

## HIGHLIGHTS of SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

*For public health and safety, meetings use online video conferencing technology.*

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### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

- **Proof of vaccination at City recreation facilities** – Following provincial public health orders, as of Sept. 13, anyone 12 years or older will have to provide proof of vaccination to enter the Sportsplex in Willow Point and the Community Centre downtown. By Oct. 24, people will have to be fully vaccinated for at least seven days to access these facilities. Council authorized a budget of up to \$125,000 to set up two check booths with security hosts at the public entrance to these facilities.  
Proof of vaccination is not required to vote on Sept. 20 at the Sportsplex.
- **In-person Council meetings to resume in October** – Preparing to return to City Hall for in-person meetings, starting Oct. 4, Council gave first three readings of an amendment to the Council procedure bylaw, which permits up to three Council members to participate electronically (the same bylaw language that was in place prior to the COVID-19 pandemic). This bylaw will be brought back for adoption at a special meeting on Sept. 28. Safety procedures and options for public input are being developed.
- **Remedial action approved for two properties** – Council directed that the owners of 204 Hilchey Rd. and 845 Marina Blvd. must conduct maintenance on their properties to comply with the municipal public nuisance bylaw. City contractors will perform the work required to achieve compliance in the event that the property owners do not clean up the unsightly premises.
- **Downtown Safety: Implementation Approach** – Council approved funding for improved safety throughout the greater downtown area. Council authorized up to \$100,000 for night-time security services to monitor public spaces. This service will be provided seven days a week to match the level of private downtown security services contracted by the business community. Council also approved funding of up to \$78,000 for increased downtown cleanliness, possibly in partnership with volunteers, or other agencies.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

- **Approval for art in the park** – The Campbellton Neighbourhood Association will place a large driftwood bear sculpture at the Spruce Street Parkette, thanks to a \$6,000 grant from the Campbell River Community Foundation. The association will commission Alex Witcombe of Drifted Creations to produce the sculpture, which will complement the new neighbourhood logo. A Welcome to Campbellton sign is being developed, to be placed at Maple Street and Highway 19A once approved by the Province.
- **Expanded hours proposed for BC Transit** – Council received a report outlining BC Transit's proposed three-year expansion initiatives and endorsed planning for increased service in 2023, including:
  - 930 additional hours for conventional services
  - 750 additional hours for custom transit services
  - increases to the taxi saver supplement
- **Hwy 19A roundabout feature** – In response to correspondence from Ken Blackburn of the Campbell River Arts Council requesting that the Rockland Road roundabout centre feature process be restarted, with local design consultation, Council requested a report summarizing the history, budget and details of public consultation for the planned tidal theme feature.
- **City of Campbell River's 75th Anniversary** – Council directed staff to investigate partnership opportunities with First Nations and community organizations to mark the City of Campbell River's 75th anniversary (in 2022) through a *CR Stories* program. Staff will prepare a draft plan for Council's consideration, followed by a comprehensive plan and budget submitted in time for upcoming financial planning.

For the most recent information on City services, please see [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca).  
For general inquiries, please email [info@campbellriver.ca](mailto:info@campbellriver.ca) or telephone 250-286-5700.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

- **Permissive tax exemption recommendations considered** – Following a summary by Community Partnership Committee chair Dennis Fitzgerald, Council gave first two readings 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 criteria in the Community Charter as well as Council's policy.
- **Second Quarter Financial Report** – Financial results for the City's departmental operating budgets are within expectation for the first two quarters of 2021. Operating and capital projects are well underway with most projects well into the planning or construction phase. The second and third quarter see an increase in capital expenses as capital and operations crews complete most of their projects during these months. BC's Restart four-step plan has resulted in additional revenues as more opportunities for indoor and outdoor recreation programs have occurred. Gaming revenues will resume in the third quarter. With provincial travel restrictions lifted (open to all provinces and territories as of July 1 and the United States as of August 9), Campbell River should see increasing accommodation tax revenues due to tourist visits in the third quarter.
- **Wood WORKS! BC regarding funding opportunity** – Council directed that staff consider funding opportunities outlined in correspondence from Wood WORKS! BC for a future Sportsplex renewal project.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

**Capital Power contract with BC Hydro** – In response to correspondence from Brian Vaasjo, president and CEO of Capital Power, providing an update on discussions with BC Hydro, Council will write to the British Columbia Utilities Commission to request that Capital Power's contract with BC Hydro for power supply from the Island Generation facility be extended until a draft integrated resource plan is complete and reviewed by the commission.

**DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

- **Addition for dwelling at 2721 Soderholm Rd.** – Council approved an application to allow for a one-storey addition to the existing single-family house on this property. Following first two readings of the application, Council waived the requirement for a public hearing at the Aug. 9 meeting.
- **Building to be converted to secondary residence at 2460 Quinsam Rd.** – Council approved rezoning this property so that a building can be converted into a secondary residence in the rear yard. Following first two readings of the application, Council waived the requirement for a public hearing at the Aug. 9 meeting.
- **Airport Land Development Opportunities** – Following review of a report outlining a phased approach to airside land development at the airport, Council approved up to \$90,000 to undertake the necessary planning and engineering requirements to subdivide lease area 22. This will provide future lease opportunities at the airport.

### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ACTIVITY UPDATE

(received by Council during the Sept. 8/21 Committee of the Whole meeting)

**Since the August 24 report was provided to Council there have been:**

- 10 new applications received
- 8 applications completed

**Currently, there are 79 active files. Of those files;**

- 38 require action from the applicant
- 41 require action from the City

**Of the 80 active files there are:**

- 28 Fee simple subdivisions
- 7 Bare land strata subdivisions
- 1 Temporary use permit
- 15 Zoning Bylaw amendments
- 1 Combined OCP and Zoning Bylaw amendments
- 5 Major Development Permits
- 1 Major Development Permit Amendments
- 11 Minor Development Permits
- 1 Minor Development Permit amendment
- 5 Development Variance Permits
- 4 Board of Variance Permits