

MARINE DRIVE VALLEY AND CANAL
SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION
MINUTES

February 19, 1997

PRESENT: Councillor David Hendsbee, Chair
Councillor Bill Dooks
Councillor Gordon R. Snow

STAFF: Julia Horncastle, Assistant Municipal Clerk
Bruce Fisher, Budget Coordinator
Gordon Roussel, Financial Coordinator

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | CALL TO ORDER | 03 |
| 2. | PRESENTATION OF THE ZONE 4 FIRE BUDGET | 03 |
| 3. | ADJOURNMENT | 04 |

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Snow called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with an invocation.

2. PRESENTATION OF THE ZONE 4 FIRE BUDGET

With the aid of overheads, the Zone 4 fire budget was presented to Community Council.

In response to Mr. Murray Stevens, Community Council was advised the loan and loan interest presented as a line item in the budget is budgeted for future use in the construction of a new fire station.

Councillor Hendsbee questioned the coverage provided under the HRM blanket insurance coverage.

Mr. Steve Given, Grand Lake, asked what disability benefits are paid to a paid fire fighter versus a volunteer firefighter if he is hurt in the performance of his duties.

Mr. Paul Pettipas questioned whether paid firefighters have the right to strike and whether volunteers will work if there is a strike and, if they decide not to cross the picket lines, are there contingency plans and funds allocated to hire temporary firefighters.

Mr. Bill Lockhart asked what was the mandate and obligations of the fire department to the ratepayers.

Ms. Susan Hawkins, Lake Fletcher received clarification on the honorarium process.

Mr. Harry Wilson asked if there were plans to put a central command system in place.

In response to a question on surpluses and deficits, Community Council was informed these are carried forward from year to year.

In response to a question from a member of the public, Community Council was advised no decision has been made with regards to volunteer fundraising.

A question was raised as to whether equipment can be moved from department to department as needed even though it was paid for by local community fundraising.

It was suggested that each fire department be offered a choice as to whether or not they want to offer honorariums.

A question was asked as to what was the total debt and surpluses carried forward by the five fire departments.

Councillor Hendsbee advised the commercial and residential assessment base calculation has to be defined before a lot of the questions can be answered.

A resident noted amalgamation was supposed to result in savings.

Steve Given, Grand Lake, questioned whether the five fire departments would eventually be amalgamating as one department under one chief.

A question was raised as to how the rural fire departments would be affected in those areas that are classified as a part of the urban core.

In response to Councillor Hendsbee, Community Council was advised that surpluses and/or deficits have been credited back to individual departments.

3. ADJOURNMENT

**MOVED by Councillors Snow and Dooks that the meeting be adjourned at 10:00 p.m.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**Julia Horncastle
ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL CLERK**

