Presentation;

Councillor Richard entered Council Chambers at 9:31 a.m.

Mr. Blaney and Ms. Fong from GENIVAR presented a PowerPoint Presentation concerning the Beaver Hill Road as attached to and forming part of these minutes.

Councillor Siebold entered Council Chambers at 9:34 a.m.

Council was shown the design of the proposed Beaver Hill Road and the representatives from GENIVAR explained the different features. A discussion ensued regarding the details of this project.

Mayor Langevin thanked the representatives from GENIVAR for their presentation.

RECESS

Mayor Langevin called a recess at 10:29 a.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Langevin reconvened the meeting at 10:40 a.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance, excluding Councillor Broadbent-Ludwig.

NEW BUSINESS

3.2 Bold Center Matters;

Administration presented to Council a brief overview of the proposed Bold Center renovation project. Administration advised Council that they are waiting for funding from a community grant to know whether renovations will proceed.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed stairwell to provide exterior access to the lounge.

A discussion ensued regarding a proposed kiosk for security on the main floor of Bold Center in order to make security a more visible presence.

A discussion ensued regarding the renovations required in order to connect the high school to the Bold Center.

A discussion ensued regarding the minimal storage space at Bold Center.

A discussion ensued regarding the land surrounding the Bold Center once the high school is attached.

A discussion ensued regarding the storm sewer management system in the Bold Center parking lot and how its current surface drainage system causes concerns.

Administration mentioned that new parking stalls will be created to accommodate the high school. The high school's proposed football field and baseball diamonds were briefly discussed.

Administration advised Council that renovations will tentatively commence in the summer of 2013 and be complete in June 2014. The renovations are contingent on the community grant and Administration will come to Council if the grant is not acquired.

3.3 Briefing Re: Coalition for a Safer 63 and 881 Sponsorship;

Councillor Broadbent-Ludwig returned to Council Chambers at 11:15 a.m.

Mayor Langevin clarified that this briefing is not confidential, contrary to what is stated in the Briefing as attached to and forming part of these minutes.

Administration provided a briefing on "The Coalition for a Safer 63 and 881" sponsorship which many key industry players are members. Administration expressed their interest in sponsoring \$50,000.00 to become a Gold level sponsor which will make the County eligible to join the Board of Directors.

A general discussion ensued regarding the advantages and disadvantages to joining this coalition. Comments were made about the provincial government's involvement, what results can be expected from joining the coalition, the benefits to partnering up with key industry players, and on whether Council feels that they should invest \$50,000.00 to become a Gold member.

Council requested that Administration invite Tracy Thompson and a representative of the coalition to provide Council with a presentation with more detailed information.

3.4 Economic Development Authority Monthly Update;

Ms. Gingras provided a monthly update on the Economic Development Authority (EDA). Ms. Gingras note that the EDA is in the final stages of completing the strategic plan and will forward to Council this week for their review.

A general discussion ensued regarding work camps, bitumen barrels, enhancing the County website, and how the County will take on a facilitator role with industries.

The future for natural gas was discussed and Council would like the EDA to take an interest. Council would like research conducted on other surrounding areas, approximately two hour catchment to the North of Lac La Biche and approximately one hour catchment to the South. A discussion ensued on whether to perform this research through in house staff or to hire an outside consultant.

Mr. Brideau explained how the EDA is currently developing the strategic plan which will drive how the EDA moves forward. This will all be brought to Council when complete.

RECESS

Mayor Langevin called a recess at 12:15 p.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Langevin reconvened the meeting at 12:58 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

3.5 Strategic Session Schedule;

A Strategic Session List, as attached to and forming part of these minutes, was introduced by Mr. Brideau.

A general discussion ensued regarding Frontage and Improvement Levies and the need to develop criteria for this item. Council requested a separate strategic session with a consultant to address this issue.

Council requested to get an update on the current gravel issue from Administration. Mr. Brideau advised that he will contact the landowner in order to advise that the County will be a few days late in responding to his request.

A general discussion ensued regarding the history of the land located south of McArthur Place where the ball diamonds are located. It was expressed that it would be beneficial to get information on its history.

Councillor Thompson left Council Chambers at 1:14 p.m.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Three Year Operating Budget and on the importance of projecting how each major project will affect the County in order to better plan for the future.

Councillor Thompson returned to Council Chambers at 1:15 p.m.

Administration briefly discussed each item on the Strategic List.

A general discussion ensued regarding the addition of road maintenance, regional governance strategy, seniors housing, and all school future projects to be added to the Strategic List.

Councillor Richard left Council Chambers at 1:26 p.m. and did not return to the meeting.

A discussion ensued regarding the Policing Committee and whether the Peace Officers should be focused on the Encroachments of Environmental Reserves and Municipal Reserves.

A discussion ensued regarding the Recreation Master Plan and the Recreation Board. Council requested that Recreation Board be added to the Strategic List for future discussion. Council requested to know the status of the Recreation Board and to know what has been communicated to its appointees.

Mr. Brideau announced that Mayor Langevin will be regularly scheduled to speak on the Big Dog radio station in order to update the public on Council meetings and decisions. This is expected to start in the next couple of weeks.

Councillor Siebold left Council Chambers at 1:37 p.m.

Councillor Siebold returned to Council Chambers at 1:41 p.m.

Council expressed their desire to meet with the Portage Board to discuss partnerships.

Mr. Brideau advised Council of the new communication plan that will be on the County website where staff will be responsible to provide weekly updates of their projects. The public will be able to access these updates on the website.

Councillor Piquette left Council Chambers at 1:49 p.m.

Administration advised that a Communication Strategy will be in place for the Beaver Hill Road.

Councillor Piquette returned to Council Chambers at 1:51 p.m.

A discussion ensued regarding frontage charges and establishing a strategy on how to do it fairly and equitably.

A general discussion ensued regarding a Cat Bylaw and if it would be beneficial to the County to implement one. It was decided that this topic will be discussed further in a future strategic session.

A general discussion ensued regarding Solid Waste. It was noted that there is an existing committee; however no meetings have yet taken place. Council requested to have a strategic session on Solid Waste when the committee is prepared to make a presentation to Council with their research. A discussion ensued regarding establishing a philosophy on recycling and energy.

A general discussion ensued regarding Council's Orientation Package. Council requested to see the package that the Legislative Services department is developing in order for Council to provide their input and recommendations.

Council requested that Administration bring the Trail Study to Council. Administration informed Council that they will continue forward with the Beaver Hill Road project but will add the trail system as a deletable item in which Council can provide further direction.

Mr. Brideau advised Council that the Strategic List as included as part of these minutes is not exhaustive and Council is encouraged to add items to the list.

A discussion ensued regarding the need to prioritize the Strategic List. Council prioritized the top three items as follows:

1. Council to meet with the Board of Directors of Portage College;
2. Utilities Funding – Corvus Report – long term servicing strategy;
3. Frontage/Improvements Levies.

Administration to present Council with the Trail Master Plan.

Council requested that Administration provide them with a breakdown of expenses and responsibilities for payment regarding the High School attaching to the Bold Center.

RECESS

Mayor Langevin called a recess at 2:22 p.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Langevin reconvened the meeting at 2:31 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

3.6 COLA/Year End Report/Budget Adjustment.

Mr. Brideau requested that the COLA item be moved to In Camera discussions later in this meeting.

Mr. Brideau advised Council that two Year End Reports are expected to be made available to the public. A year-end review is expected to go out in February which will provide a summary of the 2012 programs and projects that were complete. Afterwards, Administration will prepare a 2012 financial report that will be made available to the public in March or April. Council approved Administration to move forward producing the two Year End Reports. Administration mentioned that the 2013 Budget Report will be ready for the public in January.

A general discussion ensued regarding budget adjustments. Mr. Brideau advised that the Egg Lake Road project of \$1.4 million did not get carried over in the 2013 budget. Administration will present Council with a solution in March 2013.

A discussion ensued regarding the Lakeland Interpretive Society's request. This was not carried over in the budget. Administration will set up a meeting with certain members of Council and the Lakeland Interpretive Society to discuss their request.

INFORMATION

A general discussion ensued regarding Medevac and on the actions that Council will take.

It was noted that in the January 15, 2013 Lac La Biche Post, Medevac information will be included with a link to the Edmonton MLA's contact information.

A general discussion ensued regarding establishing a communication strategy for the Medevac situation. The strategy is to include Administration preparing a memo to send to the Edmonton MLAs from Council to keep the Edmonton City Centre Airport open. This memo will also be sent to AUMA and AAMDC to show the Lac La Biche County's actions. Administration is to send out letters to residences of the County, encouraging them to get involved and to explain how they can make the greatest impact. A letter is to get sent to other municipalities and towns, encouraging them to contact the Edmonton MLAs. Lastly, Administration is to put a message on Facebook and other social media outlets with a link to the Edmonton MLAs that encourages residences to get in touch. All of the letters are to include a link to the Edmonton MLA's contact information. Major Langevin is also to discuss this on the Big Dog radio station.

Council shared that they support both getting diagnostics in Lac La Biche and emergency services.

IN CAMERA SESSION

SS.13.002 Motion by Councillor Uganecz to go in camera at 3:08 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.6 COLA/Year End Report/Budget Adjustment (section 17 FOIP).

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

SS.13.003 Motion by Councillor Uganecz to proceed with the meeting out of camera at 3:40 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF “IN CAMERA SESSION”

No action required.

ADJOURNMENT

SS.13.004 Motion by Councillor Piquette to adjourn the Strategic Session of January 14, 2013 at 3:40 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Aurel Langevin, Mayor

**J. Roy Brideau, CLGM, CMM
Chief Administrative Officer**