

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLAINE LAKE
HELD AT THE BLAINE LAKE SENIORS CENTRE
Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 1pm**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Al Sorenson at 1:05 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Attending: Mayor Al Sorenson, Councilors Kitty Larson, Debbie Rodwin, Bev Breland and Barbara Woytiuk. Councilor Kyle Onishenko and Councilor Jason Weber were absent.
Administrator Brenda Lockhart

AGENDA

2020-294 Rodwin

That the Agenda be approved as presented

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

Teresa Korol, Facilities Planner, Prairie Spirit School Division

Bob Bayles, Deputy Director of Division Services, Prairie Spirit School Division

Councilor Debbie Rodwin made known that her employer Stantec, has PSSD as a client and works on many projects with PSSD

Discussion on the new school to be built in Blaine Lake and open by September 2023.

- PSSD requires commitment from the Town with respect to the land on which to build to commence the project design phase.
- Design phase is in early stages and will take about a year to complete. In this early stage, there is opportunity to discuss the use of the current building or portions, once the new one is open but also, to discuss ways that the new school can be designed and constructed to meet the needs of the community.
- Council discussed possibility of keeping the old school or portions for town facilities and venues, such as, library, hall etc. Teresa was able to advise that there are several reasons why the current building is not being renovated as opposed to torn down and some of these would need to be considered by Council in making their decisions. They were;
 - Existing building built in 1950 with later additions
 - Structurally, the gym and high school are not up to standard. Bottle jacks in crawl space are being used to level and support flooring.
 - Roof on gym and high school need replacing
 - Air quality testing concerns – safe but need to be improved which is a significant financial undertaking
 - Mechanical infrastructure is unreliable and in need of costly upgrade
 - Insulation and asbestos concerns when renovating structures prior to 1970.
 - If the Town chose to keep the gym in tact for use, it would lose the supporting infrastructure that it currently shares with the building, ie plumbing, heating, bathroom facilities etc, which would be a replacement cost to be factored in.
- They have worked with communities, such as Rosthern, who chose to keep the elementary gym.

Teresa discussed with Council what they are seeing in other communities that had the same considerations and needs for facilities. Some communities have chosen to partner in the construction and had in put in the design stage to ensure that some of these needs were met. Some examples of opportunity available would be;

- Library that serves both school and community – could make larger, outside access,
- Fitness Centre, again outside access, card swipe entry so it can be used when school closed
- Hall, event center – larger, upsize kitchen facility, storage etc
- Daycare centers
- Community involved in design stage which they would need input/decision early January 2021
- Building Use Agreements would be drawn up to address the use of the shared facility/portions

- Opportunity for community to involve other partners that would benefit from or utilize the facilities ie: RM, First Nations, bordering communities
- Council discussed possibility of forming a Board to review options, community input, fundraising and grants to be reviewed etc

SCHOOL LAND

2020-0295 Breland

That we agree to enter into an agreement with Prairie Spirit School Division to provide the title to the land for construction of the new Blaine Lake school in exchange for the title to the land the existing school is located upon.

CARRIED

ADJOURN

2020-296 Rodwin 3:10pm

That this meeting adjourns.

CARRIED

Date Approved: _____

Mayor: _____
Matthew Hutchings

Administrator: _____
Brenda Lockhart