



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF
L U M S D E N
NO. 189

**Finance Committee Budget Meeting
April 24, 2017**

Call to Order

The Finance Committee of the Lumsden Rural Municipal Council convened their budget meeting in the Council Chambers of the R.M. Office, on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 1:03 p.m. with Chairperson Ian White presiding.

Present:

Chairperson: Ian White
Reeve: Kent Farago
Councillor: John Langford
Chief Administrative Officer: Darcie Cooper
Finance Officer: Sheena Carrick
Manager of Public Works: Leighton Watts

Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Reeve Farago

"That we approve the agenda as presented."

CARRIED

Reports of the Finance Officer

Finance Officer, Sheena Carrick, provided a presentation on the 2017 Draft Budget indicating that with the items discussed included in the budget the municipality would be facing a \$110,000 deficit if the RM were to stay revenue neutral. A 2% taxation increase would generate \$61,000.

A written presentation on tax tools was also provided to the committee.

The Committee discussed the following items:

- no change to the current minimum tax for both Commercial and Residential assessments
- added additional staff this year including an additional full time operator and a shared planner with the Town (cost increase of \$50,000)
- cost of living increase of 2% should be included, in keeping with the increase to the reserves as per the policy and the salary grid increases for staff
- discussed the potential for saving money on road upgrade projects with a FAE Mulcher as well as a 350 hp Front wheel assist tractor to run it. Public Works Committee to determine its potential for cost savings over the long run. The tractor required would be an estimated \$300,000 and the Mulcher would be an estimated \$200,000. The finance committee discussed increasing the transfer to the equipment reserve by \$100,000 to provide some funding in the event this purchase will be a benefit to the municipality
- With the addition of the increase to the equipment reserve a taxation increase in the amount of a little over 6% would be required

Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Councillor Langford

"That the minutes of the April 6, 2017 Finance Committee meeting be approved, as circulated."

CARRIED

New Business

Increase transfer to Equipment Reserve

Moved by: Councillor Langford

"That we request administration to add an additional \$100,000 to the transfer to the Equipment Reserve in the 2017 draft budget to go towards the possible purchase of a FAE Mulcher and Tractor that could have potential cost savings for the RM in road improvement projects."

CARRIED

2017 proposed Deficit Funding - Taxation

Moved by: Councillor Langford

"That we recommend administration prepare the draft budget by funding the deficit of approximately \$210,000 through an increase to taxation, representing a little over 6% increase in taxes."

CARRIED

Review Commercial Taxation in RMs of Edenwold and Sherwood

Moved by: Reeve Farago

"That we request administration to conduct a review of commercial taxation in the RM of Edenwold and the RM of Sherwood due to the 2017 revaluation and bring back the information to the next Finance Committee meeting."

CARRIED

Next Meeting

Moved by: Councillor Langford

"That we agree to schedule the next meeting of the Finance Committee for Friday, May 12, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers"

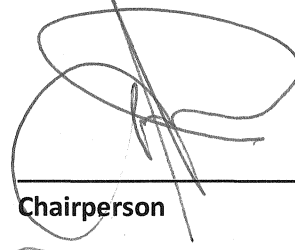
CARRIED

Adjournment

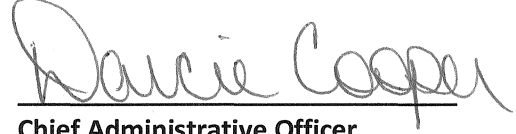
Moved by: Councillor Langford

"That we adjourn the meeting at 2:39 p.m."

CARRIED



Chairperson



Chief Administrative Officer