

Council Meeting Highlights September 19, 2016

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Presentation on Jubilee Parkway fen options

Dan Samson, director of Parkway Properties Ltd., provided a presentation to Council regarding Jubilee Parkway fen options. He updated Council on the options that they have developed for restoration of the fen area, complications of working to recreate a fen at the location and two alternatives for compensation.

Remedial action notice reconsideration requested – options to be investigated Steve Mitchell requested that Council reconsider remedial action for 291 Thulin St. regarding a hedge that encroaches into the intersection. Council directed staff to report back on the best time to alter the hedge to ensure its survival and to explore other options to adjust the sightlines at this intersection.

Campbell River Economic Development Corporation update

Mary Ashley, director of the Campbell River Economic Development Corporation, provided Council with an update of activities undertaken by the corporation until June 30, 2016. She also discussed successes during this transition year (in anticipation of a changing tourism model) and provided highlights of summer activity.

2016 Campbell River Economic Development Corporation dividend received Council received the \$70,000 dividend payment from the Campbell River Economic Development Corporation (CREDC) and allocated the funds to the City's economic development budget with direction to amend the financial plan accordingly. These funds have been used for the review of the City's tourism service delivery model, which included extensive consultation with the tourism operators and hoteliers in the community. This review has resulted in an application to the Province to implement a three per cent Municipal Regional District Tax (hotel tax), which will provide additional funds for tourism services in the community estimated at \$250,000 per year to promote Campbell River as a destination location.

Community Partnership Committee's 2017 permissive tax exemption recommendations Kevin Weighill, vice chair of the City's Community Partnership Committee, presented recommendations to Council for granting Permissive Tax Exemptions to local non-profit organizations. Council gave first and second reading to the City's 2017-2019 Permissive Tax Exemption bylaw, which, when approved, will grant property tax relief to 81 local not-for-profit organizations, including community groups, recreation and culture organizations, properties used for City purposes, and churches. The City's Community Partnership Committee made recommendations on granting Permissive Tax Exemptions (PTEs) to those organizations which meet Council's criteria. The successful organizations will see a total of approximately \$788,000 in property tax relief from both local and provincial taxing authorities, with approximately \$425,500 granted by the City and \$362,500 granted by other provincial taxing authorities. This marks the first year of a revised PTE cycle; in the past, organizations were granted exemptions up to 10 years, but a review of successful organizations will now take place every three to five years.

First and second reading for zoning bylaw amendment regarding marijuana operations

Council gave first and second reading to refine the definition of "Marijuana Operation" to align with Health Canada regulations and amend the zoning bylaw accordingly. A public hearing will take place Oct. 11, 2016.

First and second reading for Jacqueline Rd. property

Council gave first and second reading to permit a secondary dwelling on this lot to support agriculture uses and Official Community Plan policies for supporting food security and diversity in housing forms. A public hearing will be held Oct. 11, 2016.

Rezoning approved for 1521 and 1581 Vanstone Rd.

Rezoning the parcels allows for the removal of the older existing single-family dwelling and the construction of a new single-family dwelling or bed and breakfast accommodation at 1521 Vanstone Rd. The rezoning also reflects the existing single-family dwelling that was recently built at 1581 Vanstone Rd. The parcel at 1521 Vanstone Road is relatively large at 1670m². The parcel at 1581 Vanstone Road is also relatively large at 2060m².

This bylaw was given first and second readings on Aug. 8, 2016 and a public hearing was held on Sept. 6, 2016.

Council commits to 2016 work on municipal broadband network

Council endorsed an immediate start for one of the City's strategic economic development initiatives. A new open access municipal broadband network in the downtown core will be available in late summer 2017 at a cost of \$353,000. Investment in this fibre network will provide access to affordable and reliable enterprise level internet connectivity, allowing local entrepreneurs and future technology start-ups to compete in today's knowledge-based economy. Open access broadband networks permit multiple Internet service providers to lease access to municipal-owned fibre infrastructure, directly providing services to businesses while encouraging a competitive market that stimulates economic development.

Phase one of this project will upgrade the City's existing fibre network to meet anticipated commercial capacity and support the integration of businesses and development locations along the network's perimeter. Potential funding for this work is available through the federal government Community Works contributions, and the City will pursue provincial funding as well. The City has already received and a \$50,000 grant from Island Coastal Economic Trust, and committed up to \$25,000 for marketing, funded from the council contingency budget.

New water treatment building construction continues with award for turbine pumps Council awarded a contract in the amount of \$436,500.00 excluding GST, to Corix Water Products for the design, supply, manufacture, assembly, testing, delivery, supervision of installation, start-up and commissioning of three vertical turbine pumps to supply raw water from John Hart Lake to the new water treatment building and Campbell River's water distribution system.

Remedial action necessary for two unsightly properties

Council confirmed that the owners of 359 Hilchey Rd. and 666 8th Ave. be required to bring their property into compliance with the public nuisance bylaw. City contractors will be authorized to enter onto the properties to perform the work in the event that the property owners do not comply with the remedial action notice.

City to register contravention notice against Penfield property

City Council has instructed staff to file a bylaw contravention notice with the Land Title Office on 1701 Penfield Rd. Under Section 57 of the Community Charter, a municipality may register a notice on title for contravention of municipal bylaw or provincial building regulation with respect to building safety. In June of 2016 staff inspected the property and found violations of the zoning

and building bylaws as well as building code infractions, including work without permits. The property owner was requested to apply for permits or remove the structures and has taken no further action. The City is responsible to ensure that all buildings are constructed/altered in compliance with municipal bylaws and the BC Building Code.

Tribal Journeys 2017

Council resolved that the City provide a cash donation of \$25,000 and in-kind support for the Tribal Journeys 2017 event and to assist the event organizer, Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre, in securing grant funds. The Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre will submit a grant application to Heritage Canada, which requires a commitment of financial support by the host municipal government. The Tribal Journeys 2017 event next August is anticipated to cost \$750,000 and bring 5,000 guests to the community.

Council supports prohibition of tobacco and vapor products in outdoor public places in B.C.

Council endorsed the Canadian Cancer Society initiative for the provincial government to develop a comprehensive provincial policy that expands the BC Tobacco and Vapor Products Control Act to prohibit use in outdoor public places.