

**HIGHLIGHTS of OCTOBER 4, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING**

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**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE**

**Publicly accessible in-person Council meetings resume**—Council returned to City Hall, for the first meeting with in-person attendance of the public since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Safety procedures are in place, including a capacity limit of 39 individuals in Council Chambers, and a modified layout of Council Chambers which reflects the need for physical distancing. Members of the public are required to wear masks inside City Hall at all times, unless proof of medical exemption is shown. Members of the public are encouraged to follow along with Council business by watching the livestream of all public meetings, which are available on the City of Campbell River's website ([campbellriver.ca/webcasts](http://campbellriver.ca/webcasts)).

**COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE**

- **Royal Canadian Legion flyby on Remembrance Day**—Council approved a request from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 137 for a flyby over the downtown area on Remembrance Day, Nov. 11.
- **Support for the Village of Lytton**—Council directed staff to write a letter to the Village of Lytton offering the City's support for forest-fire recovery activities and requesting details about what form that support should take.
- **Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) 2020 annual report**—Council received VIRL's 2020 annual report, *A Library System Like No Other*. The library's activities over the past year included the introduction of new programs and services, such as Virtual Storytimes; online card registration; and Takeout, Walkthrough and Sit Down services. VIRL's Indigenous Voices Initiative received a 2020 American Library Association Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects. Council also heard an update about the plans for a new library in Campbell River. Due to the pandemic, and rising construction and labour costs, VIRL's Board of Trustees has paused all capital plans for 2022. The library will remain at its current location for the next year.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

- **Traffic signal at South Dogwood Street and South Alder Street intersection**—Following an update about the request for proposals to install a traffic signal at the South Dogwood Street and South Alder Street intersection, Council endorsed awarding the \$187,575 (excluding GST) contract to Daeco Installations Ltd. Traffic through this busy intersection in the Jubilee Heights area has been steadily increasing. According to the development covenant for Jubilee Heights, a traffic signal is required when traffic volumes reach a certain threshold. Although the traffic volume has not yet reached this threshold, the City has been working with Couverdon, the developer, to proactively install a traffic signal at this busy intersection earlier than required. The cost for this important community safety feature will be shared between the City and Couverdon, with the City contributing \$42,350 from the 2021 Pedestrian Signals Crossing capital budget and \$15,100 from an ICBC grant, and Couverdon contributing \$130,125.
- **Permissive tax exemption recommendations considered**—Council gave third reading to a permissive tax exemption bylaw. Permissive tax exemptions support community organizations by exempting land and/or improvements from municipal property taxation. Council has the option of granting a full or partial exemption to charitable, philanthropic or other not-for-profit groups that provide community services, as well as church halls and the land adjacent to churches. Council policy currently limits the value of taxes exempted to 1.7 per cent of the City's general tax levy. To qualify for exemptions, organizations must meet

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criteria in the Community Charter, as well as Council's policy. The bylaw will be brought to the Oct. 18 meeting for adoption.

- **Funding opportunity for Restorative Justice Program**—Council endorsed a letter of support for a grant application to be submitted through Police Services to the Crime Prevention Action Fund. The grant funds would enable the Restorative Justice Program to hire a program assistant, whose objective would be to expand established partnerships with local First Nation Youth Engagement Teams, School District 72, as well as multiple community resource programs. This assistant would provide Restorative Justice Circle processes proactively and in response to criminal and non-criminal incidents. These processes provide opportunities to create healing through support and awareness, avoiding punitive court processes for youth. The program's focus would prioritize Indigenous youth, females, and the LGBTQ2S+ community.
- **Funding opportunity for community-based FireSmart initiatives**—Council approved the Fire Department's application to the 2022 Community Resiliency Investment Grant, a Union of BC Municipalities grant program. The funds would be used to further public-education initiatives to reduce the wildfire risk to the community.
- **Ministry of Children and Family Development funding opportunity**—Council directed that staff consider the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund outlined in correspondence from the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

**COVID-19 tourism recovery grant application**— Council approved a letter of support for the Campbell River Downtown Business Improvement Association's COVID-19 tourism recovery grant application for the Big Truck Parade.

## DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- **Temporary use permit approved for 1630 Croation Rd.**— Council approved a temporary use permit (TUP) for 1630 Croation Rd. that will continue to permit five spaces for tenants to live year-round in recreational vehicles (RVs). Before the TUP will be issued, the applicant is required to meet a number of conditions, which must be received within 60 days of the TUP approval. The applicant is also required to enter into an indemnification agreement to accept any risks and liabilities that come from the proposed year-round occupation and servicing of the RVs. Council's approval allows the applicant to operate for three years. When making their decision, Council took into consideration the low vacancy rates and low supply of permanent affordable housing in the area. The decision made for 1630 Croation Rd. does not set a precedent for any other non-compliant properties in the City.
- **Council considers rezoning 3938 Painter Rd.**—Council gave a third reading and adopted this application to rezone 3938 Painter Rd. to allow a secondary residence.
- **Rezoning for 6702 Island Hwy.**—Council approved rezoning to allow for a future rural lot subdivision.
- **Major development permit with variance approved for 1050 and 1090 Evergreen Rd.**—Council approved a major development permit with variance for construction of a 37-unit multi-family development. The proposal included four variances: to decrease the minimum lot average, to increase the maximum lot coverage for 16 of the proposed lots, to increase the landscaping security deadline date and to reduce the requirements for underground wires.
- **Major development permit approved for 1630-16th Ave.**—Council approved a major development permit for a four-unit commercial building in the Campbellton neighbourhood, subject to financial security being

provided for landscaping works. An associated hazard conditions (flood plain) minor development permit application for this proposed development is being reviewed separately.

- **Changes to user fees for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations approved**— Council directed staff to bring back amendments to the Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Bylaw to allow for changes to City EV charging stations. The City currently owns three charging stations, located at City Hall, Dogwood Operations Centre, and the Visitor Information Centre. The changes would allow the City to balance efforts to reduce greenhouse gases with the increased demand for the charging stations by reducing the amount of time vehicles are parked at EV charging stations. Details about the changes will be announced at a later date.

### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ACTIVITY UPDATE

(received by Council during the Oct. 5 Committee of the Whole meeting)

**Since the last report was provided to Council on Sept. 7, there have been:**

- 5 new applications received
- 8 applications completed

**Currently, there are 76 active files. Of those files:**

- 31 require action from the applicant,
- 44 require action from the City and
- 1 require action from the Province

**Of the 76 active files, there are:**

- 26 Fee simple subdivisions,
- 7 Bare land strata subdivisions,
- 1 Temporary use permit,
- 14 Zoning Bylaw amendments,
- 1 Combined OCP and Zoning Bylaw amendments
- 5 Major development permits,
- 6 Major development with variance permit
- 12 Minor development permits,
- 1 Minor development permit amendment,
- 1 Development variance permits, and
- 2 Board of Variance permits