

HIGHLIGHTS of APRIL 12, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

*To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, meetings use online video conferencing technology.
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DELEGATIONS

- **Update on the Campbell River hydroelectric system** – BC Hydro’s Stephen Watson presented to Council on capital projects and operations. See the entire presentation in the recording of the Council meeting.
- **First Nations Youth in Stewardship program** – Cory Cliffe of 7 Generation Stewards Society presented to Council about the Society’s work to mentor and support First Nations youth from Grade 9 to university completion, and encourage them in their pursuit of higher education and development of maximum skills to bring back to their nation. Council will send a letter of support for the initiative that includes building cultural awareness and environmental stewardship, with programs focusing on industrial and outdoor safety, poaching, overharvesting, marine biology, forestry and archeology.) See the entire presentation in the recording of the Council meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- **Heritage designation for Haig-Brown and Sybil Andrews properties** – Council adopted a bylaw to protect two publicly-owned properties that support local artists as well as tourism and economic development. Heritage designation is the highest level of recognition the City can provide for these iconic and historic local properties.
- **Zoning bylaw amendments considered to prohibit bottling of groundwater** – An online public hearing will be held following first two readings to a number of Zoning Bylaw text amendments that if adopted, will permit additional uses in existing zones and prohibit the bottling of ground water in all zones.
- **Increased density considered for 854 South Island Hwy** – An online public hearing will be held following Council’s preliminary consideration of a rezoning application that would allow for increased density, reduced parking requirements and an increase in the permitted percentage of small parking stalls for the proposed development of rental units at this location.
- **Conditional rezoning approval for duplexes at 2141 Willis Road** – In response to feedback received during the public hearing, the applicant adjusted the application for this property. Front yard setbacks have been adjusted to allow 7.5 metres in front of any garages or carports to alleviate parking concerns. The applicant proposes a 10-lot subdivision, with duplexes on each lot, for a total of up to 20 dwellings. An online public hearing was held March 8. Conditions for approval include registration of the subdivision at Land Title Office and bylaw signoff from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI).
- **Habitat for Humanity townhouse development at 461 Hilchey Road considered** – An online public hearing will be held to gather feedback on a proposed 20-unit affordable townhouse development for families in need.
- **Commercial building and outdoor storage approved for 1100 Homewood Road** – Council approved a major development permit application by C&L Services (currently located on the same site) for a building and storage area. Council also waived the requirement to bury power lines in front of this property. A minor development permit related to streamside work for this project was recently approved.

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquires by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.

- **Climate Adaptation Plan adopted** – Council endorsed a Community Climate Adaptation Plan and intends to review potential actions before financial planning to confirm priorities for future work to guide Campbell River in preparing for and responding to current and projected climate impacts. The document includes objectives and actions aimed at built, natural, and social systems, the economy, community health and wellbeing. It also includes detailed implementation tables developed with local partners. The plan is the result of a two-year collaborative process funded by the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia and was available for public comment with a survey on priority action items (121 people responded to the survey and a further 47 responses were received from a survey directed specifically at youth). Survey responses indicated broad support for responding to the impacts of climate change, supporting local business in addressing climate risks, and continuing to share information.
- **Flood mapping update** – Following adoption of the Sea Level Rise Action Plan in February 2020, Council endorsed the recommended elevation of 0.6m as a safety margin above flood construction level. This will be incorporated into the City’s future flood mapping and flood management bylaw as protective construction levels for landowners and developers. Safe elevation will be established in areas vulnerable to flooding from the ocean and the Campbell River so that living space and mechanical systems (electrical, HVAC, gas and other equipment) are located above the flood construction level. Any spaces below this level should be designed in anticipation of potential flooding. Floodplain mapping for Campbell River is currently being completed by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants.
- **2021 Farmers Market will continue at Cedar Street location** – Council endorsed setting up the Pier Street Farmers Market near Cedar Street at 540 10th Ave. again this year. The market will run from May through to September in 2021. Secure power outlets for the site will be funded from the Council contingency budget rather than the downtown beautification grant. The Farmers Market moved to this location in 2020 because the usual Maritime Heritage Centre location did not offer enough space to meet physical distancing requirements during the pandemic.
- **Motion defeated to reconsider location of new Vancouver Island Regional Library branch in Campbell River** (See separate news release for more details.)

COMMUNITY SAFETY

- **Regional strengthening communities grant application** – The City, Strathcona Regional District, the Campbell River and District Coalition to End Homelessness and a working group with representatives from non-profit organizations and Indigenous service agencies submitted a grant application to the Strengthening Communities’ Services. This is a provincial funding program available through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities. Grants will be awarded in June, and a regional applications can potentially access a higher amount of funding. A grant would fund a variety of activities to:
 - Improve health and safety for people experiencing homelessness
 - Improve service delivery and coordination among organizations
 - Reduce community concerns related to impacts of homelessness

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- **Downtown Safety Select Committee recommendations** – Council endorsed Downtown Safety Select Committee recommendations, funded by the 2021 safety initiatives budget of \$225,000, including:
 - Remove Spirit Square stage covering, and consider alternative replacement covering in consultation with the Spirit Square operator, as a future capital project
 - Expand the crime prevention through environmental design grant program (staff report on how to streamline and remove barriers to access program)
 - Landscaping improvements to the BC Hydro Box at 13th Avenue / Shoppers Row
 - Install two garbage cans per block along Shoppers Row and Pier Street
 - Security camera program expansion
 - Continued funding to expand the Get the Point cleanup and peer mentor program
 - Expansion of the infill street-light program in the downtown coreCouncil also confirmed a commitment to:
 - improve safety and cleanliness in the downtown core through ongoing, annual capital investment in the downtown refresh program
 - join other municipalities in actively lobbying the provincial and federal government to open and fund mental health and addiction facilities in the province, and specifically in Campbell River
 - establish a new Downtown Safety Select Committee in September to review progress and make recommendations to CouncilMayor Andy Adams thanked all members of the select committee for their efforts to contribute to holistic solutions and affirmed that all Council members, City staff and social service agencies recognize the need for permanent funding for a welcoming, warm place with support services for people who need such a facility.

Recreation and Culture Department fees update – Council will consider a proposal that would develop a plan for regular fee updates in about four months. Council deferred taking action at this time due to staffing changes and current shortages in this department. Recreation and Culture Department fees were last updated in 2010. The department proposes a pricing policy for regular fee updates. The proposal would be reviewed by the Community Planning and the Community Health and Public Safety advisory committees and ensure program fees allow the department to be responsive to community needs and flexible with marketing strategies.

CORRESPONDENCE

- **Campbell River Search and Rescue Society to expand facility** – Council approved a proposal by the Campbell River Search and Rescue Society to expand their facility at 261B Larwood Road. The property is owned by the City and leased by the society.
- **Rotary Club proposal for Beaver Lodge Lands washroom** – Council requested a staff report on operating costs and other considerations related to a proposal by the Rotary Club of Campbell River to establish a washroom for Beaver Lodge Lands at Trask Road.

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- **Proclamation approved for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week** – Council approved a request by fire chief Thomas Doherty to acknowledge the work of emergency dispatchers between April 11 and 17.
- **No fireworks for Canada Day** – Council reluctantly received confirmation from Carol Chapman for Campbell River’s Canada Day Committee that public health directives have necessitated cancellation of plans for fireworks this year.
- **Emergency evacuation resources for Vancouver Island** – In response to correspondence from Mosaic Forest Management, Council will send a letter confirming the City’s support for improved emergency evacuation services for Vancouver Island.
- **Call for overdose action plan** – In response to correspondence from the Mayor of Prince George, Council will send a letter to the Minister of Health, and to the local Member of Parliament and Member of the Legislative Assembly, calling for an overdose action plan regarding the opioid crisis.
- **Spot prawn fishery regulations** – In response to correspondence regarding the re-interpretation of spot prawn fishery regulations, Council will send a letter to federal fisheries Minister Jordan, and to the local Member of Parliament and Member of the Legislative Assembly, supporting the west coast industry.
- **BC Hydro street lighting rate application** – In response to correspondence from the City of Prince George and the City of Vernon, Council will send a letter in support of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities involvement as interveners in the BC Utilities Commission application by BC Hydro for street lighting rate increases.

HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMITTEE of the WHOLE MEETING, APRIL 13

Housing growth review update – Council referred a range of draft policy options related to infill development to three advisory committees and members of the development community for review and comment. Council will also invite the Vancouver Island Real Estate Board to present to Council on the real estate market.

The goal of infill development is to be as effective and efficient as possible with the community’s non-expanding land base while balancing the need to offer a variety of types and sizes of housing with the character of existing neighbourhoods.

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