

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ENDERBY

Minutes of a **Regular Meeting** of Council held on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall

Present: Mayor Howie Cyr
Councillor Tundra Baird
Councillor Brad Case
Councillor Raquel Knust
Councillor Greg McCune
Councillor Earl Shipmaker

Chief Administrative Officer – Tate Bengtson
Chief Financial Officer – Jennifer Bellamy
Assistant Corporate Officer and Planning Assistant – Kurt Inglis
Recording Secretary – Bettyann Kennedy
The Press and Public

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Baird, seconded by Councillor Case that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2014

Moved by Councillor McCune, seconded by Councillor Case that the minutes of the regular meeting of October 6, 2014 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS

The meeting gave way to the Public Hearing.

The regular meeting re-convened at 4:38 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

Waiving of Development Variance Fee for 601 Bass Avenue – Memo from Assistant Corporate Officer and Planning Assistant dated October 10, 2014

The Planning Assistant provided a brief review of his memo.

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor Shipmaker that Council waive the Development Variance Permit Fee of \$450 for 601 Bass Avenue, as set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1479, 2010, in order to vary the screening requirements along the western property boundary.

Carried Unanimously

BYLAWS – 3rd Reading

City of Enderby Zoning Bylaw No. 1550, 2014

Moved by Councillor Baird, seconded by Councillor Knust that Council amends the City of Enderby Zoning Bylaw No. 1550 as proposed; and

THAT Council consider the representations made by the public respecting matters contained in the City of Enderby Zoning Bylaw No. 1550, 2014; and

THAT Council give third reading to the City of Enderby Zoning Bylaw No. 1550, 2014; and

FURTHER THAT Council refer the City of Enderby Zoning Bylaw No. 1550, 2014 to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for final approval.

Carried Unanimously

REPORTS

Councillor Baird

Attended a Shuswap River Sustainability meeting.

Councillor Shipmaker

- Attended an Arts Council meeting. They have adopted a conflict of interest policy.
- Has received positive water meter feedback from lower consumption water users that have been subsidizing higher users.

Councillor McCune

Asked staff to report back on the development of a wood lot in Ashton Creek.

Councillor Knust

- Attended a FACT meeting. They have been told that they require insurance to distribute donated fruits and vegetables. It is discouraging that there are fewer people involved with this group.
- Community Resource Centre – there are changes coming and new programs for youth are starting up.
- Community Consultative meeting at High School. Public safety was discussed. High school enrollment has increased resulting in an increase to staffing levels. MV Beattie enrollment is also up. MV Beattie continues to experience speeding issues and have asked for the speed reader board to be set up at this location.
- High school poverty – they are feeding breakfast to 15-20 and 40 – 60 lunch. \$750 per month through donations as most grant monies go to elementary school programs.

Councillor Case

Chamber of Commerce

- Supportive of spray park project. There is a fund-raiser Feb 28th at the Drill Hall.
- Declined to support mosquito control program.
- Annual General Meeting is Nov. 25th at Seniors Centre.
- Main focus for RV Park will be upgrades to the washrooms.
- Feedback regarding the digital billboard is that there is too much bureaucracy involved.

There is a Trail Alliance meeting tonight. There is a voluntary clean-up scheduled for this Saturday.

Mayor Cyr

Fire Training Centre Policy Board Meeting:

- Examined the proposed budget – our contribution is 2.7% (\$2,950.80) for future years up to 2019.
- Facilities improvement plan to be submitted to the Board recommending improvements to enhance training options and generating more rentals.
- Fortis is excellent client. They typically use the facility between March – May for training. They have created an excellent underground training area.
- A new lease/sub-lease will be negotiated with the province. Not expected to be problematic.

Regional District of North Okanagan Committee of the Whole Meeting:

- Start of the new budget planning cycle.
- Discussed internal and external conditions that influence decisions.

Regional Growth Management Advisory Committee:

- Recommended to Board that City of Enderby Regional Context Statement be accepted subject to OCP amendment.
- Agreed in principle to support the 2015 Regional Growth Strategy Financial Plan.

Board of Directors RDNO:

- Presentation from Kevin Poole, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism for City of Vernon regarding the 2% hotel room tax they implemented in 2010. Generates \$400,000 in revenue to the City of Vernon to support tourism. Ripple effect benefits outside communities by increase in tourism to area.

- Steven Banmen, General Manager Finance was introduced. He comes to RDNO from Lake Country and starts at the end of October.

Building Permit Detail Report – September 2014

Moved by Councillor Baird, seconded by Councillor McCune that the report be received and filed.

Carried Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

Digital Billboard Policy Amendment for Commission Bulk Discount – Memo from Assistant Corporate Officer and Planning Assistant dated October 7, 2014

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor Knust that Council amend the Digital Billboard Policy to enable the Enderby and District Services Commission to purchase digital billboard messaging at a bulk discount of 75%.

Carried Unanimously

Digital Billboard Sponsorship Application – Enderby and District Services Commission

Moved by Councillor Baird, seconded by Councillor Case that Council approve the Enderby and District Services Commission sponsorship application valued at \$5,900 in-kind.

Carried Unanimously

B C Seniors Games Acknowledgement

Moved by Councillor Baird, seconded by Councillor McCune that the City extend congratulations to local medal winners at the BC Seniors Games.

Carried Unanimously

District Heating System Feasibility – Memo from Chief Administrative Officer dated October 10, 2014

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor McCune that Council direct staff to report back with a market analysis of the sale of biomass generated heat from the City of Enderby Public Works Yard.

Carried Unanimously

Community Christmas Road Closure Request – Memo from Chief Administrative Officer dated October 14, 2014

Moved by Councillor McCune, seconded by Councillor Shipmaker that the information be received and filed as approved by staff.

Carried Unanimously

Metered Water Rates – Rate Structure and Resident Concerns – Memo from Chief Financial Officer dated October 16, 2014

The Chief Financial Officer provided a reviewed her memo:

- Mock billings provided opportunity to obtain feedback to evaluate the rate structure.
- 5 written responses were received from people with concerns that bills were too high.
- Verbal comments were received also. Most people were happy with the mock bills. 63% were seeing a savings compared to the flat rate they have been paying.
- Base consumption was based on actual Enderby averages with a 20% reduction factored in for conservation.
- Most costs are fixed, with less than 20% being variable.
- A list of possible options to consider were presented for consideration.

A motion for new rate structure was moved by Councillor Shipmaker and seconded by Councillor Case. After debate and housekeeping amendments, the following motion was adopted:

THAT the existing flat rate of \$242.20 per single-family dwelling be maintained with the consumption threshold to be set at 180m³ and with the rate for higher consumption not to exceed \$1.38 per m³.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by Councillor Shipmaker, seconded by Councillor Case that the main motion above be amended to instruct staff to reduce the flat rate of \$242.20 if a consumption rate of less than \$1.38 is determined.

Carried Unanimously

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Colleen Purnell of 16 Purnell Drive stated that she has a 20 acre property with cows, so usage is high. She will be paying over \$1,000 per year and is seeking clarification. The \$406 average per household (frontage and flat rate consumption) would fund the system, with higher consumers paying additional. The low consumers would still be paying the existing flat rate of \$242. She commented that those with low mock bills will not be happy to hear that. She was also encouraged to contact the Chief Financial Officer to establish farming status for the property.

Tim Schmidt of 125 Gunter Ellison queried the amount of senior government grants that are needed. Approximately \$8 million for upgrades would be for treatment facility, wells, reservoir, pipes and pumps. He also queried if the water supplied to the Band was metered and taxed with the response being “yes”.

Paul McCaig of 333 Grandview Bench Rd, Grindrod made reference to data quoted in Richard Vetter’s letter and feels that the data being used by Enderby is not accurate. Revenue will not be neutral if user rates are collected. The Chief Financial Officer reported that the data was collected on Enderby stats and rates based on actual consumption. Mr. McCaig stated that he believes that better research is required.

Marilyn Wallis of 111 Revel Crescent read a letter from her neighbour Lynn Noble objecting to the high rates. Ms. Wallis feels that limited income families will be faced with high bills. The Chief Financial Officer stated that those consumers with minimum mock bills would have actually realised a savings. As long as consumption is kept below 180m³ there will be no additional cost. A Kelowna property was quoted as having a total annual water billing of \$364. Ms. Wallis feels that more study is required and should await a new Council.

Frank Lucianovich of 103 Gunter Ellison Rd stated that a wealth of information was not calculated and that if Richard Vetter could find the data, why couldn’t the City.

Tony Vetter of 808 Sicamous St sought clarity of whether the 2% increase was part of Council’s motion. He questioned what the asset management amount to reserves meant. The Chief Financial Officer explained that 1% is placed into reserves for replacement of existing assets. The same is for capital, but we are falling behind for what we will need to reach even the 1/3 cost share for grant funding.

Susan Kendall of 1702 George St expressed concern that the mock billing base consumption amount was too low and that it needs to be a reasonable amount. Rates for seniors and lower income families will be difficult. The rate structure is too high. Billing cycle of every 4 months is too long – it would be well into the 5th month before being advised of a leak. The negative impact to the community, as per her submitted letter, was repeated.

Gerry Marshall of 149 West Enderby Rd stated that his first mock bill was \$38.26 and his second bill was \$424.38, but that his water use did not change. He believes that the water meters are not to be trusted as they are exempt from weights and measures and their accuracy is not known. He challenges the numbers and stated that the solution is to prove the accuracy of each and every meter.

Herman Hanson of 108 Larsen Ave has received minimum mock bills of \$30. Rather than paying \$90 per year he will now have to continue paying the flat rate of \$242. He asked what the system’s capacity is. He does not like that he will not be saving any money even though he consumes very little water.

Frank Lucianovich questioned the accuracy of the meters and why they are not CSA approved.

Marilyn Wallis asked if the City had responded to Richard Vetter’s letter. She was referred to the information in the agenda package that addressed his comments in detail.

CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor Baird that, pursuant to Section 92 of the *Community Charter*, the regular meeting convene In-Camera to deal with matters deemed closed to the public in accordance with Section 90 (1) (g) of the *Community Charter*.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor McCune that the regular meeting adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER