



## MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 22, 2021

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  
R. Bomhof, Director of Engineering, Parks and Environment  
K. Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services  
C. Johannsen, Director of Development Services  
D. Leite, Director of Corporate Services  
H. Gill, Manager of Engineering  
K. Kenney, Corporate Officer

Mayor van den Broek acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

### 1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- a. Adoption of the March 22, 2021 Regular Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 22, 2021 agenda be amended to add the letter from the Mayor of Delta George Harvie to the Minister of Health dated March 10, 2021 regarding Emergency Medical Care in BC.

CARRIED

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 22, 2021 agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

### **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes from March 8, 2021

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 8, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

- b. Special (pre-closed) Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2021

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the special pre-closed meeting held on March 1, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

### **3. COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHTS**

- a. Langley Animal Protection Society (LAPS)

Jayne Nelson, Executive Director, Langley Animal Protection Society (LAPS) made a PowerPoint presentation to Council, providing the following information:

- Our history:
  - Established in May 2003 working to meet the needs of the Langley community.
  - Grassroots organization founded by a dedicated group of Langley citizens led by Patti Dale.
  - The City of Langley first contracted the services of LAPs on January 1, 2004 and have been working together ever since.
  - In 2009 LAPS had a 10,000 sq. ft. state of the art animal shelter facility built, fulfilling Patti Dale's dream;
  - In 2018 LAPS increased its capacity to care by building a unique Cat Intake and Isolation facility dubbed the ISOasis.
- Our services:
  - Animal Control
  - Animal Adoptions
  - TNR
  - Community Outreach
  - Boarding and Training
  - Volunteer Opportunities

- COVID-19 impact:
  - We closed our doors to our beloved volunteers and the general public for the first time in our history
  - As an essential service, we needed to develop safety protocols to keep the public, our partners and our staff safe
  - The pandemic forced small organizations like ours to become creative and innovate contactless ways to continue to do our work safely
  - We knew this was an important time where animals and people would need our support more than ever
  - New community partnerships were formed to help get services to those in need
  - We were overwhelmed by the number of applicants for adoptable animals
  - We were faced with challenges in accessing veterinary care for spay/neuter surgeries and other care
- Major's Legacy Fund:
  - Major's Legacy Fund was established for the purpose of keeping people and their pets together in challenging times like these. This fund provides financial assistance to community members who love their pets but may be facing hardships and are unable to provide their animals with the care they need. In 2020 alone we supported 633 families, ensuring they could stay together
  - Major's Legacy Fund Components:
    - Veterinary care
    - Compassionate boarding
    - Pet food bank
    - Community partners
  - Applicant Requirements:
    - Resident of the City or Township of Langley
    - Must provide proof of income or demonstrate that they have been impacted by COVID
    - LAPS will pay for veterinary care to a maximum \$1000
    - If an applicant's animal is not spayed or neutered, LAPS will cover the additional cost of the spay or neuter surgery at that time
- Ways to connect:
  - Website – [lapsbc.ca](http://lapsbc.ca)
  - Facebook - @LAPSLangley
  - Instagram - @laps\_bc

In response to questions from Council members, Ms. Nelson advised that:

- there are 22,000 feral cats living in the Langleys;
- two studies conducted by Humane Canada to look at what solutions communities have utilized to address their feral cat issues have indicated that one of the most important things a community can do to reduce its feral cat population is to have a Trap, Neuter, Return to Field (TNR) program;
- about 25% of owned cats are not spayed or neutered so LAPS gives away 240 free spay/neuter certificates each year to help reduce financial barriers for owners to get their cats spayed or neutered;
- the shelter takes in about 400 cats, 325 of which are kittens, which LAPS spays and neuters and finds homes for;
- all the work LAPS does with cats is funded by grants and donors;
- this year LAPS has received a grant to help address the community cat population; a first step will be to identify the areas where cats are congregating; next year LAPS will likely require further funds to develop and implement a plan to tackle the areas identified;
- the Humane Society of Calgary was one of the first big organizations to implement cat licensing; the implementation took 3 years and they have been successful in adapting bylaws in their cat licensing program and they have found it has really helped to control the population in a big way and reduces the nuisance behaviours of cats that are indoor/outdoor and the licensing has funded the program; no one in BC is currently licensing cats; the first step would be to create some bylaws;
- the volunteer program has been started up again there are currently some dogs at the shelter that need walking; LAPS has some very good COVID protocols in place so people are welcome to volunteer to walk dogs; they are doing another volunteer intake in April;
- the difference between the SPCA and LAPS is that the SPCA protects animals from people and LAPS protects people from animals;
- Wildlife Conservation should be called if residents find a coyote in their backyard.

#### **4. MAYOR'S REPORT**

##### a. Upcoming Meetings

Regular Council Meeting – April 12, 2021

Regular Council Meeting – April 26, 2021

b. Recreation Update

Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services provided an update on upcoming programs and events as follows:

- Pitch-In-Month – April 1 – 30
- Healthy Living Bag – April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7
- Canadian Film Day – April 21
- Chair yoga – March 29 – April 26
- Fit for Life – March 30 – April 29
- Gentle Yoga – March 29 – April 26
- Tai-Chi – April 14 – June 16
- Youth Programs
  - Basketball and Open Gym
  - Youth Night
  - Other Programs (Teen Time, Youth Lounge)
  - Upcoming registered programs (Financial Literacy, Volleyball)
- Active Start Sports – Ages 2-5 (parent participation)
- ABCs and 123 – Ages 2-3
- Roaming Rascals – Ages 0-5 (parent participation)
- Fundamental Sports – Ages 6-12

In response to questions from a Council member, Ms. Hilton advised that:

- dates for re-opening the walking track to the public will be determined within the next week as staff had been waiting to see if Fraser Health would be designating Timms Recreation Centre as a vaccination site;
- those wanting to use the walking track will not be required to have been vaccinated as COVID safety protocols will be in place.

c. Discover Langley City - Councillor Albrecht

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 2021 Update Report from Discover Langley City be received for information.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED in response to a question from a Council member, Councillor Albrecht advised that he did not read out the report as he has in the past as currently it is comprised mostly of statistics; going forward he will provide a verbal report when there is information in the report of particular note.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

## 5. **BYLAWS**

### a. Bylaw 3152 - Watercourse Protection Bylaw

Final reading of a bylaw to protect watercourses in the City of Langley

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Watercourse Protection Bylaw, 2021, No. 3152" be read a final time.

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

- the fines for contravention of provisions of the new Watercourse Protection Bylaw are in line with those of other municipalities; but they can always be raised if it is determined that they need to be;
- the City has several other mechanisms in addition to fines to penalize non-compliance with the bylaw, including issuing a stop work order /or taking the developer to court where a maximum fine of up to \$10,000 can be ordered;
- the City has an inspector who would undertake inspections of work sites to ensure compliance with the bylaw and who would issue an immediate stop work order if there was a serious infraction;
- the professional board to which an individual has earned their credentials for their profession would be responsible for investigating and imposing penalties on an individual for any malfeasance with respect to complying with the Watercourse Protection Bylaw;
- the new Watercourse Protection Bylaw includes better provisions for Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEP) for reporting to the City;
- staff are also preparing another bylaw that contains a form that must be filled out prior to construction and signed by the QEP which states that if some violation happens and they don't report it to the City both the individual and their firm will be held accountable.

Mr. Cheung advised that staff can monitor the appropriateness of the fines over the next six months to a year, then report back to Council and propose adjustments to the fines at that time if necessary.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

**CARRIED**

b. Bylaw 3156 - Municipal Ticket Information System Bylaw Amendment

Final reading of a bylaw to amend the Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw (increase fines for new Watercourse Protection Bylaw)

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Municipal Ticket Information System Bylaw, 2011, No. 2846, Amendment No. 16, 2021, No. 3156" be read a final time.

CARRIED

c. Bylaw 3157 - Fees & Charges Amendment Bylaw

Final reading of a bylaw to amend the Fees and Charges Bylaw (to add a fee for re-inspecting a site after violation of Watercourse Protection Bylaw has occurred)

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Fees and Charges Bylaw, 2010, Bylaw No. 2837, Amendment No. 28, 2021, No. 3157" be read a final time.

CARRIED

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Environmental Task Group - Recommendations from the March 11, 2021 Meeting

Councillor Wallace, Chair of the Environmental Task Group spoke to her report dated March 11, 2021 Meeting.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to investigate installing a user pay Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station at City Hall and other civic facilities that is accessible 24 hours a day to the public.

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

- the City currently has one public EV charging station and two charging stations for use by staff for City and personal electric vehicles;
- the current public charging station does not have the technology to enable billing so a new charging station would need to be installed;
- a fast charging station with billing capability costs upwards of \$50,000 with installation, although costs keep coming down; normal

charging stations cost approximately \$10,000; however, staff would need to research this to obtain accurate costs;

- the City's charging stations are normal charge;
- if the City were to install a user pay charging station it would not qualify under any grant programs like it would if free EV charging stations were installed;
- staff can utilize information already compiled by Metro Vancouver, TransLink, UBCM, and FCM on this issue and include in their report information on potential locations, how often this technology changes, and whether people are using their credit cards to pay for charging.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council request staff to include a budget in 2022 to retain a consultant to complete a streetscape and park waste audit and provide options to improve waste diversion.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED in response to questions from Council members, Mr. Bomhof and Councillor Wallace advised that:

- It is staff's understanding that none of the recyclable materials collected in the 71 streetscape recycling/waste receptacles can be recycled due to cross-contamination; therefore it is all being disposed of as garbage in the landfill, staff will confirm this;
- there are waste management companies that do sort recyclables but are most likely quite expensive;
- staff can look into how much it would cost to end the current contact with the providers of the waste receptacles before the termination date and what the approximate cost would be for the City to provide its own bins with proper signage;
- staff do not have current figures on what the City's current volume of waste is as compared to other municipalities the Metro region;
- statistics reported out from a study done in 2018 or 2019 on garbage tonnage rates for municipalities in the Metro region, were not wholly accurate due to inconsistencies in what was included or excluded as garbage;
- the purpose of hiring a consultant would be to undertake a full waste audit assessing contamination levels and reviewing what the contamination levels are for municipalities that have better recycling containers with better descriptions of what's allowed in the containers in order to determine what a realistic goal would be for the City to achieve in its streetscape recycling program Cross-

contamination of recyclable materials will remain an issue as long as people continue to put items in the wrong receptacles. Municipalities need to meet waste management requirements of Metro Vancouver which has banned certain materials from entering the waste stream.

Mr. Cheung advised that a budget to hire a consultant to complete a streetscape and park waste audit and provide options to improve waste diversion could be included in next year's budget for consideration of approval by Council depending upon what staff find out with their own research.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

## 7. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### a. Motions/Notices of Motion

1. Centre For Equitable Library Access (CELA) And The National Network For Equitable Library Services (NNELS) Funding

Councillor Martin

It was MOVED and SECONDED

WHEREAS the Fraser Valley Regional Library (FVRL), and almost all libraries in Canada, currently provide specialized services for the visually impaired and print disabled through the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA) and the National Network for Equitable Library Services (NNELS);

AND WHEREAS both agencies are engaged in accessible book production and collectively receive \$4 million in annual federal funding to support this needed service;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has announced that they are restoring the 2021 funding cut to these services previously announced in the 2020 Fall Economic Statement but have not committed to providing sustainable funding for these services past 2021;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Langley City send letters to the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, the Honourable Carla Qualtrough, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Chrystia

Freeland, and our local Members of Parliament, requesting sustainable funding for CELA and NNELS to support the continued production of accessible reading materials.

CARRIED

b. Correspondence

1. Prohibition of 'No Pets' Policy

Mr. Stefan Neff

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff report back on whether there are any mechanisms the City can use to curb landlords' right to refuse rental on the basis of pet ownership and, if so, what the ramifications would be.

CARRIED

2. Support for Laid-off Hotel and Tourism Industry Workers

City of New Westminster

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT a letter of support for laid-off hotel and tourism industry workers as reflected in the correspondence of the City of New Westminster dated March 5, 2021 be sent to the Ministers of Labour and Tourism.

CARRIED

3. Disability and Income Assistance to a Livable Rate - Response from Minister Simons to Langley City Council

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence received March 16, 2021 from the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction in response to Council's letter requesting the province raise disability and income assistance to a livable rate be received.

CARRIED

4. Request Endorsement to the Province for the Help Cities Lead Campaign

City of Victoria

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the organizers of the Help Cities Lead Campaign be invited to make a presentation to Council on this initiative.

CARRIED

5. Letter from the Mayor of Delta George Harvie to the Minister of Health dated March 10, 2021 regarding Emergency Medical Care in BC

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff be directed to prepare a discussion paper on paramedical services in Langley City.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED in response to questions from Council, Mr. Cheung advised that the City's position on emergency medical care in BC has been that it would like the province to provide appropriate paramedical services to the citizens of this community. Over the past few years, with the exception of this past year due to the pandemic, 75-80% of the Fire Department's calls have been basic medical calls, and they are struggling to be able to attend all these calls. The City has been asking the province, over a number of years, to either change the model, or, if they want the City to take on these medical calls, to provide a cost recovery model.

A discussion paper can be prepared by staff and provided to Council in a relatively short amount of time as there are a number of documents to draw from that have been prepared by the City on this issue over the years for both the premier and ministers of the day, and UBCM. As well, an Auditor General's report was completed on this issue.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

c. New Business

1. MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Council Meeting immediately following this meeting be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to items which comply with the following closed meeting criteria specified in Section 90 of the Community Charter:

(1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(c) labour relations or other employee relations;

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;

(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality.

CARRIED

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 5:03pm.

CARRIED

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Signed:

MAYOR

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Certified Correct:

CORPORATE OFFICER

