

COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, May 4, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Council-in-Committee convened on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 2:04 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mayor Richard Stewart
Councillor Brent Asmundson
Councillor Craig Hodge
Councillor Steve Kim
Councillor Trish Mandewo
Councillor Dennis Marsden
Councillor Teri Towner
Councillor Chris Wilson
Councillor Bonita Zarrillo

STAFF: Peter Steblin, City Manager
Raul Allueva, Deputy City Manager
Jaime Boan, General Manager Engineering and Public Works
Michelle Hunt, General Manager Finance, Technology and Police Services
Don Luymes, General Manager Civic Lands and Facilities
Jim McIntyre, General Manager Planning and Development
Donnie Rosa, General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services
Nikki Caulfield, Director Human Resources and Corporate Planning
Jeff Burton, Manager Real Estate
Lanny Englund, Manager Parks Planning and Forestry
Kathleen Vincent, Manager Corporate Communications
Gorana Cabral, Financial Planning Manager
Sean O'Melinn, Legislative Services Manager
Julie Hunter, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 27, 2020

The Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 27, 2020 were approved.

REPORTS OF STAFF

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES

2. Report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services and the General Manager Civic Lands and Facilities – Town Centre Park Lafarge Lake Washroom

The General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services provided introductory comments relative to background details related to the project, the ability to build the washroom independently of the future Town Centre Park / Lafarge Lake improvement project, the proposed location for the washroom, and the ability to move the building in the future.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Aesthetics and concerns regarding the impact of the proposed washroom location on viewscales in the park

The Committee viewed images of the view from the Guildford Way pedestrian entrance to the park.

- The desire to locate the washroom building adjacent to, or attached to, the Evergreen Cultural Centre (EGCC) to minimize its aesthetic impact on the park
- The various locations for the washroom that had been considered and criteria used to arrive at a recommended location
- The understanding that the washroom will primarily serve users of the Lafarge Lake trail
- The desire that users of the Lafarge Lake trail can easily recognize where the washroom is and the potential use of wayfinding to achieve this should the washroom be situated in a more discreet location
- The location of the future Town Centre Park washroom and servery building
- Safety concerns related to the proposed location of the washroom
- Appreciation for the ability to meet current public demand by proceeding with the washroom building independently of the future Town Centre Park / Lafarge Lake improvement project
- The desire for staff to work with the project consultant to review alternate locations that would minimize the impact of the washroom building on the viewscape
- The desire to avoid a proliferation of signs in the park
- The use of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles in planning for the washroom
- Appreciation for the cost effectiveness of the project
- The expectation that the washroom would provide a valuable service for Skytrain passengers
- The costs related to the different options for connecting services to the washroom building

- Concern related to the nature of the proposed graphics to be painted on the washroom doors
- The desire that the washroom building blend in and not be a prominent feature in the park
- The need for a washroom building to serve the south end of Town Centre Park

The Committee, with the exception of Councillor Marsden, agreed to refer the report back to staff to review the Committee's safety and aesthetic concerns related to the location of the washroom building.

FINANCE, TECHNOLOGY AND POLICE SERVICES

3. Report of the General Manager Finance, Technology and Police Services – COVID-19 Financial Impacts

The General Manager Finance, Technology and Police Services provided comments relative to the impact of COVID-19 on the City's operating budget, capital plan and cash flow.

The Financial Planning Manager utilized an on-screen presentation entitled "COVID-19 Financial Impacts" and referred to slides titled as follows:

- Agenda
- Background
- Coquitlam's Financial Resiliency
- Cash Flow versus Revenue Impacts
- Financial Impacts Methodology
- Operating Budget Impact
- Capital Plan Impact
- City Reserves Impact
- Summary
- Next Steps

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Whether it is possible to forecast the impact of COVID-19 on the 2021 and 2022 budget years
- The City's budget process
- Uncertainty resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic
- The impact of COVID-19 on the City's cash flow
- The desire to help taxpayers by extending the property tax remission deadline
- The understanding that the City is aligning residential tax deadlines with commercial tax deadlines
- Appreciation for the commitment by the current and previous Councils to exercising prudent fiscal management
- The commitment to deliver core services to City residents and businesses
- The use of modelling to project the possible tax delinquency rate
- The desire for a communications strategy designed to encourage residents who

are able to pay their taxes to do so

- The understanding that the provincial government's Tax Rate Deferral Program is underutilized by eligible property owners and the desire to help residents by encouraging those that qualify to apply
- Potential timelines for the remittance by the Province of funds related to the Tax Rate Deferral Program
- The ability to draw from the City's Accumulated Operating Surplus
- The understanding that the City is not in a position where it is necessary to pass a borrowing bylaw
- The desire to continue developing innovative solutions to challenges resulting from COVID-19
- The understanding that staff are looking into whether municipalities are eligible for the recently announced Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program for small business tenants
- Appreciation for the thorough financial analysis presented by staff
- The understanding that the City does not rely on certain revenues, such as casino revenues, to fund core services
- The City's financial position compared to other British Columbia municipalities
- The desire that the Province expand the Provincial Tax Deferral Program to assist taxpayers that are currently ineligible for the program
- The desire for a Financial Hardship Program be added to the Provincial Tax Deferral Program for a limited time, similar to the one introduced in 2009 during the economic recession

The Committee directed staff to prepare a letter from the Mayor to the provincial government supporting the expansion of the Provincial Tax Deferral Program.

- The various eligibility criteria related to the Provincial Tax Deferral Program
- The understanding that the Province will have significant financial challenges due to reduced revenues and increased expenses
- The desire to fund the maintenance of local roads
- Concern related to future deficits
- The desire to leverage federal and provincial stimulus programs

The Committee received the report of the General Manager Finance, Technology and Police Services dated April 27, 2020 and entitled "COVID-19 Financial Impacts" for information.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – May 11, 2020

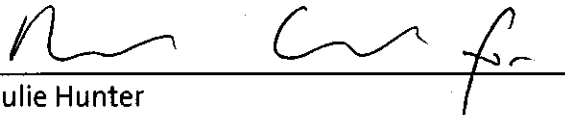
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR

I hereby certify that I have recorded the Minutes of the
Council-in-Committee Meeting held Monday, May 4, 2020
as instructed, subject to amendment and adoption.



Julie Hunter
Committee Clerk