

EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

April 29, 2009

Approved Minutes

DATE: April 29, 2009

TIME: 7:50 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.

PLACE: Stratford Town Centre, 234 Shakespeare Drive

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Sandy McMillan; Councillors Emile Gallant; Diane Griffin; Patrick Ross; Gary Clow; and Robert Hughes, CAO

REGRETS: Councillor Steve MacDonald

CHAIR: Mayor Kevin Jenkins

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Kevin Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. and turned the floor over to Deputy Mayor McMillan.

Deputy Mayor McMillan stated that there was a meeting today, but unfortunately everyone was not able to attend. However, there was a consensus to go forward, so we asked Doug Deacon to submit the application and advise that a motion from Council will follow.

Resolution OT-001-2009 Approval to Apply to the Cultural Spaces Program for 50% of the Cost of Constructing a New Library

Moved by Deputy Mayor Sandy McMillan

Seconded by Councillor Emile Gallant

Whereas the Town of Stratford has completed a strategic plan to develop the Arts and Cultural sector in Stratford; and

Whereas the existing Stratford Library is not large enough to be able to offer a full range of programs and the library is deemed to be an important cultural institution in Stratford; and

Whereas applications are being received for funding under the Federal Government's Cultural Spaces Program; and

Whereas the Stratford Rotary Club has expressed an interest in assisting with the cost of constructing a new Stratford Library.

Be it Resolved that approval be granted to apply to the Cultural Spaces Program for 50% of the cost of constructing a new library for Stratford which is estimated to cost approximately \$900,000, and that the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the application on behalf of the Town.

Discussion: Mayor Jenkins noted that this would be a major project for us. Councillor Ross stated that he wanted to reiterate his comments of earlier today. He knows, especially as a teacher, the importance of a library, but he is also

looking at the expense side of it. Councillor Ross stated that before we go to that final step, we need to have all the information on costs, commitments etc. and then evaluate if we can make it work.

Councillor Gary Clow asked what has happened since the meeting on Monday when it was agreed that we would do a feasibility study. He added that there was a lot of pressure put on people today and he feels that this is being rushed. Deputy Mayor McMillan replied that we don't need a feasibility study for this component of what was a much larger project. We originally envisioned a cultural centre with a library as one component and we did need a feasibility study for that. Deputy Mayor McMillan noted that she did ask at the meeting on Monday to have the library as a separate component and focus on that, and she still feels that it is a good idea to have the library as a separate component and avail ourselves of the funding available. Mayor Jenkins asked for clarification regarding the feasibility study and if it was going to go ahead with the cultural centre, and Deputy Mayor McMillan replied that she does not believe so. She added that we have money in the budget now for a feasibility study, but right now this is strictly about the library.

Councillor Gallant stated that he does not have a problem with the library adding that he made some calls today to see what needs to be done and what is the view of the province on this type of project. The only concern he has is that the library may not qualify for the program. Deputy Mayor McMillan noted that she spoke with Charles DesRoches and discussed the various components including the library, and he encouraged us to apply for the funding.

Councillor Clow asked about letting the residents know about this application and Robert stated that this is a public Council meeting and a press release is usually sent out after each Council meeting. It was agreed that if our application is found to be eligible, we will send out a press release.

Question: **CARRIED**

2. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Mayor Kevin Jenkins

Robert Hughes, CAO