

DELEGATIONS - Continued

- There were 298 completed surveys, 232 community surveys and 64 business surveys.
- The purpose of the survey was to gather information regarding the local economy and to gain feedback about the direction the local strategy should take.
- Ms. Boekner went over the questions and responses administered in each survey documenting the results in bar graphs for analysis.
- Ms. Boeckner advised that the next step in the process will be community workshops scheduled for April 12th. The primary goal at that time will be identifying stakeholders in the community, Municipal Council being one of them.

The presentation concluded at 7:25 pm

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

2010 Budget

The Director of Finance and Systems provided additional data to Council to continue 2010 Budget deliberations including:

- 2010 Assessment Base comparison with a 3% increase to both residential and non residential mill rates – Comparison to 2008 and 2009
- 2010 ASFF and Seniors Lodge Requisition
- Linear Assessment Annual Comparisons
- 2010 Budget Adjustments for Council Discussion & Deliberation
- 2010 Property Tax Revenue Generation Summary of Sources of Funds 2010 Budget

The Director of Finance and Systems detailed the pertinent changes to the budget information as follows:

- The projected surplus has been reduced to \$63,101.00.
- The 2010 Assessment has decreased by \$12,815,864 dollars.
- The 2010 requisition for the Alberta School Foundation and Senior's Lodge have increased by 5.9% and 11.42% respectively. The Municipality collects these funds on behalf of the Provincial Requisitioning bodies.
- It is anticipated that the timeline to strike the Mill-Rate Bylaw will remain unchanged and take place at the April 6th meeting of Council.
- A minimum of a three percent increase to residential taxes and an eleven point five percent increase to non-residential taxes will be necessary in 2010.

Further discussion included:

- Councilor Ward's request for clarification of information provided during the course of budget deliberations regarding anticipated costs for additional positions. The CAO advised Council to look at cutting services rather than positions as the work still needs to be completed whether by additional employees or current employees on over-time wages. Councilor Ward requested further review be done on the additional positions

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION - Continued

- The anticipated cost savings from the closing of the Crowsnest Center will not materialize as costs are fixed for utilities and insurance on the building. The Municipality has an obligation to keep utilities active while user groups are still utilizing the Center. Once utilities are cut completely, deterioration to the building is inevitable. The Committee was advised that the Crowsnest Center Board has not submitted payment of the outstanding \$35,000. The CAO advised that invoices have been sent however demand for payment has not. The matter will be referred to the Municipality's lawyer to send out a letter of demand. Councilor Macleod suggested that the insurance be reduced to a demolition value.
- The following expenditures were cut from the MSI grant funding; the planning project was eliminated and sewer cameraing is to be postponed to next year.
- Councilor Macleod asked for information as to what services could be cut, as opposed to reducing employees.
- Councilor Ward advised that he would like to see a minimum budget surplus of \$250,000.
- The CAO advised that Administration will provide a list of possible service cuts.
- Councilor Cole suggested the hiring freeze be lifted in the Recreation department in order to facilitate the hiring of **summer students** only. The Community Services Director advised that the pool annually hires ten to twenty employees, and two to four employees are required for the ski hill. The Committee reached a consensus to drop the hiring freeze in the Recreation department for summer students at the next Council meeting.
- The Committee has come to the consensus that another budget meeting will be required prior to striking the Mill-Rate Bylaw. The next budget meeting will be held March 29, 2010 at 7:00 pm.

Call for Resolutions for the 2010 AUMA Convention

The Committee had no resolutions to put forth as of this date, however it was noted that the deadline for submission is June 30, 2010.

Community Standards Bylaw

A discussion was held regarding the suggested revisions to the Community Standards Bylaw.

- Councilor Ward advised that Section 4 and Section 11 are duplicated. Section 11 will be scratched and the remaining sections will be renumbered.
- The Committee has requested that the revised Bylaw be reviewed by the Bylaw Officer and Doug Young prior to the April 13th meeting of the committee.

ADJOURN

G#17-10: Councilor Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Original Signed

MAYOR

Original Signed

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER