

# Council Meeting Highlights December 12, 2016

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# Twenty-year exemplary fire service medal

Fire chief Baikie presented fire inspector Stewart Dumont with his 20-year Exemplary Fire Service Medal. Dumont became a volunteer firefighter with the Oyster River department in 1996 and joined the Campbell River department in 1998.

## **BC Hydro update**

Stephen Watson of BC Hydro provided an update on John Hart generating station replacement project, seismic upgrades, Salmon River dam decommissioning, substation upgrades and storm events this fall.

# Pay parking at Campbell River Hospital

Lois Jarvis and Richard Hagensen of Citizens for Quality Health Care made a presentation to Council regarding pay parking at Campbell River Hospital.

Council directed staff to prepare a draft bylaw to ban parking in public area one zones (where health care and other public facilities are located) to be presented at the first regularly scheduled Council meeting in January 2017.

## 2017-2026 Financial Plan

Council gave first three readings to the 2017-2026 Financial Plan Bylaw, which reflects decisions made by Council during budget deliberations Dec. 5 to 7. The financial plan bylaw continues with the 10-year budgeting established in 2016, ensuring stable, predictable tax rates for citizens and incorporating base budget; capital plan and related operating costs; operating projects and ongoing new services. The total property tax increase of 2.5 per cent, includes a 0.75 per cent tax increase generating \$187,500 to provide ongoing funding for the capital plan.

## Jubilee Wetland remedial action requirement confirmed

Council has supported a compensation/restoration solution as part of the remedial action requirement for the northern portion of the infilled fen wetland south of Jubilee Parkway, owned by Parkways Properties. The compensation land totals 3.8 hectares for a 2:1 replacement ratio. This blended solution includes creation of:

- 1.16 hectares of non-fen wetland in roughly the same location as the original wetland
- 0.54 hectare retention of two existing provincially red-listed (endangered) trembling aspen forested wetlands on the perimeter of the former fen wetland
- 2.1 hectares retention of existing forest land on the west side of the property bordering the Woods Creek wetland complex

The solution is in keeping with the City's remedial action requirement, the Soil Removal and Deposition Bylaw and the City's environmental development permit process. It is also consistent with direction provided by the Province and best practices. The City's remedial action requirement will reflect the restoration solution and will include the establishment of an implementation and monitoring plan, a phased financial security from Parkway Properties and a covenant to prevent future development in the restored area and buffer zones. The southern portion of the infilled wetland (0.52 hectares) must be restored as a fen by Parkway Properties to bring the owner into compliance with the Provincial advisory letter issued March 4, 2016 resulting from a Water Act investigation.



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# 2777 North Beach Drive major development permit

Council approved a major development permit for development of the last phase of North Beach strata development at this property in North Campbell River neighbourhood. This permit allows for the construction of a four-storey, multi-family building containing 27 units. The proposed development is consistent with zoning regulations and Official Community Plan policies as well as guidelines relating to architecture, siting, massing, transportation and landscaping.

## Waterfront sewer forcemain replacement to run along highway rather than beach

Council has directed staff to proceed with detailed design of the waterfront sewer forcemain along Highway 19A. The existing forcemain starts near Simms Creek, following the roadway to Hidden Harbour and then continues along the beach to the Maritime Heritage Centre. New information about the effects of sea level rise prompted re-assessment of previously-proposed construction of the replacement pipe along the beach, aligned with a seasonal walkway/maintenance access. Council endorsed the recommendation to move this critical sewer main away from the beach. The new pipe will be installed along Highway 19A for its entire length. Detailed design will occur in 2017, with construction scheduled for 2018 and 2020.

#### Snow and ice policy to be reviewed

Council directed staff to review and report back on the City's snow and ice policy, including costs related to options for snow removal on sidewalks along major routes.

#### City to apply for 2017 asset management planning grant

Council approved the application to the Union of BC Municipalities Asset Management Planning Program grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the development of an asset management plan that defines asset lifecycles and identifies current and future needs within the City's parks and greenspace system. The program funds up to \$10,000 towards applicable projects with a requirement for matching funds from the City. The matching funds of \$10,000 was approved as a one-time project in the 2016-2025 Financial Plan.

## **Revised Community Energy and Emissions Plan endorsed**

Council has endorsed a revised 2016 Community Energy and Emissions Plan. The City of Campbell River was selected as one of three municipalities in Canada to participate in the Getting to Implementation project and received 400 hours of free advising to update the 2011 plan and develop an implementation strategy. The revised plan has been endorsed by a steering committee and the City's Advisory Planning and Environment Commission. The plan is a non-statutory document that promotes Campbell River's status as an emerging leader in climate action, creating a healthier and more economically-viable community. The plan is linked to other plans and agreements, including the provincial Climate Action Charter and Council's Strategic Plan. A two-year funding partnership with BC Hydro supports the City's new Community Energy Advisor position responsible for implementing the plan.

#### Remedial action deferred for 359 Hilchey Rd.

The owners of this property have been given until Feb. 10, 2017 to clean up their property. If the deadline is not met, city contractors will be hired to clean up the property, and the owners will be invoiced to recover costs.



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# Letter of support for Immigrant Welcome Centre

Council will send a letter of support the Immigrant Welcome Centre's formal language instruction program, a requirement for newcomers to seek most government-supported employment programs, as well as other formal educational and training institutions that provide recognized credentials. The program is the foundational program/tool for successful settlement outcomes as it is the biggest factor in employment, education and social engagement for newcomers. Problems around lack of language include limited access to the job market, housing issues, health care issues and isolation.

## Forestry Task Force 2016 annual report received

The Forestry Task Force was created by the City of Campbell River earlier in 2016 to work to enhance and retain business, attract new forest investment capital, and enhance the sustainability of the forest sector to benefit the community and the City of Campbell River. The Forestry Task Force 2017 work plan includes a variety of initiatives to attract and/or retain forestry business in the community.

## Advisory Planning and Environment Commission annual report

The Commission met and considered multiple issues over 2016, ranging from the appointment of an APEC representative to the Age-Friendly Steering committee, the City's Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) steering committee, and the Downtown Façade Improvement Program Select committee. They deliberated over the City's Refresh Downtown program, the CEEP, OCP and Zoning Bylaw updates, the BC Building Act Implementation, and a draft policy for naming of parks and facilities.

## **Council appointments confirmed**

- Mayor Adams, Councillors Cornfield, Samson, Kerr and Babchuk will continue to serve on the Strathcona Regional District Board, the Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital and Solid Waste Boards, with Councillors Evans and Wright serving as alternates for the remainder of this Council's term.
- Councillor Kerr will continue to represent the City on the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board with Councillor Babchuk as his alternate for the remainder of this Council's term.
- The 2017 Council meeting schedule will be published in the local newspaper as required by the *Community Charter*.

## Airport Commission bylaw given third reading

Council gave the Airport Commission bylaw third reading. The bylaw states that the commission will continue to provide policy advice and recommendations to Council on various issues related to the airport, including long-range planning, economic development, marketing, air transportation planning and environmental and sustainability issues. Airport operations and maintenance will remain the responsibility of City staff.

The draft bylaw was shared with the Airport Authority Commission at their Nov. 4 meeting, and Council gave the bylaw first and second reading and thanked the Airport Authority Commission at the Nov. 21 Council meeting.