

10/2012

October 11, 2012

**MINUTES OF THE TABER RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON October 11, 2012 AT
5:15 PM**

PRESENT: Councilor Rick Popadynetz
Danielle Hansen
Councilor Randy Sparks
Luke Wijna
Garrett Simmons
Tim O'Donnell (Arrived 5:31 PM)
Councilor Don Johnson (Arrived 5:33 PM)

ALSO PRESENT:
Aline Holmen, Leisure Services Manager
Rob Cressman, Director of Public Services
Marty Planger, Recording Secretary
Taber Times

Garrett Simmons was sworn into the Recreation Board as a Member At Large prior to the start of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Luke Wijna called the Regular Meeting of the Taber Recreation Board to order at 5:15 pm

The Recreation Board welcomed Garrett Simmons to the board.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

RES. 52/2012 MOVED by Councilor R. Sparks to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

A) Regular meeting – September 6, 2012

RES. 53/2012 MOVED by Councilor R. Popadynetz that the Recreation Board adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Recreation Board held on September 6, 2012 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A) Sponsorship Update

RES. 54/2012 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board accept the Sponsorship Update as presented

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION ITEMS

A) Citizen Correspondence

The Recreation Board discussed the limitations on offering of private swimming lessons at the Aquafun Centre.

Tim O'Donnell Arrived 5:31 PM

RES. 55/2012 MOVED by Councilor R. Sparks that the Recreation Board recommends Administration follow up with citizen regarding Aquafun Centre private lessons directly.

CARRIED

B) 2013 Preliminary Operating Budget

Councilor Don Johnson Arrived 5:33 PM

A. Holmen reviewed the RFD and its background information. Administration asked if the Recreation Board would consider reviewing the Cost Recovery of 45-50% at a future meeting as it is no longer realistic to reach with Amortization being factored into current budgets. As in the past Administration will bring back the finalized budget once approved by the Town of Taber Council.

A. Holmen reported that this proposed budget does include the 2013 approved waivers and does not include a forecast for the Sponsorship Program. Staffing is to remain the same and Administration is still recruiting for the two vacant positions of Recreation Facility Manager and the Operator position for Recreation. Budget is very tight and doesn't leave room for a lot of unexpected expenses. Year to date actuals includes up to Sept. 1, 2012. No increases were proposed for the Summer Programs or the Special Event fees and a 3% increase was proposed for all other functions. Amortization function is applied at the end of year therefore is not reflected in the year to date expenditures.

OPERATING BUDGETS

1. Cemetery – proposed budget reflects 3% increase.
2. Arenas – proposed budget reflects 3% increase. Recreation Facility Manager wages are reflected in budget in this function as well as Parks, Auditorium, Sportsfields.
3. Golf/Curling – repainting has not occurred and is not included in this budget.
4. Parks – no revenue reflected other than donations because it is a green space. Electricity reflected here is the cost of general lighting and not from the sportsfields large lighting. There was a concern from the board that the trees continue to be maintained properly. R. Cressman agreed to follow-up. Councilor D. Johnson said the M.D. of Taber has an expertise that could be drawn upon.
5. Programs – there is no increase proposed due to competition offering free programs and feedback from the participants of the events.
6. Summer Games - 2013 - this proposed budget will be going to the MD of Taber Council Meeting also and includes a \$20,000.00 financial contribution from both councils. Donations may be included as part of the sponsorship program because some interest has been shown by businesses during their discovery meetings. SARA has been made aware and is not concerned as it is been done in previous games. Wages for the games Coordinator position is reflected under Professional Services.
7. Recreation Sponsorship – this proposed budget does not show revenue until 2014 as it is an unknown. Administration wanted to take a conservative approach in not wanting to set the budget for failure.
8. Aquatics – this proposed budget reflects a 3% increase. It was reported that it is too hard to compare this facilities deficit to other facilities because of too many variables however it seems average to equivalent size facilities. It was reported that Amortization is very large in this facility and should equal the contributions to capital and is far from doing so.
9. Sportsfields – This proposed budget reflects a 3% increase. It was asked how much of the electricity costs is incurred due to football lighting and A. Holmen agreed to report back on the matter. Question arose as to whether it would be more efficient to purchase portapotties versus renting and it was felt that maintenance on facilities would make it not viable. Staff is exploring other suppliers. It was questioned as to why Amortization was budgeted so high in 2011. R.

Cressman was unsure and thought it could have been data entry error or just because the process was being introduced. R. Cressman agreed to look into it.

10. Auditorium/Meeting Rooms – This proposed budget reflects a 3% increase. The Recreation Board questioned why the contract repairs is budgeted so much higher than in the past and it was explained that this amount reflects the lifecycle maintenance which has been cut from the final budget in previous years. R. Cressman reported that insurance costs have been misallocated previously in this function and others and this amount now reflects the correction. Hardware and Contracted repairs increase was explained that it reflects maintenance in the leased portion of the basement of the Community Centre. The Lessee will be told if this stays in the budget.

The Recreation Board discussed that the increase of 3% equates to \$16,500.00. After reviewing the fee comparisons between facilities it was noted that our recreation fees are already on the high end of the comparison scale. Vacancies may cover the projected income as well as sponsorship that may come to light throughout the year if a zero percent increase is approved. The Recreation Board discussed that the priority should be to encourage usage especially with the youth.

Discussion was had on possibility of volunteer work force to do some of the maintenance however due to liability as well as lack of volunteerism this may not be viable. The M.D. of Taber contribution was discussed in relation to user fees.

RES. 56/2012 MOVED by T. O'Donnell that the Recreation Board recommends to Council a 0% increase in user fees and request that Administration make the adjustments to the operating budget.

CARRIED

The Recreation Board also discussed the merits of a Recreation Master Plan and recommended information be brought back to a future meeting.

The Recreation Board also acknowledged the Cost Recovery Policy should be reviewed at the next meeting.

BOARD/STAFF REPORTS

I. Reports

A. Holmen reported that the Recreation Facility Waiver Requests Policy was approved and the Waiver & Reductions list for 2013 was also

approved. The Recreation Board will receive a copy to assist them with decision making regarding waivers in the future.

RES. 57/2012 MOVED by Councilor D. Johnson that the Recreation Board accepts the monthly Board/Staff reports as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEDIA INQUIRY

The low expenditures to date at the Aquafun Centre were questioned and it was explained that the Amortization has not been applied yet, Utilities spike with the lower temperatures and shutdown costs occurred in September which have not been accounted for in the Year to Date column.

CLOSE OF MEETING

RES. 58/2012 MOVED by G. Simmons that this Regular Meeting of the Taber Recreation Board do now close.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:50 PM



CHAIRMAN