

**MUNICIPALITY OF CROWSNEST PASS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2011
GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Governance and Priorities Committee was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, January 25, 2011.

PRESENT: **MAYOR:** Bruce Decoux

COUNCILORS: Siegbert Gail, Brian Gallant, Jerry Lonsbury, Larry Mitchell,
Emile Saindon, Andrew Saje

Also present:

Chief Administrative Officer	Tully Clifford
Director of Finance & Systems	Marion Vanoni
Director of Operational Services	Myron Thompson
Director of Community Services	Cam Mertz
Director of Legislative and HR Services	Lynne Cox
Recording Secretary	Carolee Ison

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Decoux called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

G#93-11: Mayor Decoux moved to adopt the agenda as written.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

Robin Thiessen Hepher - Assistant Director - Chinook Arch Library System

Mr. Robin Thiessen Hepher, Assistant Director of Chinook Arch Regional Library System, was in attendance for a presentation to Council on the Chinook Arch Library System. The presentation included:

- The Library Board and Municipality are members of the Chinook Arch Regional Library System
- Judy Bradley of the Blairmore Library, Doreen Glavin of the Bellevue Library, and Pat Korble, Library Board Chair, were also in attendance

Public Library Service in Alberta:

- Funded 75% – 80% by the Municipality, with the remainder of funding from the Province
- Each local library is governed by its own board and makes its own decisions
- Most municipal libraries belong to the Regional Library System

DELEGATIONS - Robin Thiessen Hepher - Chinook Arch Library System - Continued

- The Alberta Library – Province Wide Licensing Consortium – Allows all the libraries in Alberta to pool their purchasing power
- Public Library Services Branch – Branch of Municipal Affairs which administers the Library Act
- Alberta Library Trustees Association – Advocacy body

Independent Local Libraries:

- Have their own boards
- Establishes funding levels
- Appoint a representative to the Regional Library Board

Chinook Arch Regional Library System:

- Serves southwestern Alberta
- Currently 39 members
- 41 member board – 39 members and an appointee from Municipal Affairs and the Lethbridge Public Library
- Responsible for creating governance policies, monitoring financial progress, planning, setting direction, supporting marketing and communications
- A *Needs Assessment* and *Plan of Service* are required every three years

Benefits of belonging to the Regional Library System:

- Funds can be pooled to provide a higher level of service
- Centralization of services reduces the duplication of effort
- Bigger discounts from vendors due to purchasing volume

Benefits to local residents of belonging to Chinook Regional Library System:

- Access to over 900,000 items in 34 libraries
- Can use any library in the region with their Blairmore or Bellevue Library Card
- High Definition Videoconferencing
- Downloadable eBook and audio book service
- Interlibrary loans
- Provide block collections (such as large print books, media collections)

Benefits to Library Staff:

- Consultation librarians available to assist Library Managers
- Training and professional development
- Cataloguing and Processing
- Website
- Centralized IT Help Desk
- Cost effective delivery system to move materials throughout the region

DELEGATIONS - Robin Thiessen Hepher - Chinook Arch Library System - Continued

Budget:

- Majority of funding from the Municipality
- Province provides a Provincial Operating Grant and subsidizes Super Net connection
- Some fundraising is done
- Operate on a three year budget cycle – 2011 is the last year of current budget cycle
- Will be presenting the new budget to Council at the end of August or early September
- In order for a budget to be approved two thirds of the Councils have to pass the budget

Further discussion included:

- Some issues around eBooks involve digital rights management
- 160 eBooks have been downloaded in the Crowsnest Pass to date
- Trends in library use and membership can be provided if Council requires
- Generally there is an increase in membership from year to year especially when the economy is bad
- Library Board membership fee - \$3.50 per capita
- Municipality membership fee - \$6.27 per capita
- Some libraries stay relevant with youth through gaming and literacy
- Currently no charge for videoconferencing

Mayor Decoux thanked Mr. Hepher for his presentation.

Dale Paton – Environmental Overview

Mr. Dale Paton, Conservation Biologist, was in attendance to provide a presentation to Council on Conservation Planning in the Crowsnest Pass. His presentation included:

- Conservation planning involves ecological, economic, and intrinsic values
- Wildlife move to their winter ranges by way of linkage zones
- Areas of animal movement, winter ungulate ranges, and Highway 3 crossings were reviewed
- Reasons for Conservation Planning:
 - Protect and conserve water resources
 - Wisely develop and conserve land base
 - Society and economic benefits
 - Intrinsic values and viewsapes
- The Process is guided by:
 - Provincial and Federal legislation and policy
 - Municipal Government Act
 - Municipal Development Plan
 - Municipality of Crowsnest Pass Land Use Bylaw
 - Community Sustainability Plan
- Sustainable Development is a balance between economy, society, and environment
- Economic value is provided by:
 - High biodiversity of plants and wildlife
 - Many bird and mammal species
 - Water resources - fisheries and recreation
 - Non-renewable resources including coal and natural gas

DELEGATIONS - Dale Paton – Environmental Overview - Continued

- Natural Capital is the concept of gathering economic value from ecological processes
- The Municipality can:
 - Implement the Municipal Development Plan
 - Develop from the existing town foot print outward
 - Maintain a viable balance of development types
 - Promote the wildlife and scenic values of the area
 - Renewable resources including lumber, ecotourism, solar, wind
 - Services
 - Conserve areas around streams and rivers by identifying these areas during the subdivision process
 - Conserve high quality wildlife areas
- Tools Available:
 - The Crowsnest Pass Municipal Planning Tool which was developed by the Miistakis Institute which incorporates conservation values with development possibilities
 - Allows many factors effecting development to be viewed simultaneously
 - Ability to place priority on factors
 - Does have limitations
 - Consider economics of wildlife and resource management in economic development strategies
- Public Initiatives
 - Bear Smart Program
 - Weed Control
 - Highway 3 wildlife mitigation opportunities
 - Recreation development primarily within footprint of communities

Further discussion and answers to questions included:

- Migration through the Gold Creek area includes elk, grizzly bears, cougars, black bears
- Councillor Gallant noted the Provincial Government recommends the Development Plan be updated every ten years, and the Municipality's Development Plan is ten years old
- Mr. Paton advised he is working with Alberta Transportation and local groups to put up fencing and signage in the area of the Crowsnest Lakes to reduce the mortality of the Big Horn Sheep in the area
- When queried if any proposed developments would affect the wildlife corridor, Mr. Paton noted the Gold Creek Development

Mayor Decoux thanked Mr. Paton for his presentation.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

No Topics for Discussion

IN CAMERA

No In Camera

BUSINESS OUT OF CAMERA

No Business Out of Camera

AJOURN

G#94-11: Councilor Saindon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bruce Vernon Decoux

MAYOR

Tully Clifford

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER