

Minutes of the **COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE MEETING** of Pitt Meadows City Council held on **Tuesday, March 25, 2008** at 3:00 p.m. in the Meadows Room of the Pitt Meadows City Hall, 12007 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows, British Columbia.

PRESENT:

Elected Officials: Mayor D.F. MacLean
Councillor J. Becker
Councillor D. Bing
Councillor D. Eisel, Chair
Councillor A. Tolchard
Councillor D. Walters

Staff J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Rear, Director of Corporate Services
K. Grout, Director of Operations & Development Services
L. Darcus, Director of Legislative Services
D. Parr, Planner
K. Robichaud, Engineering Technology
M. Murray, General Manager: Community Development,
Parks and Recreation Services
B. McLeod, Director of Parks and Open Space
L. Kelly, Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Walters, **SECONDED** by Councillor Bing, THAT the agenda for the March 25, 2008 Council in Committee Meeting, be adopted.

CARRIED.

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. **Minutes of the March 11, 2008 Council in Committee Meeting.**

MOVED by Councillor Becker, **SECONDED** by Councillor Bing, THAT the Minutes of the Council in Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008, be adopted.

CARRIED.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no items received for this Meeting.

D. REPORTS**1. Economic Development Strategy: Process. (13-6750-20)**

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not this was the appropriate direction to take with respect to moving forward with economic development in the community at this time. The majority of Council felt it was appropriate to proceed with the recommendation contained in the staff report; however, Council agreed that the strategy should provide clear direction with performance measures that will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.

MOVED by Councillor Tolchard, **SECONDED** by Councillor Walters, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council endorse the process for the completion of an Economic Development Strategy as included in the report prepared by the Director of Legislative Services dated March 3, 2008.

CARRIED.

2. Pinecone Burke Provincial Park Boundary Amendment Application. (0540-01/08)

(Referred from Council in Committee meeting held on March 11, 2008)

Council members reiterated their views regarding the proposed Pinecone Burke Provincial Park Boundary Amendment Application. These included: the environmental sustainability of wildlife habitat, impacts on fisheries, impacts on recreation and tourism (snowmobilers), the science of the project, projects are on Crown land; the need for additional "green" sources of energy for the increasing population.

MOVED by Councillor Bing, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tolchard, THAT the item with respect to the Pinecone Burke Provincial Park Boundary Amendment Application be deferred.

CARRIED.

3. Draft Official Community Plan. (6480-02)

Council discussed the procedure for removing parcels of land from the Green Zone, as well as the Agricultural Land Commission's (ALC) comments on the proposed North Lougheed Connector. It was also noted that the ALC would support the removal of 33 acres out of the total number of 100 from the Cardiff Farm property.

3. Draft Official Community Plan Cont'd. (6480-02)

MOVED by Councillor Bing, **SECONDED** by Councillor Walters, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council:

- A. Receive the letter from the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission dated March 4, 2008, and endorse the recommended changes to the draft Official Community Plan; and
- B. Endorse the changes to the Draft OCP Schedules 3A, 5A, and 5B; and
- C. Endorse changes to the Draft OCP Development Area Permit Guidelines; and
- D. Reconvene a Public Hearing for April 15, 2008.

CARRIED.

(D. Parr left the meeting at 3:50 p.m.)

4. Pitt Meadows Community Garden. (5810-01)

Staff noted that the community garden will replace the current community garden on Harris Road, which has been provided by the City for many years, and is being moved as a road is proposed to be constructed through it.

MOVED by Mayor MacLean, **SECONDED** by Councillor Walters, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council authorize a \$17,000.00 increase in the capital budget for the Pitt Meadows Community Garden.

CARRIED.

5. Kennedy Road Safety Review. (0360-20/08)

Residents have requested that safety measures be installed along the ditch on the 17600-block of Kennedy Road, between the pump station and the bridge. Council agreed to refer the request to ICBC to undertake a safety review. At the present time, additional signage has been installed.

MOVED by Councillor Walters, **SECONDED** by Councillor Bing, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council approve the request for a Safety Review to be done for Kennedy Road.

CARRIED.

(K. Robichaud left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.)

6. Impact of Grants on Financial Plan. (1855-01)

The Director of Corporate Services said the primary objective of the discussion was to get direction from Council on how to amend the Financial Plan in order to accommodate the information that had been received on both successful and unsuccessful grant applications with respect to the Spirit Square and the synthetic turf field.

Mr. Rear noted that the Spirit Square grant is dependent on the project being substantively completed in 2008, at a total cost of \$1.5M. He suggested moving \$250,000 of the 2010 funding from the Future Capital Reserve Fund forward and borrowing the balance to complete the project. This could be included in the debt funding being prepared for the Parkade; the additional cost of the incremental borrowing over 25 years is estimated at \$41,000 a year.

With respect to the synthetic turf field, the grant application for \$1.4M was not successful. Staff was directed to do a comprehensive review of available funding resources, including any future grant opportunities after the debt sourcing issues for 2008 are clarified, and to reconfirm that the funding from School District No. 42 and the Pitt Meadows Soccer Club can be held over to 2009.

Council discussed the potential for including borrowing for the completion of the synthetic turf field as a referendum question at the 2008 election. It was noted that the results of the referendum, while an indication of public opinion, would not be binding.

Council suggested that they would like to have a financial priority workshop to discuss the timing of significant projects.

MOVED by Mayor MacLean, **SECONDED** by Councillor Becker, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council receive for information the report by the Director of Corporate Services dated March 17, 2008.

CARRIED.

MOVED by Councillor Walters, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tolchard, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council direct staff to assign the amenity contribution by the Onni Group in the amount of \$200,000 toward the synthetic turf field.

DEFEATED.

With Mayor MacLean and Councillors Becker and Bing voting in the negative.

6. **Impact of Grants on Financial Plan Cont'd. (1855-01)**

MOVED by Councillor Becker, **SECONDED** by Mayor MacLean, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council move \$250,000 of the 2010 funding from the Future Capital Reserve Fund forward to 2008 and the balance of the required funding for the Civic Centre project be included in the debt funding being prepared for the City's portion of the Parkade project.

CARRIED.

MOVED by Councillor Bing, **SECONDED** by Mayor MacLean, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council, for the synthetic turf field, reconfirm the funding from School District No. 42 and the Pitt Meadows Soccer Club for 2009, and that there be a comprehensive review of available funding resources, including pursuit of any future grant opportunities and provide further clarification on the debt sourcing issues for 2008 and in the future that may impact borrowing for the completion of the turf field.

CARRIED.

7. **2008 Election – Appointment of Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer.**

MOVED by Councillor Walters, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tolchard, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council:

- A. Appoint Laurie Darcus as the Chief Election Officer for conducting the 2008 general local elections with power to appoint other election officials, as required, for the administration and conduct of the 2008 general local elections; and
- B. Appoint Linda Kelly as the Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 2008 general local elections.

CARRIED.

8. **Bylaw No. 2363, 2008: 2008 Water Rate Bylaw.**

MOVED by Councillor Becker, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tolchard, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council grant First, Second and Third Readings to the Waterworks Amendment Bylaw No. 2363, 2008.

CARRIED.

9. **Bylaw No. 2364, 2008: 2008 Sewer Rate Bylaw.**

MOVED by Councillor Walters, **SECONDED** by Mayor MacLean, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council grant First, Second and Third Readings to the Sanitary Sewer and Storm Drain Amendment Bylaw No. 2364, 2008.

CARRIED.

10. **Bylaw No. 2365, 2008: 2008 Solid Waste Bylaw.**

MOVED by Mayor MacLean, **SECONDED** by Councillor Bing, THAT the Committee recommends THAT Council grant First, Second and Third Readings to the Solid Waste Amendment Bylaw No. 2365, 2008.

CARRIED.

E. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Tolchard, **SECONDED** by Councillor Bing, THAT this meeting now be adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

CARRIED.

Chair

F. QUESTION PERIOD

1. **Synthetic Turf Field.**

R. Palis, 11730 193B Street, Pitt Meadows, questioned the grant application process and how Council determined how the projects are prioritized. He also questioned Council's definition of good debt versus bad debt. Mr. Palis said the issue of the synthetic turf field has been in front of Council for two years and it is not going to go away.

It was also noted that the Parks and Recreation Department have taken a more stringent line since the turf fields in Maple Ridge have come on line, and as a result the Pitt Meadows teams have been impacted more heavily, so a synthetic turf field in Pitt Meadows is very necessary for the user groups at this time.

1. **Synthetic Turf Field Cont'd.**

Councillor Becker explained that he felt bad debt is only in the sense of a project not being absolutely necessary at this time, i.e, the synthetic turf field. He favoured putting the turf field to a referendum to get public opinion.

W. Wild, 17488 Kennedy Road, Pitt Meadows, expressed a concern that Pitt Meadows cannot afford the debt that is being contemplated by Council for these projects.

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