

COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL

AGENDA

DATE: Monday, April 18, 2016

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Enderby City Hall

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2016

3. PORTFOLIO REPORTS

4. ADJOURNMENT

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ENDERBY

Minutes of a **Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting** of Council held on Monday, April 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall

Present: Mayor Greg McCune

Councillor Tundra Baird Councillor Brad Case

Councillor Roxanne Davyduke Councillor Raquel Knust Councillor Brian Schreiner Councillor Shawn Shishido

Chief Administrative Officer – Tate Bengtson Chief Financial Officer – Jennifer Bellamy Recording Secretary – Bettyann Kennedy

The Press and Public

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2016

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor Davyduke that the minutes of the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting of March 21, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

NEW BUSINESS

2016 Proposed Budget

The Chief Financial Officer presented the highlights of the 2016 proposed budget. The overall increase for both taxation and utilities (water, sewer, garbage) is 0.69%. The increase includes the costs for the Cliff Avenue upgrades.

The Chief Administrative Officer provided a summary of the changes to General, Protective Services, Fortune Parks/Animal Control/Cemetery, and Water.

2016 Water User Fees

The Chief Financial Officer introduced the proposed new rate structure which has been structured to soften the impact for large families and those properties with lawns, and to provide cost savings to users who consume low amounts of water.

A new consumption tier has been created at a lower rate for those properties that use up to 15m³ more than the allotted amount over non-summer months and 20m³ more over the summer months. This will provide savings for families and for watering lawns.

The flat rate has been reduced and the allocation has also been reduced to provide savings to those who use very little water. This will also encourage low users to address any leaks.

A maximum chargeable useage will help high users transition to the metered rates. The flat rate where meters were refused will be the same as the maximum chargeable amount.

The rebate approved February 1, 2016 has been pro-rated amongst the different residential classes.

The public was provided an opportunity to comment:

Richard Vetter of 139 Reservoir Road:

- City's rate system is not fair.
- Allocating a certain amount of water is not fair on low water users. They pay for water they don't use.
- Most conservation is coming from the high users.
- A rate for a set allocation does not promote conservation.
- Council was asked if they agreed with the allocation system:
 - The CFO reported that the allocation was established due to so many high users whose bills were extremely high. It was necessary to make up the loss of revenue by setting a base rate.
 - Mayor McCune stated that the low users have always subsidized the high users, even under the old flat rate fee before meters. Metering allowed the billing to be more fair while containing the impact on those high users.
- Allocation is wrong. There would be no risk to the City if the fixed costs were divided up
 equally among property owners and then apply a fee for exactly how much water is
 being used. He questioned why Council does not support this approach.

A list of 5 questions submitted by Mr. Vetter with responses from the Chief Financial Officer was circulated to Council and the press. Mr. Vetter stated in summary that his fundamental issue with Council's rate structure is that he feels every customer should pay the same *rate* for their water.

Tony Vetter of 806 Sicamous Street commented on the proposed budget and compared taxes to the City of Armstrong. He suggested that Enderby's taxes were too high.

Moved by Councillor Schreiner, seconded by Councillor Case that the Committee-of-the-Whole refers the 2016 proposed budgets to the April 18, 2016 Council meeting for consideration of public input.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Case, seconded by Councillor Knust that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommends that the circulated Water Fees Schedule be included as an amendment to the City of Enderby Fees and Charges Bylaw.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT