

BOB RUSSELL PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL COMMITTEE
RE: MUNICIPAL UTILITY SERVICES BYLAW. (24/2019)

I APPEAL TO COUNCIL TO SET ASIDE THIS MOTION WHICH WOULD GIVE THE CITY A MONOPOLY TO PROVIDE UTILITY SERVICES IN ST ALBERT TO THE EXCLUSION OF ANY OTHER PROVIDER.

I APPEAL TO COUNCIL TO SET ASIDE THIS PARTICULAR MOTION BECAUSE:

- A. YOU HAVE THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE IN THAT YOU WANT TO PROHIBIT ANY OTHER SERVICE PROVIDER FROM OFFERING UTILITY SERVICE IN ST ALBERT BEFORE YOU HAVE ANY REVIEW OR AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE THAT SERVICE.
- B. THERE DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN ANY DETAILED COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF EXISTING PUBLIC UTILITIES UPON WHICH TO MEASURE THIS PROPOSED SERVICE.

THE CITY NEEDS TO ENQUIRE INTO WHY THIS ILL FATED PROVISION OF SERVICES WENT SO WRONG AT CHESTERMERE LAKE WHICH RESULTED IN HIGH COSTS, POOR SERVICE AND MOUNTING DEBT THAT FORCED CHESTERMERE LAKE TO SHUT DOWN THE PROJECT LEAVING TAXPAYERS WITH A MULTIMILLION DOLLARE DEBT, THAT WILL TAKE 15 YEARS OR MORE TO PAY OFF AND, TERMINATION COSTS FOR A NUMBER OF SENIOR EMPLOYEES.

PAGE 2.

THEY CITY ALSO NEEDS TO TAKE A LOOK AT A POSSIBLE COMPARABLE CITY LIKE MEDICINE HAT WHICH IS A SUCCESS. LET ME EXPLAIN WHY MEDICINE HAT IS A SUCCESS.

1. MEDICINE HAT SITS ON TOP OF A MULTI CUBIC METRIC FIELD OF NATURAL GAS .
2. MEDICINE HAT ALSO PRODUCES ITS OWN ELECTRICAL POWER AND
3. JUST A FEW KILOMETERS WEST OF MEDICINE HAT FOUR^{ARE} MOUNTAIN SOURCES RIVERS (THE LITTLE BOW, THE BOW, THE OLDMAN AND ST MARY'S RIVERS) ALL JOIN TO FORM THE SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER. AN AMPLE SOURCE OF GOOD WATER.

ON THE OTHER HAND:

ST. ALBERT HAS NO GAS FIELD TO TAP INTO, DOES NOT PRODUCE ELECTRICITY AND THE WATER IN THE STURGEON RIVER IS NOT FIT TO DRINK SO THE CITY WILL BE OBLIGATED TO PURCHASE THESE SERVICES FROM ANOTHER PRODUCER INJECTING ANOTHER COSTLY LAYER OF CIVIL SERVICE WITH NO TRANSPARENCY.

PAGE 3.

MY FRIEND MIKE KILLICK WROTE A VERY DETAILED LETTER WHICH WAS PRINTED IN THE GAZETTE WHICH REALLY SAYS IT ALL AND SHOULD BE REQUIRED READING FOR ALL OF COUNCIL.

MR. KILLICK STRONGLY RECOMMENDS A THOROUGH ANALYSIS BEFORE THE COUNCIL TAKES THE NEXT STEP IN APPROVING A PUBLIC UTILITY.

I AGREE WITH MR. KILLICK BUT I AM GOING EVEN FURTHER AND STRONGLY RECOMMENDING THAT YOU NOT ONLY CARRY OUT A THOROUGH ANALYSIS BUT THAT COUNCIL APPROVE A MOTION AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DIRECTING ADMINISTRATION TO PREPARE A QUESTION FOR THE NEXT CIV IC ELECTION SO THAT THE OVER TAXED ST. ALBERT RATEPAYER CAN CAST A VOTE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THEY APROVE OF THIS PROPOSAL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

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