



MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 9, 2022

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
S. Kennedy, Fire Chief
D. Leite, Director of Corporate Services
R. Beddow, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
G. Flack, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
B. Zeller, Manager of Human Resources
K. Kenney, Corporate Officer
P. Kusack, Deputy Corporate Officer

Mayor van den Broek began by acknowledging 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 May 9, 2022 Regular Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the May 9, 2022 agenda be adopted as amended by moving Item 6A "Presentation by Representatives of the Province of BC on the Surrey Langley SkyTrain Project" to be the first item of business on the agenda and by adding the Langley Human Dignity Coalition Moose Hide Campaign as Item d. under Mayor's Report.

CARRIED

2. COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

a. Presentation by Representatives of the Province of BC on the Surrey Langley SkyTrain Project

Lesley Ballman, Executive Director, Major Projects and Alternate Procurement, Ministry of Transportation

Jennifer MacLean, Executive Project Director, Surrey Langley SkyTrain Project, Transportation Investment Corporation

Ms. Ballman advised Council that:

- the purpose of their presentation was to provide Council with an update on the Surrey Langley SkyTrain Project's 30-day public engagement opportunity which started today;
- this is the first time that the province is providing the public with a comprehensive update on the full 16-km extension, which includes information on:
 - the project's objectives and benefits;
 - advance works that are underway;
 - the environmental screening review;
 - engagement with Indigenous groups,
 - timelines; and
 - new conceptual renderings of future stations.
- they are seeking feedback from the public that will help to inform project planning, in particular, around two key elements of the project - opportunities for transit-oriented development and active transportation;
- public input will be sought through online channels and at two open houses, one of which will be held at Langley City Hall on May 31st.

Ms. MacLean advised that an update on the status of the project including confirmation of the alignment and concept design for the eight new stations would be provided to the public.

Ms. MacLean provided information on the following:

- project benefits;
- transit-oriented development;
- active transportation components;
- project overview;
- alignment; and
- stations, including conceptual designs for future stations that will be located in the City of Langley and Township of Langley.

Ms. MacLean invited Council and the public to visit the project website to view all of the engagement content and to complete the feedback form.

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

- there has been extensive design work on the stations; however, she was not at liberty to state how much has been spent to date;
- there has not been specific discussion about whether the SkyTrain station at 203 St. should be at grade or elevated as early on a decision was made that the guideway and station would be elevated.

3. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council commence the Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

a. Bylaw 3217 - 2022-2026 Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw

Darrin Leite, Director of Corporate Services advised that the amendments pertain to thirteen projects on the Capital side of the budget, six of which pertain to grants the City has received, two of which are very significant – \$750,000 from the Federal Government for City Park Field upgrades and \$2,360,750 to create a childcare centre at the Douglas Recreation Centre; other projects included in the bylaw relate to projects that were in existence previously but required additional funding either because of the tendering process or because additional work was added to those projects.

An opportunity for public input on the bylaw was provided.

There were no speakers.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council rise and report.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2022
- b. Special (Pre-Closed) Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2022

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the following meetings be adopted as circulated:

- regular meeting held on April 25, 2022;
- special (pre-closed) meeting held on April 20, 2022.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- a. Bylaw 3217 - 2022-2026 Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw

Final reading of a bylaw to amend the 2022-2026 Financial Plan

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the “Financial Plan 2022 – 2026 Bylaw, 2022, No. 3194, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw, 3217” be read a final time.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

THAT City Council approve the 2021 Consolidated Financial Statements.

- a. City of Langley Audit Report

Presentation from:

Graham Flack, CPA, CMA, Deputy Director of Corporate Services - City of Langley

Kristine Simpson, CPA, CA, Partner - BDO Canada LLP

Mr. Graham Flack, Deputy Director of Corporate Services spoke to his report dated May 2, 2022 and provided highlights from the 2021 Consolidated Financial Statements.

Kristine Simpson, CPA, CA, Partner, BDO Canada LLP spoke to the Audit Report and Audit process, highlighting the methodology used to conduct the audit and results of the audit.

In response to a question from a Council member, Ms. Simpson advised that with respect to determining the amount of employee future benefits, the auditors rely on the actuaries to help with those calculations; the City provides employee data to the actuary, who performs the calculations that

the auditor subsequently reviews; there is also a smoothing factor within those calculations to compensate for fluctuations in inflation, so the costs are amortized over the expected remaining service life of employees.

1. Admin Report - 2021 Consolidated Financial Statements

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT City Council approve the 2021 Consolidated Financial Statements.

CARRIED

7. COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHTS

b. Living Well in Langley - Poverty Reduction Strategy

Hollie McKeil, Community Planner, City Spaces
Anthony Kupferschmidt, Executive Director, Langley Seniors Resource Society

Ms. McKeil introduced Mr. Kupferschmidt who provided information on the role of the Poverty Reduction Task Group and the vision for the Poverty Reduction Strategy advising that:

- creation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy was lead by the Poverty Reduction Task Group which is a sub-committee of the Langley Healthier Communities Partnership;
- the task group receives staff support from the City of Langley and Township of Langley;
- funding for development of the strategy was provided from the UBCM;
- the vision for the Poverty Reduction Task Group is as follows:
 - By 2032, Langley is an inclusive, connected, and equitable community where everyone can live well and thrive.

Ms. Mckeil provided information on the following:

- this project was created through four phases starting in the Fall of 2021;
- engagement with individuals and organizations was both in-person and electronic;
- poverty is complex and multi-faceted and impacts all aspects of one's life;
- Canada's first poverty reduction strategy "Opportunity For All" defines poverty as:
 - The condition of a person deprived of the resources, means, choices, and power necessary to acquire and maintain a basic living standard needed to promote and facilitate integration and participation in society;

- Both the Provincial and Federal Governments have developed poverty reduction strategies:
 - The Provincial strategy targets a 25% reduction in overall poverty and 50% in child poverty rates by 2024;
 - The Federal strategy targets a 50% reduction of poverty by 2030;
- Living Well Langley strategy advances the four principles from the Province's Together BC Report:
 - Affordability
 - Opportunity
 - Reconciliation
 - Social Infusion
- The three common measures of poverty in Canada:
 - Market Basket Measure
 - Low Income Measure (After Tax)
 - Low Income Cut-Off (After Tax)
- Using the Low-Income Measure After Tax, Census 2016 data (more current data will come later this year), 17.3% of city of Langley's households are likely experiencing poverty compared to 15.5% in BC;
- the Low-Income Measure, Census 2016 data indicates females experience more poverty with age;
- Ten priority Groups have been identified in the study:
 - Families with children
 - Women
 - Youth
 - Low-wage workers
 - Seniors
 - Indigenous peoples
 - People experiencing or at risk of homelessness
 - People with disabilities
 - People with mental health and substance use challenges
 - Newcomers
- The study recommends ten game changing areas:
 - Income
 - Health
 - Housing
 - Learning
 - Food
 - Transportation
 - Community services
 - Belonging and reconciliation
- Four Action Types are recommended:
 - Quick Start
 - Priority strategies for immediate implementation over the next one to two years

- Sustainable Solutions
 - Strategies with higher levels of complexity for implementation over the next two to five years
- Building Blocks
 - Build upon or scale-up initiatives and community assets already underway for implementation within five years
- Advocacy
 - Advocacy to multiple levels of governments, for implementation at strategic opportunities
- The strategy took a collective impact approach which is a best practice of poverty reduction movements;
- Role of local government:
 - Convene groups to collaborate
 - Create an enabling environment through plans, policies, land use, and collaboration with partners
 - Augment senior government action and advocate for policy changes and investments
 - Develop strategies, conduct research, and publish local level data
 - Deliver accessible and inclusive programs and services within their mandate
- Monitoring and Evaluation:
 - Annual Reports to the Langley Healthier Communities Partnership to:
 - Consider emerging issues
 - Monitor progress on actions
 - Reporting changing context and potential impacts, using indicators and data
 - 2023 and 2027 Annual Reports will be comprehensive:
 - New Census data, to understand context at initiation and completion
 - Measure and evaluation impact
 - Identify next phases of work

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

- the last survey will be posted shortly and the task group will be finalizing its work in July;
- a monitoring and implementation framework has been built into the project wherein every year there will be a presentation to the Langley Healthier Communities Partnership where they will identify which actions have seen progress, advise of any issues that have arisen and then report out to ensure that they are there on track;
- the members of the task group have a great amount of drive and strong accountability for achieving the goals of this project.

Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services further advised that many community stakeholders have been involved in developing this plan so it really is a community-based plan.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

a. Upcoming Meetings

Regular Council Meeting – May 30, 2022
Regular Council Meeting – June 13, 2022

b. Library Happenings - Councillor Martin

- Get into Manga! - May 2022 Reading List;
- Financial Literacy for Kids – Saturday May 14 & 28 via Zoom;
- Virtual Author Visit: Omar El Akkad – May 18 via Zoom;
- Playaway Launchpads at the Library – Ages 3 – 5;
- Teen Imagine Contest – Deadline is March 14, 2022;
- Heartfulness Meditation – May 3, 10, 17, 24 via Zoom;
- In person Babytime resumes May 16; and
- In person Storytime resumes May 19.

c. Engineering Update

Rick Bomhof, Director of Engineering, Parks and Environment provided an update on engineering activities for May as follows:

- 208 St. project
 - west side paving
 - Signal pole replacement at Fraser Hwy.
- Glover Road project - final lift of paving
- 200 St. Sewer Project – final paving
- Michaud Community Gardens – Temporary Changes
- Tree damaged at Sendall Gardens
- Vandalism at Linwood Park washroom
- Picnic table installed at Conder Park Pond
- Mowing season back in full swing
- Sendall gardens
- Unstable trees at 200 St. and 53A Ave. due to deliberate poisoning
- New watermain and Glover Rd. and Duncan Way
- Annual watermain flushing – completed in April
- Boulevard crew – sidewalk edging on Michaud Crescent

In response to questions from Council members, Mr. Bomhof advised that:

- in an effort to avoid further vandalism, staff do intend to replace the porcelain toilets in the washrooms at Linwood Park with stainless steel toilets; however, as, it will take some time to obtain stainless steel toilets, the damaged toilets are going to be replaced with porcelain toilets at this time; staff have looked into various initiatives, including security cameras, as a way to deter vandalism of the washrooms in parks; however, often times individuals find ways to get around various deterrents, and, with respect to security cameras, there are privacy and liability issues to consider; as this type of vandalism occurs in many municipalities, staff can research what initiatives other municipalities have implemented to deter vandalism in their parks;
- mailouts to residents about upcoming engineering projects in their neighbourhoods are normally only sent out when the project is new and not part of previous capital projects;
- it is not a common occurrence for individuals to deliberately destroy trees; however, the City, has over the years, received complaints and concerns about these specific trees from some of the neighbours in this area; so it is likely this destruction of trees is an isolated incident; the City's arborist does monitor all of the street trees and in addition, as part of preparing an urban forest management plan this year, an inventory of all the City trees on City property will be conducted and staff would ask for a review of the trees at the time they are being inventoried to determine if other trees have been deliberately damaged in the same way these trees were;
- if during the tree inventory, it is determined some trees need to be taken down, staff can request that it be determined if residual timber can be obtained from the trees; however, because of the placement of trees near hydro lines, it's difficult to get large pieces of timber.

d. Langley Human Dignity Coalition – Moose Hide Campaign

Councillor Wallace, Council representative to the Langley Human Dignity Coalition, advised that the Moose Hide Campaign was founded on the side of the Highway of Tears in response to injustices and violence faced by women and children in Canada, particularly those that are Indigenous. On May 12th, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Canadians from across Canada will join in the Moose Hide Campaign in support of reconciliation and to help end violence against women and children. The Langley Human Dignity Coalition will be hosting a kiosk in Douglas Park on the Spirit Square Stage from 12pm to 6pm on Thursday, May 12th sharing information about this campaign and handing out Moose Hide pins in support of this campaign.

9. BYLAWS

a. Bylaw 3215 - 2022 Tax Rate Bylaw

Final reading of a bylaw to levy property value taxes for municipal purposes for the year 2022

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "2022 Tax Rates Bylaw, 2022 No. 3215" be read a final time.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED in response to a question from a Council member, Mr. Leite advised that the overall tax increase is 4.35%, and the tax rate increase for single family residential properties is 10.25%.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

Opposed: Mayor van den Broek, Councillors Martin and Storteboom

b. Bylaw 3220 - 2021 – 2025 Financial Plan Amendment

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to amend the 2021-2025 Financial Plan to authorize the expenditures reflected in the 2021 Consolidated Financial Statements

Mr. Darrin Leite, Director of Corporate Services advised that the purpose of this amendment was to bring the Financial Plan in line with the Consolidated Financial Statements.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 Bylaw, 2021, No. 3151, Amendment No. 2, Bylaw, 3220" be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 Bylaw, 2021, No. 3151, Amendment No. 2, Bylaw, 3220" be read a second time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Financial Plan 2021 – 2025 Bylaw, 2021, No. 3151, Amendment No. 2, Bylaw, 3220" be read a third time.

CARRIED

c. Bylaw 3219 - Sign Bylaw Amendment

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to amend the Sign Bylaw to change one of the permitted locations for placement of Political Signs on public property

Council discussed the proposed bylaw amendment and issues related to allowing political signs in designated areas on public property.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff report back to Council with amendments to the Sign Bylaw to allow the placement of political signs on private property only.

CARRIED

d. Bylaw 3211 - Election & Assent Voting Procedure Bylaw Amendment

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to amend the Election & Assent Voting Procedure Bylaw with respect to minimum number of required nominators for candidates, mail ballot voting, and special voting opportunities

Kelly Kenney, Corporate Officer and appointed Chief Election Officer for the upcoming local government election, provided background information on the proposed changes to the bylaw, advising that:

- after the last election in 2018, Council passed a motion that for the 2022 election, the Special Voting Opportunity at the Langley Senior Resources Society (LSRS) be changed from a Special Voting Opportunity to an Advance Voting opportunity which would allow any qualified elector to vote at this location, not just members of the LSRS; amendments to the Election bylaw are required to allow for this change; after the election, staff will evaluate the success of this change and provide a report to Council with the results of the evaluation and recommendation on whether to continue with having an Advance Voting Opportunity at the LSRS rather than a Special Voting Opportunity;
- In the fall of 2021, the province passed legislation which amended election provisions in the *Local Government Act* to allow any qualified elector to vote by mail; previously only those electors who were going to be absent from all voting opportunities or were physically incapable of attending a voting location were permitted to vote by mail; this change in legislation was largely due to the issues municipalities faced when trying to conduct by-elections and other voting during the last two years of the COVID pandemic; allowing

all electors to vote by mail if they wanted was be a way to reduce in-person contacts at voting places and to allow those who could not or did not want to leave their homes a way to vote; the decision about whether to provide voting by mail ballot is not a mandatory requirement and is left to each municipality to decide; given the uncertainty about whether COVID will again be an issue in the fall when the election is held, accordingly staff recommend mail ballot voting provisions be added to the bylaw;

- staff are suggesting the minimum number of nominators required for candidates running for Councillor or Mayor be increased from two to ten as a way to help demonstrate there is meaningful support from qualified electors for the candidates running for these offices and provide greater assurance that a candidate is committed to holding office; the number of nominators for the office of school trustee would remain at two as that number is specified in the School District's Election bylaw;
- some minor housekeeping amendments are also proposed for better clarity.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Election & Assent Voting Procedure Bylaw, 2014, No. 2942, Amendment No. 2, 2022, No. 321" be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Election & Assent Voting Procedure Bylaw, 2014, No. 2942, Amendment No. 2, 2022, No. 321" be read a second time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Election & Assent Voting Procedure Bylaw, 2014, No. 2942, Amendment No. 2, 2022, No. 321" be read a third time.

CARRIED

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a. Award of Tender T2022-007, 2022 Traffic Signal Upgrades

It was MOVED and SECONDED

1. THAT Tender T2022-007 – 2022 Traffic Signal Upgrades is awarded to Crown Contracting Ltd. based on the tendered amount of \$702,097.50 (excluding GST).
2. THAT the Director of Engineering, Parks and Environment and the Corporate Officer be authorized to execute the contract document for the T2022-007 – 2022 Traffic Signal Upgrades to Crown Contracting Ltd.

CARRIED

11. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Motions/Notices of Motion

- b. Correspondence

1. Access Awareness Day - June 4, 2022
Social Planning & Research Council of BC (SPARC BC)

- 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) (d) the security of the property of the municipality;

(1) (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public;

(2) (b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the meeting adjourn at 4:34 pm.
CARRIED

Signed:

MAYOR

Certified Correct:

CORPORATE OFFICER