



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

COMMUNITY FORUM

MINUTES

FOR MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021 at 4:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Marilyn Anderson
Councillor, Jonah Anstett
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Debra Tuohey

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer
Yoginder Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer
Brian Bennewith, Director of Public Works

Media – 1
Public – 13 – 15 during livestream

EXCUSED:

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm

2. **WELCOME TO THE VIRTUAL FORUM**

Mayor Roden welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and provided direction for public participation via Jessica Clement at the HUB Online Network Facebook page.

3. **PRESENTATION OF THE 2021 BUDGET**

CFO Bhalla provided a power point presentation highlighting the status of current projects:

- Water Treatment Plant intake chamber complete, Sand Separator project to begin this week
- Sewer Lift station to begin this year
- Legacy Park is almost complete and will be opening May 1st
- Hot tub was delayed due to COVID issued Engineers and contractors to the area has been challenging, engineers are finalizing design will be installed for 2022 season
- FD Training – ongoing
- EV- 3 level 2 chargers to be installed at Heritage Park and near Drylands Arena
- Trails master Plan, surveys are out and excellent community response so far
- New sweeper to be purchased this year – budget item
- EC Dev. – contracted EDTC, budget allocated and ongoing
- Rainbow crosswalk – grant request submitted – looking for paint
- Community Garden and Heritage park – ongoing
- AIB Water collaboration in discussion
- North Ashcroft Drainage – waiting for grant approval if not approved there is a line item in the budget to complete the study
- Emergency Plan update ongoing



- Bylaw Officer – ongoing will have in place soon
- Asset management – ongoing and collaborating with Cache Creek
- North Ashcroft reservoir – Number of steps to be completed, ALC Exclusion application and purchase of property

CFO Bhalla commented that these are not all of our projects but are the most active projects at the moment

Working Groups – an innovative solution developed to steer projects to completion

Increased community and Council engagement with staff. All groups have had the kick off meetings and projects are moving forwards. CFO Bhalla addressed each WG and provided a brief status update

- Cost pressures:
- Commodities affect our bottom line exponentially Carbon tax is a huge impact to our budget. Comparison of carbon tax vs. actual commodity cost are almost par
- Hydro Street Lighting – filled intervener status to reduce costs
- Solid Waste – TNRD annual cost is approx. \$120,000 plus tipping fees, revenue loss from landfill is approx. \$20,000. Spring Clean up continues
- Water consumption increase of 15%
- Hydro bill increased \$120K
- Insurance – costs increased with current provider – moved to MIA to reduce
- Ranking Process
- Staff and Council meet multiple times to prioritize and divide into 3 categories
- Critical – high priority – low priority
- Critical are scheduled for this year
- Momentum continues 2022
- 3.5 million in projects
- Taxes Payable
- Clarification provided
- 2.5% tax increase for 2021 = Single family increase average is \$14.50
- We collect taxes for TNRD, School, Police, BC Assessment, Municipal Finance Authority
- VILLAGE FINANCIAL POSITION
- Village s debt free – water and water loan is paid off
- Book value of assets + 30 Million
- Replacement value is 63 million
- VOA – 4M in reserves 75% is restricted (ie: water, sewer, capital)
- Not large reserve but we continue to work on this

Asset Management plan enables us to plan for future assets, target repairs and develop replacement plans.

Prior to opening the floor for questions and comments Mayor Roden spoke about grants and efforts involved to receive and report out on grant funding received

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS / QUESTIONS

Mayor Roden provided previously received questions as follows:

- Hot Tub
- Paving



- Grad Hill signs
- Shade Sails at Pool
- Speed control traffic calming on Ash Street
- Complaint of not stopping at the Stop Signs on Ash
- Volume of commercial traffic on Tingley St.

TNRD - Rattlesnake Rd

- Who is the Engaged Planner for the Trails Plan? Will the 2013 and 2020 petition results be provided to the Trails consultant and working group?
- How are volunteers selected to participate on Working Groups
- Cost pressures due water consumption - meters should be considered

Mayor Roden recessed the meeting to provide an opportunity for further questions or comments to be received.

Mayor Roden called the meeting back to order and asked for any further questions, no other questions received.

Mayor Roden thanked everyone for participating and reminded everyone of the May 10th Public meeting to present the five-year financial plan.

5. **TERMINATION**

M/S Roden / Tuohey

That, the Community Forum for Monday April 26, 2021 be adjourned at 5:25 pm.

CARRIED - Unanimous

Certified to be a true copy of the
Minutes for the Community Forum
held Monday April 26, 2021

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden,
Mayor