

Please note on the City website: www.campbellriver.ca. Council meeting agendas, minutes and webcasts are available from the link on the homepage. Find archives of Council Meeting Highlights at: www.campbellriver.ca/councilmeetinghighlights

Public hearing on rezoning for proposed duplexes at 2270 Dalton Road

A public hearing was held on proposed rezoning for 2270 Dalton Road to allow for construction of duplexes. The property is currently zoned for single family residential dwelling, and the applicant has also applied to the City to create one new parcel, which, if the rezoning is approved, would result in the owner building two duplexes (for a total of four dwellings), intended for rental use. The property is considered large enough to accommodate parking and construction of new building. It is surrounded by single-family properties on all sides and close to multi-family zoned properties north and south.

Seven people attended a neighbourhood public meeting and expressed concerns about traffic, noise, building appearance, street lighting, property value and road parking. Council has received a petition signed by 10 people and two pieces of correspondence outlining similar concerns.

At the public hearing, one person questioned the need to cut down all trees when developing a property.

Council gave first two reading of the proposed rezoning at the Feb. 11 meeting.

Cermaq 2019 plans

Karen Bernard, Community Partnership Coordinator and Floyd Cole, Regional Productions Manager, presented on social and environmental commitments of company. They also summarized the company's local economic input, providing the following highlights:

- Produce 5,000 metric tonnes of fish at three sites off Quadra Island
- Head office located in Campbell River
- 104 local employees
- \$7 million annual payroll in Campbell River
- \$30.43 million in local procurement

View the presentation in the archived webcast of the Council meeting (available by clicking on Council Meetings and Webcasts on the home page at campbellriver.ca).

Gillian Anderson, Chair, BC Great Blue Heron Society

Gillian Anderson, Chair, BC Great Blue Heron Society, provided Council with a presentation regarding conservation of blue heron habitat in Campbell River. She stated that herons, like all birds, are under stress from increased human encroachment into their territory and the effects of climate change.

Highlights of the presentation:

- Herons need big trees close to water.
- Usually less than two chicks per successful nest
- Chicks that survive in the nest face a mortality rate for that first year of approximately 75 per cent.
- Herons face increased predation by bald eagles, which sometimes triggers wholesale abandonment of the colony and chicks.
- Herons are losing nesting and resting habitat to extensive tree clearing and human activity throughout their range.

- They are losing feeding habitat through draining and filling of wetlands, through building grassy, uncultivated lands) or through pollution that contaminates or reduces amount of prey in coastal waters.
- Although herons are protected under the Species at Risk Act, local government development control can be a first line of defence.
- Conservation of large blocks of mature trees zones as a back-up for new colony formation, conservation of buffer zones where herons are already nesting and conservation of feeding areas such as ponds and old fields are required to safeguard heron habitat.

Anderson advised that herons need to be undisturbed, that gardens left to grow a little wild can help all migratory birds to find food and nesting areas, that pesticides are usually a great danger to all creatures, and that pruning should be avoided during nesting season.

Council directed staff for an information report for further consideration.

Council approves rezoning to allow 51 micro-unit rental building on Birch Street

Along with approving rezoning, Council asked about plans to capture and control water from the site. Staff confirmed that this would be addressed under the guidance of a geotechnical engineer during the development process, although preliminary reports do not indicate that groundwater is a concern. The smaller dwelling units including one-bedroom, studio and micro rental units ranging in size from 312 to 680 square feet. All multi-family zoning regulations can be met (including building height, parcel coverage and setbacks) and is consistent with similar medium-density zones found in comparable municipalities and recent projects constructed in Campbell River. The proposal meets the infill and growth management objectives of the City's official community plan given the location's access to amenities and transit. Also, the additional rental units, particularly studio and one-bedroom units, would offer more diverse housing options in the local rental market, where vacancy rates hover slightly above zero per cent.

Council gave first and second reading to the proposed rezoning at the January 28, 2019 Council meeting. A neighbourhood public meeting took place November 23, 2018.

Rezoning considered for South Island Highway commercial-residential development

Council gave first and second reading to a zoning bylaw amendment that would allow development of a mixed use commercial-residential building at 2424 Island Highway South. The applicant intends to develop approximately 420m² (4500ft²) of retail space for a bicycle store on the ground floor and up to four multi-family units on the second floor. A public hearing will be held.

RCMP police services annual update

RCMP Officer in Charge Jeff Preston gave a presentation to Council summarizing the last year of police services in Campbell River.

Highlights:

- Of the 54 members at the detachment, 45 are funded by City; others are provincially/federally funded
- Added one member 2018, one in 2019 – 2018 position now filled. 2019 position to be filled April 1
- Detachment averages 15,000 files per year, with an increase in the number of time-consuming files, especially incidents related to mental health and suicidal people.
- Decreased file counts for drunk in public place, mischief and probation and conditional breaches (450 probation checks completed in 2018)

Council Meeting Highlights March 11, 2019

- Calls for service in downtown core: five per cent increase in 2018 over running five-year average – possibly related to RCMP urging people to call with concerns about downtown activity. Two new members should help increase capacity to respond to such calls.
- Crime severity index is trending down (good result) compared with other VI communities and comparable communities throughout province.
- Drug-related crime remains a major focus for the local detachment.

The presentation also outlined community contributions of RCMP members via volunteerism.

2019 truck contract awarded

Council awarded a contract for seven extended cab pick-up trucks to Jacobson Ford valued at of \$338,486.45. Various City departments will use the trucks. One of the vehicles is a new acquisition, while the remaining six will replace vehicles that have reached the end of their useful service.

City to join mid-island application to Clean BC for electric vehicle infrastructure

Campbell River is joining the mid-island application to the Clean BC Fund for electric vehicle charging infrastructure. If successful, the Clean BC Fund will cover 73 per cent of the capital costs to install a Level 2 electric vehicle charging station at the Sportsplex, with the City contributing \$5,350 through the City's Carbon Neutral Reserve. With a new charging station at the Sportsplex, Campbell River will have 10 electric vehicle charging infrastructure locations throughout the community, including a fast charging station at the Community Centre, which fully charges electric vehicles in only 20 to 30 minutes.

The Community Energy Association and the Regional District of Nanaimo are coordinating the application, and the City of Campbell River joins communities from the Comox Valley and other areas on mid Vancouver Island. Once installed, all communities will participate in efforts to promote mid-island electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Letter of support for Evergreen Seniors Home for new child care spaces application

Council agreed to write a letter of support to accompany the Evergreen Senior Home application for a Child Care BC, New Spaces Fund Program 2018/2019 opportunity to assist with funding child care service for employees and the public at the Evergreen Seniors Home.

Support for Campbell River Bantam A Tyees playing provincial hockey championships

In response to a written request from Meghan Mills, president of Campbell River Minor Hockey Association, Council will provide \$500 to help the the Bantam A Tyees attend the provincial championships.

Meeting request with Minister of Forests on Snowden Demonstration Forest

In response to correspondence from the Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, regarding the Snowden Demonstration Forest, Council will send a letter requesting an in-person meeting with the Minister at the end of March and re-enforcing the need for a comprehensive forest management plan that addresses economic, recreation and tourism values. The current plan for Snowden includes roadbuilding and harvesting within the core area within the next year.

Campbell River Sobering and Assessment Centre fact sheets

Council received the Campbell River Sobering and Assessment Centre's monthly fact sheets from September 2018 to February 2019.

Statistics included:

- number of guests (193 to 300 per month)
- percentage experiencing homelessness (85 to 93 per cent)
- percentage experiencing mental health issues (19 to 31 per cent)
- number of people turned away and why

The centre provides a safe and supportive environment for publicly intoxicated people to become sober and opportunities to connect with community support resources.

Council requested a trend report every six months going forward, adding that they would like to see details around attempts to help people find alternative locations and resources if they don't qualify for facility access.

PAL Aerospace announces Campbell River base for west coast surveillance operations

Mayor Andy Adams announced that on March 4, PAL Aerospace announced that it had been awarded an aerial surveillance contract by the federal government and would be based out of Campbell River for west coast operations.

In a news release, the company said it was awarded an expanded contract to provide aerial surveillance for Canada's inland, coastal and offshore waters on behalf of the Government of Canada to monitor domestic and foreign vessel activities and detect potential violations. Under the new contract, PAL Aerospace will provide Fisheries and Oceans Canada with service through a combination of Beechcraft King Air B200 medium-range aircraft and Dash 8-100 series long-range aircraft, all associated ground support and other related services. The aircraft will operate from bases in St. John's, NL; Halifax, NS; and Campbell River, BC.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada is responsible for the monitoring, control, and surveillance of Canada's fisheries waters, as well as certain international areas, such as the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Regulatory Area, and the North Pacific.

PAL Aerospace has been providing this service under contract to the Government since 1990, and the expanded contract, delivered on behalf of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, covers an initial five-year period and includes opportunities for PAL Aerospace to earn contract extensions that increase the life of the agreement to 10 years. The program also contributes significantly to pollution surveillance, environmental monitoring, and marine security for a number of other federal departments and agencies.

"This contract award confirms the Government of Canada's confidence in our company's ability to execute the most advanced maritime surveillance program of its type in the world," said PAL CEO Brian Chafe. "The program is an excellent example of the successful public-private partnership that continues to drive innovation and support employment in Canada."

"PAL Aerospace's work on behalf of the Government of Canada will ensure highly skilled employment and important economic benefits from coast to coast," said Jake Trainor, Chief Operating Officer of PAL Aerospace. "From St. John's to Campbell River, our operations and employees look forward to delivering this important work for Canadians."

About PAL Aerospace: PAL Aerospace is a Canadian-owned and operated international aerospace and defence company with a focus on intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance solutions. PAL's operates in Canada, the Americas, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

Link to news release:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5800ea5c59cc685e14191bef/t/5c7d13f49140b7a1d3ce112/1551700980656/PAL+release+03_04_2019.pdf