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**Town of Grande Cache
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Friday, November 7, 2008 at 10:00 am
Tourism Centre**

- Present:** Mayor Louise Krewusik
Councillor Vic Beland
Councillor Tony McCormick
Councillor Yvonne Rempel
Councillor Jim Scott
Darren Ottaway, Chief Administrative Officer
Carolyn Ferraby, Chief Financial Officer
Lisa Brown, Executive Assistant
- Delegation:** Inspector Glenn de Goeij, Team Leader – North West Region
Superintendent Arlen Miller, District Commander –
Western Alberta District
S/Sgt. Karen Simon, District Advisory NCO - Western Alberta District
Sgt. Brian Bohlken, RCMP-Grande Cache Detachment
Mr. Emill Spilchak, Policing Programs Analyst – Alberta Solicitor
General and Public Security
- Regrets:** Councillor Terry Coray
Councillor Gordon Frenz

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Louise Krewusik called the meeting to order at 10:17 am.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Moved by Councillor McCormick and seconded by Councillor Scott
290/08 RESOLVED THAT** the agenda is adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 BUSINESS OF SPECIAL MEETING**3.1 RCMP – Memorandum of Understanding for Enhanced Policing Position**

Inspector de Goeij asked that each member of the delegation give a brief introduction and history.

Introductions of the members of the delegation, Council and staff.

Inspector de Goeij said the delegation would like to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding for the Enhanced Policing Position for Grande Cache, potential to build a new police detachment in Grande Cache, resource methodology to determine amount of police service in communities and the recent press release from the provincial government regarding the 'safe communities funding program'.

Inspector de Goeij explained the RCMP agreement with the Province of Alberta to provide police services for communities throughout Alberta. He said the Grande Cache Detachment is allotted five regular positions and one enhanced position (cost sharing between the municipality and province). He explained that when the enhanced position is vacant, the municipality does not pay. He explained the process and factors in canceling this position, and said to reinstate this position could take more than two years before an officer is in place.

Councillor McCormick asked if the isolation of the community and risk to members of distance for back up is taken into consideration when determining how many officers are required at this detachment.

Inspector de Goeij explained that the province has agreed to fund full-time Emergency Response teams in Edmonton, Calgary and Red Deer, and is considering additional teams in Fort McMurray and Grande Prairie. He said the maximum number of officers for the Grande Cache Detachment is five, plus the Enhanced Policing position.

Inspector de Goeij said that based on the current Police Service Agreement with the province, Grande Cache is ranked 38 out of 105 communities in Alberta regarding number of crimes/officer caseload. He explained the current agreement with the province and how officer allotment per detachment is determined, based on resource methodology.

Councillor McCormick said that this community will be experiencing population growth with local proposed projects being considered, ie. Milner Power's work camp just out of town, and how will police services be determined. S/Sgt. Simon explained that once something of this nature is operational, it will be reviewed by the District Office to determine if additional officers are required at this Detachment.

Councillor Scott asked if the 'shadow' population is taken into consideration when determining how many officers are required in a community. Inspector de Goeij explained this is not a current practice in community officer allotments. Councillor Scott asked if Grande Cache meets the requirements for officer back-up. Inspector de Goeij said this detachment does meet the necessary requirements for back-up.

Councillor Scott asked if officer duties are designated. Inspector de Goeij explained that the Grande Cache Detachment currently rotates assignments, and duties would be more defined once the service changes to deal with a population over 5,000. Mr. Spilchak explained that once the population exceeds 5,000, the province reviews the detachment area, and would then negotiate additional service requirements.

Councillor Scott asked if Council can request specific assignments for the enhanced position. Sgt. Bohlken explained that Council provided the Detachment with specific priorities, such as traffic, school programming, etc., and all officers participate. He said the programs will continue, and won't change even if the enhanced position is no longer available.

Councillor Beland asked if there are timelines to fill a vacant position. Inspector de Goeij explained the transfer process. Sgt. Bohlken explained the current situation with this position, that an officer has accepted and is in the process of selling his home.

Mr. Spilchak explained the Memorandum of Understanding for the Enhanced Police position expires in April 2009, and that a decision from Council would be appreciated as soon as possible. Mayor Krewusik said Council requested additional information to fully understand the implications of continuing or canceling this position, and added that this request, in no way, reflects on the current service provided to the Town. She explained that Council will be making a decision within the next two weeks.

Inspector de Goeij explained that the Town does not pay for this position unless an officer is an active member at the Detachment.

Inspector de Goeij explained that the current detachment location has been reviewed and a request to build a new detachment has been sent to the Treasury Board.

Inspector de Goeij said the province recently announced a \$60 million program for crime prevention in all communities. He said additional information is available on the provincial government website.

Councillor Scott asked about the process for policing once a community exceeds a population of 5,000, and does the province provide transitional funding. Mr. Spilchak explained the policing service is based on federal census, and usually the process takes up to two years to transpire, with costs split between the municipality at 70% and the province at 30%. Inspector de Goeij explained the implications of a community conducting a municipal census.

Sgt. Bohlken explained the impact on the officers and detachment of having the enhanced position vacant. He said if Milner Power proceeds with the proposed project and set-up a work camp, it will cause a strain on the current resources. He said with this position vacant, it creates challenges in answering calls, member coverage, an impact on proactive work and visibility in the community.

Mayor Krewusik thanked the delegation for attending the meeting and providing Council and staff with valuable information.

Mayor Krewusik called a recess at 11:53 am
Councillor Yvonne Rempel left the meeting at 11:55 am
Councillor McCormick left the meeting at 12:10 pm

3.2 In Camera – Financial

Deferred to the Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 11:00 am in Council Chambers.

The meeting ended at 12:38 pm, as there was no longer a quorum to continue.

Louise Krewusik
Mayor

Darren Ottaway
Chief Administrative Officer