

Excerpts from the Municipal Government Act and the *Business Improvement Area Regulation*, AR 93/2016

SECTIONS 50-53 MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT, RSA 2000, c M-26
Division 5: Business Improvement Areas

Purpose

50 A council may by bylaw establish a business improvement area for one or more of the following purposes:

- (a) improving, beautifying and maintaining property in the business improvement area;
- (b) developing, improving and maintaining public parking;
- (c) promoting the business improvement area as a business or shopping area.

RSA 2000 cM-26 s50;2015 c8 s5

Board

51(1) A business improvement area is governed by a board consisting of members appointed by council under the business improvement area bylaw.

(2) The board is a corporation.

RSA 2000 cM-26 s51;2015 c8 s6

Civil liability of board members

52(1) In this section, “approved budget” means a budget of the board of a business improvement area that has been approved by council.

(2) A member of a board of a business improvement area that makes an expenditure that is not included in an approved budget is liable to the municipality for the expenditure.

(3) If more than one member is liable to the municipality under this section in respect of a particular expenditure, the members are jointly and severally liable to the municipality for the expenditure.

(4) The liability may be enforced by action by

- (a) the municipality, or
- (b) a person who is liable to pay the business improvement area tax imposed in the business improvement area.

RSA 2000 cM-26 s52;2015 c8 s6

Regulations

53 The Minister may make regulations

- (a) respecting the establishment of a business improvement area;
- (b) setting out what must be included in a business improvement area bylaw;
- (c) respecting the appointment, term and renewal of members of the board of a business improvement area;
- (d) respecting the powers and duties of the board and the board’s annual budget;
- (e) respecting the disestablishment of a business improvement area and the dissolution of a board;
- (f) that operate despite Part 8, authorizing a municipality to lend money to a board and to borrow money on behalf of a board;
- (g) establishing restrictions on the municipality providing money to the board.

RSA 2000 cM-26 s53;2015 c8 s7

ALBERTA REGULATION 93/2016
Municipal Government Act
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA REGULATION

Definitions

1 In this Regulation,

- (a) “board” means the board of a business improvement area;
- (b) “capital property” means a capital property as defined in section 241(c) of the Act;
- (c) “disestablishment” in respect of a business improvement area includes the dissolution of the area’s board;
- (d) “taxable business” means a business in a business improvement area whose operator is a taxpayer;
- (e) “taxpayer” means a person who operates a business and is liable to pay business improvement area tax in respect of that business.

Establishment

Procedure for establishment

2 A business improvement area may only be established in accordance with this Regulation.

Business improvement area bylaw

5(1) If a sufficient petition is not received, the council may pass a business improvement area bylaw that is based on the request.

(2) A business improvement area bylaw must

- (a) designate an area as a business improvement area,
- (b) designate a name for the area,
- (c) describe the purposes for which the area is established,
- (d) establish a board for the area, and
- (e) specify the number of board members, the term of office of board members and the method of filling vacancies.

Board

6(1) A board established for a business improvement area must consist of individuals nominated by one or more taxpayers in the zone.

(2) A council may also appoint one or more councillors to be members of a board.

(3) A council may only revoke the appointment of a board member who was nominated by a taxpayer if the revocation is recommended by the board.

Change in boundaries

8(1) A council may not pass a proposed bylaw to amend a business improvement area bylaw that changes the boundaries of the area unless, before the proposed bylaw receives second reading,

- (a) the area's board consents to the change in boundaries, and
- (b) taxpayers in the area and people who would be taxpayers under the change in boundaries are provided with an opportunity to make representations concerning the change to council.

(2) Before the proposed bylaw receives second reading, the municipality must take reasonable steps to ensure that a notice that meets the requirements of subsection (3) is mailed or delivered to every taxable business in the area and to every business that would be a taxable business under the change in boundaries.

(3) The notice must set out

- (a) a summary of the proposed bylaw, including a description of the change in boundaries,
- (b) a statement that taxpayers in the area and people who would be taxpayers under the change in boundaries may make representations concerning the proposed bylaw to council, and
- (c) the manner and time period for making those representations.

Non-profit organization

16 A board must apply all income and any profits to promoting the objects of the board and must not pay any dividends to any person.

Transitional

32(1) In this section, "previous regulation" means the *Business Revitalization Zone Regulation* (AR 377/94).

(2) On the coming into force of this Regulation,

- (a) a business revitalization zone established under the previous regulation is deemed to be a business improvement area established under this Regulation;
- (b) a board of a business revitalization zone established under the previous regulation is deemed to be a board of a business improvement area;
- (c) a business revitalization zone bylaw passed under the previous regulation is deemed to be a business improvement area bylaw passed under this Regulation
- (d) a business revitalization zone tax bylaw passed under the previous regulation is deemed to be a business improvement area tax bylaw passed under this Regulation;
- (e) a business revitalization zone tax rate bylaw passed under the previous regulation is deemed to be a business improvement area tax rate bylaw passed under this Regulation.

Commencement

Coming into force

33 This Regulation comes into force on July 1, 2016.