



**CITY OF KENORA
PROPERTY & PLANNING
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

City Hall Council Chambers commencing at 10:00 A.M

Attendees: Councillor Wasacase, Councillor Compton, Art Mior, Jennifer Rasmussen, Jeff Port, Tara Rickaby, Ian Sgambelluri

Regrets: Councillor Rory McMillan, Councillor Ingrid Parkes

Councillor Wasacase opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

A. PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICES AS PER BY-LAW NUMBER 14-2003 -

Take Notice that as required under Notice By-law No. 14-2003, Council hereby advises the public of its intention to adopt the following by-law at its meeting on February 13, 2006:

- **A By-law to Approve the Terms of Reference for, and the Establishment of an Economic Development Committee for the City of Kenora.**

B. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST - None

C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 25 January 2006

Moved by: Art Mior

Seconded by: Len Compton

THAT the minutes of the Property and Planning Committee meeting of January 25, 2006 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

D. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - None

E. DEPUTATION- None

NO.	REPORT SUBJECT	DISPOSITION
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1. Economic Development – Committee Terms of Reference

Jeff Port explained that the Executive Committee created in July of 2005 as a response to the shut down of one paper machine at Abitibi, and the indefinite idling of the other. Now that Abitibi Consolidated has permanently closed the mill, the Committee has discussed its changing role and associated mandate.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora approves the amended terms of reference for the new City of Kenora Economic Development Committee. **Recommendation approved.**

Tara/Jeff

2. LOWBIC – 2005 Financial Reports

Bill Preisentanz distributed the statements for LOWBIC's 3rd and 4th quarters of 2005. They were received by the City in January and were reviewed by the Finance Department. There are several questions which must be answered before Council will approve payment of the 2005 3rd and 4th quarter invoices. Ian Sgambelluri will report back to Bill Preisentanz with respect

to the LOWEIDA inventory and reserve, and what the agreement date (functional year end) and associated costs are for the Street Brigade account.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora accepts the 2005, 3rd and 4th Quarter Reports as submitted by LOWBIC in January 2006; and further; THAT the Finance Department be authorized to forward the third and fourth quarter payment for 2005 to LOWBIC. **Recommendation approved (conditional).**

Ian/Bill

3. Economic Development Officer – Report

Jennifer Rasmussen discussed the report previously distributed. She updated the Committee on the status of the Abitibi property and environmental study which will commence soon. The dates and agenda for the next forum will be confirmed upon the return, to Kenora, of the Chair of the Executive Committee.

The article in the January 28th, 2006 issue of the Winnipeg Free Press has resulted in many calls, as well as interest by the newspaper in follow up articles.

The Northern Star Action Centre has been very busy; staff reports that approximately 60% of displaced mill staff have made use of the resource centre. Training programs and employment training are ongoing. NAVCAN is attending the centre today for recruiting purposes. **Report accepted.**

4. LOWBIC Service Agreement

Bill Preisentanz advised that the report before the Committee today was precipitated by both the transfer of responsibility for economic development services back to the City, from LOWBIC, and by the letter from the LOWBIC Board, two weeks ago, indicating that they are divesting themselves from LOWEIDA and Special Events & Harbourn. Bill recommends that, because LOWBIC has, and still is to some extent, facing challenges, that the City should take charge of its own programming with respect to tourism in order to ensure that there are strategies in place for 2006.

Ian Sgambelluri agreed that, while tourism is a good program for LOWBIC to deliver, it also is a large part of the City's economic development plan. He stated that he would like to see LOWBIC represented on the new Economic Development Committee as both a regional partner and to help out where it can with community economic development and tourism. He also urged the City to consider current employees during the process.

Jeff Port commented that that request is reflected in the terms of reference for the Economic Development Committee. He also commented that the Business Enterprise Centre will remain in the LOWBIC offices because that is a relationship which makes sense.

The fate of special events and promotions has not yet been decided, however it is recognized, by Council and business alike, as integral to the City's economic development plans. Various models are being explored.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council of the City of Kenora hereby take the following steps with respect to the delivery of tourism services within the City of Kenora:

1. the City of Kenora assume responsibility for the delivery of tourism services effective April 01, 2006
2. LOWBIC be advised that the service agreement will not be renewed for 2006
3. City Administration be directed to develop a budget and staffing model for the delivery of tourism services as component of the current economic development program. **Recommendation approved.**

Bill

Motion required adjourning to Closed Meeting:

Moved by: Len Compton Seconded by: Art Mior and Carried:-

THAT this meeting be now declared closed at 11:00 a.m.; and further

THAT Committee adjourns to a Closed Meeting to discuss the following:

- Disposition of land.

Adjourn closed meeting at 11:40 a.m. –

Action from closed meeting:

5. Declaration of portion of municipal road allowance as surplus:

THAT the Council of the City of Kenora declares a portion of the lane property described on Plan M.133 and abutting Lot 19 of Plan M133 as surplus to the needs of the municipality; and

THAT in accordance with Notice By-law #14-2003, arrangements be made to advertise the sale of the subject lands for a three-week period; and further

THAT once the advertising process has been completed, Council give three readings to a by-law to authorize the sale of land to Tanya and Lorne Knopf, as a lot additions of 30 feet by 100 feet, at the appraised value as established by Century 21 – Reynard Real Estate, plus all associated costs;

THAT in accordance with Notice By-law #14-2003, arrangements be made to advertise the sale of the subject lands for a three-week period. **Recommendation approved.**

Tara

OTHER BUSINESS - None

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.