

Prior to Adoption

Minutes of the Town of Olds Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting held on Monday, January 18, 2010 in the Council Chambers, Olds Town Office at 3:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS in Attendance:

Councillor M.J. Harper, In the Chair.
Mayor J. Dahl; Councillor A. Bull; Councillor H. Walsh; Councillor L. Winfield.

ELECTED OFFICIALS Absent:

Councillor W. Smith

STAFF in Attendance:

Norm McInnis, Chief Administrative Officer; Cliff McDonald, Director of Corporate Services; Larry Wright, Director of Operational Services; Debbie Rogers, Human Resources Manager; Nina Gales, Manager of Corporate Affairs and Regional Sustainability Coordinator; Karol Jorgensen, Assistant Manager of Corporate Affairs and Assistant Regional Sustainability Coordinator; Debbie Godfrey, CAO and Council Assistant.

1. Call To Order.

Chairman Harper called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Added Items.

In-camera items: Legal and Labour.

3. Adoption of Agenda.

Moved by Councillor Winfield, to adopt the January 18, 2010 Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting Agenda, as amended.

Motion Carried 10-01

4. Adoption of the November 16, 2009 Minutes.

Moved by Councillor Bull, to adopt the minutes of the November 16, 2009 Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting, as presented.

Mayor Dahl directed that on Page 3, moved by Councillor Smith, that the words 'in camera' be added and that the minutes reflect a motion from Councillor Winfield to reconvene back to the regular Policies and Procedures meeting.

Voting on the motion, as amended.

Motion Carried 10-02

5. Mount Royal University Peer Learning Circles.

Chief Administrative Officer McInnis provided that this model was presented at a previous Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting; believe that the model would work for the Town of Olds; provide the opportunity to talk about our purpose as local government; what are we trying to accomplish in Olds and the Region; it is a major commitment. What is the commitment from Council; is the timing appropriate with elections this fall?

Council Comments:

Perhaps timing isn't good for the Town; Olds Institute for Community and Regional Development may also benefit having the information;
Benefit to have governance in place prior to new elected officials coming in; easier transition;
Go forward prior to the municipal election; more value prior to elections;
More appropriate to the various boards; more benefit at the start of a term.

Director of Operational Services, Larry Wright entered the Council Chambers at 3:09 p.m.

Council Comments Continued:

Great benefit; forward to the FCSS Board - designated monies for board governance; invite organizations funded by FCSS to take part in a one day seminar on board governance; Estimated hours and dollars that would be required? Presented as an option; every board will have their way of how best to run their business; Worth laying the ground work to move this forward in the future; Reflect on the users, any board or committee is going to be part of this process; same language, same page, same synergies; discussion on actual governance course development and conversation.

Chief Administrative Officer McInnis provided that we need to do some learning as a group; need to have a critical look at the priorities in our strategic plan; that look can be done through this framework; can be done pre or post election; optimal size 12 people; questions to consider- concept of the peer learning circle include Council, Chief Administrative Officer and what other people need to be identified; it's about planning; outcomes that are beneficial for us; commitment and time costs; have not had that conversation with Dr. Seal.

Council Comments:

We should go through the process first before imposing on other groups;
Could be better defined and measured;
What do we get out of it; who is involved;

Chief Administrative Officer McInnis provided that the exercise would be a benefit; major outcome will be in the pre and post surveys; insight into the differing opinions of what our purpose is; understanding of the differences of opinions; understand our decision making processes are different; peer group should be Council, Chief Administrative Officer, Directors and Managers; receive education out of the process; unlimited potential; Council to lead and have the governance tool to have it clear.

Council Comments:

Recommend this be done after the next election, moving forward we don't know who will be elected; find out what people think before and then a whole team change; the team is a key component in the process;
Need to start making changes to the strategic plan; if outcomes are what we thought they were going to be, great time to do a reality check to see if we are going in the right direction;
Succession planning, being the first team that can success the others in; move forward now to have people on board;
Send back to Administration for an RFD to come forward to a Council Meeting with a time table for planning purposes.

Moved by Councillor Walsh that Mount Royal University Learning Peer Circles be sent back to Administration with instruction to bring forward an RFD to Council that includes a timeline.

Motion Carried 10-03

6. Personnel Policy Changes.

Manager of Human Resources, Debbie Rogers reviewed the proposed changes to the Personnel Policy in three different sections to address clarity and consistency: 1) wellness program modification; 2) medical and health appointments - two day allocation; 3) timesheet reporting details.

Moved by Mayor Dahl that the Town of Olds Personal Policy amendments be presented to Council at the next regular Council Meeting.

Motion Carried 10-04

7. Affordable Housing.

Chief Administrative Officer McInnis provided that the report was received favorably by MAP, The Consultant did more than he was instruction to do; the report is really good. What do we do with this information?

Suggestion that the author of the report come to Olds and talk about the picture that he painted for the Town of Olds; joint meeting with stakeholders. Have a presentation how the information was gathered as a first step.

Moved by Councillor Winfield that Administration to contact Mathew McNeil to come and do a presentation to Council and invited other parties as Administration sees fit.

Try to respond/reply to the recommendation in an earlier report from the Affordable housing 2007 Task Force. Invite the task force to the meeting so they can comment and be aware of go forward.

Voting on the motion

Motion Carried 10-05

Chairman Harper recessed the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Debbie Godfrey, CAO and Council Assistant left the Council Chambers at 4:12 p.m.
Debbie Rogers, Manager of Human Resources left the Council Chambers at 4:12 p.m.
Karol Jorgensen, Assistant Manager of Corporate Affairs and Assistant Regional Sustainability Coordinator left the Council Chambers at 4:12 p.m.
Cliff McDonald, Director of Corporate Affairs left the Council Chambers at 4:12 p.m.

Chairman Harper reconvened the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Bull that the Committee move to a closed meeting.

Motion Carried 10-06

The Committee went in-camera at 4:50 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Winfield that the Committee reconvene the regular meeting.

Motion Carried 10-07

The Committee reconvened the regular meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Winfield that this meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried 10-08

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Councillor M.J. Harper,
Chairman

Norm McInnis,
Chief Administrative Officer