

**LAC LA BICHE COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
COUNTY CENTRE, LAC LA BICHE**

December 3, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Special Council Meeting held December 3, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Moghrabi called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

PRESENT	Omer Moghrabi	Mayor
	Wanda Austin	Councillor
	Robert Richard	Councillor
	Richard Olson	Councillor
	David Phillips	Councillor
	MJ Siebold	Councillor
	Tim Thompson	Councillor (entered at 10:16 a.m.)
	Hajar (Jerry) Haymour	Councillor
	John Nowak	Councillor/Deputy Mayor (entered at 10:15 a.m.)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	Shadia Amblie	Chief Administrative Officer
	Melanie McConnell	Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
	Brian Shapka	Senior Manager, Public Works
	Dan Small	Senior Manager, Finance & Grants
	Julie MacIsaac	Communications Coordinator (in part)
	Joanne Onciul	Legislative Services Coordinator

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

15.799 Motion by Councillor Siebold to approve the December 3, 2015 Special Council Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Proposed 2016 County Budget.

Mr. Dan Small, Senior Manager of Finance and Grants, provided a summary of the proposed 2016 budget process.

Councillor Nowak entered Council Chambers at 10:15 a.m.

Councillor Thompson entered Council Chambers at 10:16 a.m.

Mr. Brian Shapka, Senior Manager of Public Works responded to questions of Council regarding the proposed Transportation budget – Roads and Streets.

RECESS

Mayor Moghrabi called a recess at 10:54 a.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Moghrabi reconvened the meeting at 11:02 a.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

DELEGATION

4.1 Oil Sands Community Alliance (OSCA) Presentation.

Mr. Reegan McCullough, Executive Director of Oil Sands Community Alliance (OSCA), provided the following information to Council with respect to the oil industry:

- Reviewed map of proposed projects from road widening to double-lane paving in the Lac La Biche to Fort McMurray area;
- Discussed prioritizing of projects on Highway 881 and the connectors to Lac La Biche road network;
- Suggested the County work with Wood Buffalo and the oil sands industry to lobby the government to use infrastructure funds to work on roads;
- Requested that the Lac La Biche County links urban and rural industrial mill rates;
- Discussed how the volatile market is affecting the oil industry;
 - Since the industry's cash flow has dropped from \$150 billion to \$90 billion, corporations have less money to invest in projects;
 - When the price of oil drops to \$40 a barrel, oil companies only receive \$25 a barrel and, although these discounted rates are higher than 2012, they are having more of an impact;
 - Reviewed several changes that have impacted the market – political change, income tax change, a doubled carbon tax, reviews of the climate policy, royalty review, MGA review – aboriginal consults, cancellation of the Keystone pipeline;
- Reviewed global impacts – 40 projects cancelled – 20 in Canada;
 - 40,000 of 550,000 current jobs have been lost, predicted 185,000 of total change in industry – 80 per cent over last year;
 - Oil prices will be lower for longer – the battle for market sharing is predicted to take 20 years to rebound;
- Municipal taxes contribute to the overall competitiveness of the industry;
- Looking for a five per cent reduction in 2016 municipal taxes and linking of urban and rural industrial mill rates for future investments;

- Specialized municipalities have the opportunity to delink mill rates – change the portion of taxes – if rates go up in the industrial area, they should go up in the rural area.

Discussion ensued regarding the impacts of raising the rural industrial mill rate.

The video created by the Coalition for a Safer 63/881 called “Stop the Dreaded Door Knock” was viewed by all those present.

Councillor Richard provided an update on Highways 881, 55 and 36.

Discussion ensued regarding the OSCA presentation.

Councillor Olson left Council Chambers at 11:38 a.m.

Councillor Olson returned to Council Chambers at 11:40 a.m.

Discussion continued regarding the presentation.

Mayor Moghrabi thanked Mr. McCullough for his presentation.

RECESS

Mayor Moghrabi called a recess at 11:45 a.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Moghrabi reconvened the meeting at 12:00 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

DISPOSITION OF DELEGATION BUSINESS

4.1.1 Disposition of Delegation Business.

This matter was not discussed at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Proposed 2016 County Budget (continued).

Discussion ensued regarding the 2016 proposed budget process.

Mr. Maurice Gushta, Manager of Finance, presented a strategy to understand how the 2016 budget is presented.

Discussion ensued regarding salaries and wages.

Discussion continued on how to proceed with the budget delivery process.

Councillor Olson left Council Chambers at 12:30 p.m.

Councillor Olson returned to Council Chambers at 12:33 p.m.

15.800 Motion by Councillor Nowak that Administration bring forward a draft 2016 Operational budget with a 5% reduction from the 2014 actual expenditures.

IN FAVOUR
Councillor Nowak

OPPOSED
Mayor Moghrabi
Councillor Austin
Councillor Richard
Councillor Olson
Councillor Phillips
Councillor Siebold
Councillor Thompson
Councillor Haymour

DEFEATED

Review of the 2016 Budget summary commenced.

Discussion ensued regarding salaries, wages and benefits.

Councillor Siebold left Council Chambers at 12:42 p.m.

Councillor Siebold returned to Council Chambers at 12:42 p.m.

Councillor Nowak left Council Chambers at 12:47 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding mileage and subsistence and memberships, dues and registration fees.

RECESS

Mayor Moghrabi called a recess at 12:58 p.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Moghrabi reconvened the meeting at 2:17 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance, including Councillor Nowak and with the exception of Councillor Siebold.

NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Proposed 2016 County Budget (continued).

Discussion continued regarding memberships, dues and registrations.

Councillor Siebold entered Council Chambers at 2:19 p.m.

Councillor Richard left Council Chambers at 2:19 p.m.

Councillor Richard returned to Council Chambers at 2:24 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding consulting services.

Mr. Gushta explained that consulting services is now split three ways: Contracted Equipment Services, Contracted Services – General, and Contracted Repairs and Maintenance.

Mayor Moghrabi left Council Chambers at 2:35 p.m.; Deputy Mayor Nowak assumed the Chair.

Budget deliberations continued with the review of the following:

- Freight;
- Postage;
- Telephone and communications service;
- Photocopying and printing; – reduce to \$120,000
- Advertising;
- Accounting and audit services;
- Legal services;
- Engineering services;

Deputy Mayor Nowak left Council Chambers at 3:00 p.m. and did not return to the meeting. Councillor Richard assumed the Chair.

Budget deliberations continued with review of the following:

- Engineering services per department;
- Assessment services;
- Contracted services – General.

Councillor Haymour left Council Chambers at 3:21 p.m.

Councillor Haymour returned to Council Chambers at 3:23 p.m.

Budget deliberations continued on:

- Contracted repairs and maintenance;
- Land, building and equipment rentals;
- Licenses & permits;
- Insurance;
- Software Support – Bellamy, GIS and Active Net, IT’s software;
- Consumable Supplies – computer parts, building materials, parts, janitor supplies, gravel surface materials, oil, blades, tires, etc.
- Consumable supplies – Common services.

Councillor Thompson left Council Chambers at 3:55 p.m. and did not return to the meeting.

Budget deliberations continued.

ADJOURNMENT

15.801 Motion by Councillor Siebold to adjourn the Special Council Meeting of December 3, 2015 at 4:02 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Omer Moghrabi, Mayor

**Shadia Amblie
Chief Administrative Officer**