

**R.M. OF LUMSDEN No. 189**  
**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD ON APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2012**

The Lumsden Rural Municipal Finance Committee convened a budget meeting in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office, on the afternoon of Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 at 1:10 p.m. with Chairman Kent Farago presiding.

**Present:** Chairman: Kent Farago  
 Reeve: Jim Hipkin.  
 Councillors: Al Szeles, Dale Srochenski, Tom Harrison

Chief Administrator  
 Officer: Byron Tumbach  
 Asst. Administrator: Darcie Cooper  
 Mgr of Public Works: Don Barnett

**General Discussion:**

CAO Byron Tumbach provided an overview of the 2011 actuals compared to the budget as well as the proposed 2012 budget reflecting a 1 mill increase, the projects as prioritized by the Public Works Committee, changes proposed by Administration and the Manager of Public Works.

To bring the 2012 budget in line with the estimates being proposed a reduction in transportation services would be needed as well as an increase to the mill rate. Administration led Council through the detailed revenue and expenditure sections. With a one mill increase the RM was still showing a substantial deficit.

Listed below are comments put forward by the Committee;

**General Government:**

- The Committee questioned the audit fees. The expense of 2010 audit paid in 2011 amounted to \$12,285 (2011 Budget was \$9,000) At a past Regina District Municipal Assoc. meeting members of Council compared the audit fees of the RM with other RM's and found the fees to be noticeably higher. The CAO indicated that a review of the audit process and a post audit review of the 2011 service will be done. By having this addressed it may provide some perspective in the scope of work performed to the fees paid. For the 2011 audit, administration is projecting the service to be \$12,500.

**Transportation Services:**

- A complete review of the Divisional Transportation Services was presented by Darcie Cooper, Assistant Administrator. Darcie indicated that if Council were only to consider the high priority areas and remove the medium rated work a savings of \$61,100 could be realized. In addition items that were inadvertently carried over in Division 3 and not required were removed, resulting in another \$24,400 savings. The total savings by removing medium priority projects and Division 3 correction would be **\$85,500**.
- The Committee discussed the dust control policy and the majority of the members felt that the municipality should offer the 50/50 share program this year which reduce the expenditures in this area by about \$15,000, leaving a budget of **\$15,000** for dust control on the lagoon haul road which is cost shared with the Town of Regina Beach. KF.

**Environmental Health & Welfare:**

- The Committee discussed the PREP (Provincial Rat Eradication Program) and it was recommended that they discontinue with this program as the program costs were over 12,000 and the Grant from SARM was under \$2,000. As the reports received from Pest Control Officer Jim King indicated very few sites with infestations, it was recommended that the budget for inspections be \$2,000 and the municipality would withdraw from the PREP program, alleviating the requirement to have every agricultural site inspected.

**Capital Expenditures**

- The CAO reviewed the 5 year capital plan with the Committee. It is the intent of


BMT  
KF

administration to put forward a reserve policy that will govern contributions and withdrawals from and to reserves and the capital fund. At the present time capital is being financed primarily by debt. Concern was expressed that adequate resources are not being put aside for equipment replacement and the Committee requested the contributions be a minimum of \$25,000/annually.

The Committee agreed to meet prior to the next Council Meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to review the revised budget based on the above changes, the new assessment and not more than a 2 mill increase.

**Adjournment:**

Srochenski/Harrison: "That the meeting be adjourned at 4:45 p.m." **CARRIED**

  
Chairman

  
Chief Administrator Officer