



## MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 27, 2020  
3:00 p.m.  
Remote Video / Teleconference

Present: Mayor van den Broek  
Councillor Albrecht  
Councillor James  
Councillor Martin  
Councillor Pachal  
Councillor Storteboom  
Councillor Wallace

Staff Present: F. Cheung, Chief Administrative Officer  
D. Leite, Director of Corporate Services  
K. Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services  
C. Johannsen, Director of Development Services  
S. Kennedy, Acting Fire Chief  
G. Flack, Deputy Director of Corporate Services  
G. Sherlock, Emergency Coordinator  
K. Kenney, Corporate Officer

Mayor van den Broek advised that April 28, 2020 is National Day of Mourning, a time to honour those workers who have been killed, injured, or suffered illness as a result of workplace-related circumstances. She expressed condolences on behalf of the City of Langley to the family, and the RCMP family, of Constable Heidi Stevenson who lost her life in the line of duty during the mass shooting in Nova Scotia, and to the family and friends of all the victims of the shooting. She further expressed condolences to those who have lost family members to the COVID-19 virus.

Mayor van den Broek acknowledged all the frontline workers supporting all of us during the COVID-19 pandemic and invited everyone to take a moment of silence on April 28 at 11:00 am to acknowledge National Day of Mourning and all that it represents.

### 1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- a. Adoption of the April 27, 2020 Regular Agenda

MOVED BY Councillor Albrecht

SECONDED BY Councillor Storteboom

THAT the April 27, 2020 agenda be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

## **2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2020

MOVED BY Councillor James  
SECONDED BY Councillor Albrecht

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 6, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

- b. Special (Pre-Closed) Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2020

MOVED BY Councillor Storteboom  
SECONDED BY Councillor James

THAT the minutes of the special (pre-closed) meeting held on April 20, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

## **3. MAYOR'S REPORT**

- a. Upcoming Meetings

Regular Council Meeting – May 11, 2020 - 3pm  
Regular Council Meeting – May 25, 2020 - 3pm

- b. Library Happenings - Councillor Martin

### **FVRL eCard**

FVRL launched a new eCard on April 2, and almost 2000 new digital cards have been issued, at a current rate of almost 100 per day. Many existing customers who have not recently used their cards are also reaching out to update their accounts to be able to access our collections.

All of our digital content, including eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, video streaming, eLearning, is available 24/7 online. Borrowing and streaming limits have been doubled for our most popular eBook, audiobook and streaming services, including OverDrive, RBdigital, Kanopy and Acorn TV.

Usage of our online resources has skyrocketed! In OverDrive, our most popular eBook resource, the average number of new users daily has more than doubled, and average daily checkouts of eBooks has increased by 48% over the same period in 2019. The collection is being expanded with new titles and additional copies of existing titles to keep up with unprecedented demand.

### **Virtual Storytimes and Babytimes**

FVRL has done a soft launch of virtual storytimes and babytimes. A full promotional launch is planned for the near future. As of Friday, April 24 we had posted 15 storytimes and 6 babytimes on Facebook and Youtube, with many more in the works to maintain this ongoing service.

Even without promotion, the storytimes have organically garnered many thousands of views. Our very first storytime (pictured) has close to five thousand views already! Many customers are commenting to express their excitement and appreciation for these virtual programs.

While the storytimes and babytimes will continue, staff are also exploring ideas for other types of virtual programs, including those for adults.

### **Teen Creativity Contest**

FVRL's 5th Annual Teen Creativity contest has been extended to May 31! Show us your creative writing, display your artistic skills, build a robot, write a song, loop a video! It can be anything you put your mind to. Teens can win one of 12 VISA gift cards.

In response to a question from a Council member, staff advised that they can advise the Langley School District of the Teen Creativity Contest.

#### **c. Recreation Update**

Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services provided an update on recreation activities for April:

- Recreation at Home Videos and Links
- Online Events Community Engagement
  - Virtual MS Walk May 24
- Online Programs for Youth
- Instagram Challenges Weekly for Youth
- Stay Active Stay Safe

#### **d. Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) COVID-19 Update**

Ginger Sherlock, Emergency Coordinator and Scott Kennedy, Acting Fire Chief provided an update to Council on the City of Langley's Emergency Operations Centre response to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing information on the following:

- Initial briefing recap
  - Local authority focus – 10 critical infrastructure sectors
  - Health information from Fraser Health Authority on COVID-19
- Pandemic timeline and Langley timeline
- EOC organizational structure and roles

- Activities in sustained response
- Anticipating Recovery

In response to a question from a Council member, Acting Fire Chief Kennedy advised that the EOC currently has enough staff capacity to address the challenges and that morale is good.

#### **4. BYLAWS**

a. Bylaw No. 3127 - Financial Plan Bylaw Amendment

First and second reading of a bylaw to amend the 2020 - 2024 Financial Plan Bylaw

Darrin Leite, Director of Corporate Services advised that the original 2020-2024 Financial Plan was adopted in February this year and had proposed an increase of \$1,949,070 to bridge the financial gap for 2020 which equated to an overall property tax increase of 6.67%.

Subsequently, in response to the current economic challenges faced by city residents, businesses and property owners due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Council has decided to take measures to mitigate the taxation impact outlined in the Financial Plan to ease the financial pressures on taxpayers.

These measures include:

- deferring borrowing of \$10 million in 2020, which was part of the Nexus of Community Plan, to 2021;
- deferring some new staffing position to future years;
- reducing our contribution to the capital works reserve for infrastructure renewal;
- increasing building permit revenue projection;
- reducing some staff training costs;

These proposed amendments to the Financial Plan will reduce the funding increase for 2020 from \$1,949,070 to \$535,550 equating to a reduction in the overall tax increase from 6.67% to 1.83%.

Mr. Leite noted that the 1.83% tax increase does not include utility rate increases. When the utility rates are included the combined average rates are as follows:

Average Single Family Dwelling – 2.44%  
Average Multi-Family Dwelling – 2.41%  
Business/Light Industrial – 2.01%/2.14%

Mr. Leite further provided information on the following:

- impacts to the capital improvement plan due to anticipated reduction in casino proceeds;
- cash flow considerations if taxpayers cannot pay their taxes on time;
- ability for City to delay payment of school taxes to end of year;
- requirement that City still pay taxing authorities such as TransLink on time;
- altering tax due dates and penalty dates to further assist taxpayers.

In response to a question from a Council member, Mr. Leite advised that the City's financial software system cannot be reconfigured at this time to permit more than two penalty dates in order to further spread out penalty amounts into smaller increments.

MOVED BY Councillor Martin  
SECONDED BY Councillor James

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Financial Plan 2020 - 2024 Bylaw, 2020, No. 3120, Amendment No. 1 Bylaw, No. 3127" be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Financial Plan 2020 - 2024 Bylaw, 2020, No. 3120, Amendment No. 1 Bylaw, No. 3127" be read a second time.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, in response to a question from a Council member, staff advised that before third reading and adoption of the Financial Plan amendment there will be an opportunity for public input on the bylaw.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

b. Bylaw No. 3122 - Tax Rate Bylaw

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to levy property value taxes for municipal purposes for the year 2020

MOVED BY Councillor Albrecht  
SECONDED BY Councillor Martin

THAT the bylaw cited as the "2020 Tax Rates Bylaw, 2020, No. 3122" be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "2020 Tax Rates Bylaw, 2020, No. 3122" be read a second time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "2020 Tax Rates Bylaw, 2020, No. 3122" be read a third time.

CARRIED

c. Bylaw 3128 - Tax Penalty Addition Bylaw Amendment

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to amend the Tax Penalty Addition Bylaw

MOVED BY Councillor Storteboom

SECONDED BY Councillor James

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Tax Penalty Addition Bylaw, 1983, No. 1267, Amendment No. 3, Bylaw No. 3128" be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Tax Penalty Addition Bylaw, 1983, No. 1267, Amendment No. 3, Bylaw No. 3128" be read a second time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Tax Penalty Addition Bylaw, 1983, No. 1267, Amendment No. 3, Bylaw No. 3128" be read a third time.

CARRIED

5. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

a. Temporary Exclusion of Public from Open Meetings

MOVED BY Councillor Albrecht

SECONDED BY Councillor James

THAT as permitted under Ministerial Order No. M083, open meetings of Council be held in the absence of the public until such time as the provincial declaration of state of emergency has been lifted.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, in response to questions from Council members, staff advised that:

- staff can investigate posting the videos of the Council meetings on the home page of the City's website for easier access by the public;
- the proposed motion, if adopted, would formalize Council's decision to hold Council and committee meetings in the absence of the public until the provincial declaration of state of emergency is lifted, as permitted under Ministerial Order M083;
- the opportunity for the public to provide input into the Financial Plan amendment will be by way of submission of written comments by email or regular mail.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

**6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. Motions/Notices of Motion

b. Correspondence

1. Langley Care Foundation

Grant Request

Mayor van den Broek advised that the Langley Care Foundation contacted the City advising that they wished to withdraw their grant request as they received what was needed through community donations.

2. Cystic Fibrosis Canada, British Columbia and Yukon Region

May is 'Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month'

3. Canadian Perinatal Mental Health Collaborative

May 3-10, 2020 "Maternal Mental Health Week"

c. New Business

1. Release of Motions from April 6, 2020 Closed Meeting of Council

***Postponement of Alternative Approval Process for Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3112:***

THAT the Alternative Approval Process for Property Acquisition and Infrastructure Upgrades Loan Authorization Bylaw 2020, No. 3112 be postponed pending a report to Council on considerations in determining whether to proceed with the current Loan Authorization Bylaw

***Advisory Design Panel Member Appointments:***

1. THAT the following people be appointed to the City's Advisory Design Panel for a term of one year, expiring December 31, 2020:

Scott Thompson, City of Langley Resident

Rob Chorney, City of Langley Resident

Heidi Tobler, Business Community Representative (DLBA)

Garth White, Business Community Representative (Chamber of Commerce)

Clark Kavolinas, BC Society of Landscape Architects

Chad Neufeld, BC Society of Landscape Architects

Mark Lesack, Architectural Institute of BC

Wendy Crowe, Architectural Institute of BC

2. THAT the following person be appointed to the City's Advisory Design Panel as the Accessibility Representative, for a term of one year, expiring December 31, 2020:

Ella van Enter

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY Councillor Wallace

SECONDED BY Councillor Pachal

THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:58pm.

CARRIED

---

Signed:

MAYOR

---

Certified Correct:

CORPORATE OFFICER