

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEEBING
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
SITTING AS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Held at the Municipal Office
On Wednesday, September 7, 2016

PRESENT: Mayor Ziggy Polkowski
Councillor Erwin Butikofer
Councillor Mike McCooey
Councillor Bill Lankinen
Councillor Roger Shott
Councillor Brian Wright
Councillor Curtis Coulson

Pamela Cain, Neebing Economic Advisory Committee
Wayne Robinson, Neebing Economic Advisory Committee
Dawne Kilgour, Neebing Economic Advisory Committee
Clara Butikofer, Neebing Economic Advisory Committee

Erika Kromm, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- (a) Call to Order: Mayor Polkowski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- (b) Attendance: Attendance was recorded.
- (c) Declarations of Interest: No declarations of interest were received.

2. STRATEGIC PLAN FROM & FOR THE NEEBING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

2.1 Draft Strategic Plan Document as presented to Council at its Regular meeting held August 24, 2016

The Economic Development Advisory Committee briefly introduced the purpose of the meeting and there was a brief discussion on how the meeting will proceed. It was decided to proceed with a question and answer period.

2.2 Discussion & Question and Answer Period

Mayor Polkowski asked about the objectives related to attracting new residents and how this will be achieved. This issue was further discussed. Promotion of the attractions of the area were addressed.

This led to discussion about the development restrictions from the Province that only allow three severances on a property after 1972. The Committee suggested that, until that restriction is changed, the focus should be on encouraging development on the lot inventory that is already available in the municipality. The Committee believes that promoting positives relating to living Neebing will attract new residents.

Councillor Shott asked how the municipality can promote growth of local businesses without crossing the "bonusing" prohibition in the Municipal Act. (This forbids the use of public money for the benefit of individual private businesses.) Some of the ideas included circulating articles, surveying local businesses to find out what is working well for them and what is not, identifying Neebing businesses at area farmer's markets with some type of identifying sign and social media campaigns.

There was some discussion about promoting some type of development at the border and the difficulties both the committee and the municipality have had in getting any response from the Province. There was also mention of the inability to develop a park and boat launch in the subdivision at Lake Lenore because the land is owned by the Province.

Some interest was expressed in developing some type of welcome program for new residents. Members discussed how this had been done in the past and ideas on how it could be started again.

Members of the Economic Development Advisory Committee suggested that Neebing should become part of the TransCanada Trail network. There was debate regarding areas for paddlers to come on shore and how that relates to the municipality's insurance policy. Clara Butikofer explained that the organization structure of the TransCanada Trail has changed, and along with that came changes relating to insurance requirements. The insurance changes came due to the reluctance of some municipalities to get involved. Members present said that they would review this issue further if new information was brought forward from the trail organization and in consultation with the municipality's insurance provider. There was a brief discussion about the level of support that Neebing should give to other trails in the area.

Wayne Robinson said that if Council is satisfied with the draft outline of the strategic plan, then the committee will proceed with developing the details. Mr. Robinson further advised that proceeding with developing the detailed plan, will require additional people and resources from the municipality.

Consensus reached was that Council is satisfied with the draft outline presented.

It was noted that Councillor Brian Wright has stepped down from the committee. On behalf of the committee, Dawne Kilgour presented a card to Councillor Wright.

2.3 Recommendations to Council Arising out of the Joint Meeting

No recommendations resulted from this meeting.

3. ADJOURN THE MEETING

Mayor Polkowski adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL, SITTING AS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE



Ziggy Polkowski
MAYOR



Erika Kromm
DEPUTY CLERK

