



MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 20, 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 Development Services
H. Gill, Manager of Engineering Services
B. Zeller, Manager of Human Resources
K. Kenney, Corporate Officer
P. Kusack, Deputy 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.

Mayor van den Broek, on behalf of Council, acknowledged the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Council observed a minute of silence in her memory.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- a. Adoption of the September 20, 2022 Special Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the September 20, 2022 Special Meeting agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a. Asset Management Grant Application - Developing Asset Life Cycle and Risk analysis

It was MOVED and SECONDED

1. THAT Council endorses the UBCM Local Government Development Approvals Program grant application for the development of asset life cycle cost and risk analyses;
2. THAT the remaining project budget will be funded within the City of Langley's approved 2022 Capital Plan.

CARRIED

3. BYLAWS

- a. Bylaw 3160 - Zoning Bylaw Amendment & Development Permit No. 07-20

Final reading of a bylaw to rezone the properties located at 5394, 5396, 5400, & 5402 – 207 Street from the RS1 Multiple Residential Low-Density zone to the CD72 Comprehensive Development zone to accommodate a 6-storey, 68-unit apartment development

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Zoning Bylaw 1996, No. 2100 Amendment No. 172, 2021, No. 3160" be read a final time.

CARRIED

1. Development Permit Approval - DP 07-20

5394, 5396, 5400, & 5402 – 207 Street
6-storey, 68-unit apartment development

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Development Permit Application No. 07-20 for a 6-storey, 68-unit apartment development at 5394 – 5402 207 Street be approved.

CARRIED

b. Bylaw 3226 - Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to exempt certain lands and improvements from municipal taxation for the year 2023

Darrin Leite, Director of Corporate Services provided an overview of the bylaw, advising that:

- each year Council considers a Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw and there are a number of properties that have received the exemption consistently over the years;
- no new applications for 2023 were received;
- total of exemptions is \$367,856 which represents approximately 1.1% of the City's overall property tax levy which is within the Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw Policy adopted by Council last year.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, 2023, No. 3226" be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, 2023, No. 3226" be read a second time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the "Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, 2023, No. 3226" be read a third time.

CARRIED

c. Bylaw 3227 - Financial Plan 2022-2026 Bylaw Amendment

First, second and third reading of a bylaw to amend the 2022 - 2026 Capital Improvement Plan (various projects)

Darrin Leite, Director of Corporate Services provided an overview of the bylaw, advising that:

- there are 14 different projects being proposed for amendment in the 2022 Capital Improvement plan;
- a number of projects are related to grants the City has received through other levels of government which staff want to include in the capital plan;
- the tendering of some vehicles came in higher than expected;
- the various projects are all listed in the bylaw.

In response to a question from a Council member, Mr. Leite advised that inflationary impacts will be factored into the 2023 capital and operating budgets that are brought forward to Council in October after the election..

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the bylaw cited as the “Financial Plan 2022 – 2026 Bylaw, 2022, No. 3194, Amendment No. 2, Bylaw, 3227” be read a first time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the “Financial Plan 2022 – 2026 Bylaw, 2022, No. 3194, Amendment No. 2, Bylaw, 3227” be read a second time.

THAT the bylaw cited as the “Financial Plan 2022 – 2026 Bylaw, 2022, No. 3194, Amendment No. 2, Bylaw, 3227” be read a third time.

CARRIED

4. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Motions / Notices of Motion

1. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Every Child Matters Banner – Councillor Pachal

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to place the “Every Child Matters” banners across the two Fraser Highway gateways to the Downtown annually for the week in which the day for truth and reconciliation occurs.

CARRIED

2. Motion - Citizens' Assembly on Community Safety Reform in Langley City - Councillor Pachal

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Staff include in the 2023 budget a line item for convening a Citizens' Assembly.

THAT, if Council approves the resources to convene a Citizens' Assembly, the Assembly will:

1. Be representative of the demographics of Langley City, have five additional seats for each of our four host First Nations, and one additional seat for a person who lives in Langley City who self-identifies as Indigenous.
2. Have access to people with lived experience or, external of Langley City and independent, expert knowledge to help inform its recommendations.
3. Look at the calls for service that are responsible for 80% of the volume each for the police service, fire-rescue service, BCEHS calls where the fire-rescue service responds, bylaw department, parks department, and engineering department to determine:
 - a. Which service or department should handle the call for service based on:
 - i. Cost-effectiveness.
 - ii. The ability to respond promptly.
 - iii. The most direct line of accountability to local businesses and residents.
 - iv. The ability to improve people's quality of life, attaching people to services and care
 - v. The "best fit" for resolving a call for service based on the existing skillsets of people working in the service or department, looking thru the lens of equality and equitably, as well as the report "Transforming Policing and Community Safety in British Columbia."
 - vi. The ability to reduce repeated calls for service caused by a single person.
 - b. If there isn't a "best fit" department or service, identify:
 - i. What skillsets are missing and must be implemented into a department or service to be able to respond to the call for service effectively; or,
 - ii. If a new department, service, program, or partnership is required to provide a "best fit" to respond to a call for service, identify why a department, service, program or partnership is needed and what skillsets are required.

4. Develop a phase staffing plan to address the calls for service assessed in section 3.
5. Evaluate for the top ten calls for service based on volume, the upstream reasons causing these calls for service.
6. Develop an action plan for the City, either directly or by working directly with partners, to reduce calls for service identified in section 5.

THAT, if Council approves the resources to convene a Citizens' Assembly, Staff work with the Citizens' Assembly to prepare a report of recommendations and outcomes desired, based on the work plan outlined in this motion, for Council to consider.

THAT, if Council approves the resources to convene a Citizens' Assembly, that Staff:

- i. Develop metrics to monitor the implementation of the Assembly's recommendations and outcomes desired.
- ii. Develop a process to create a feedback loop to facilitate updating the actions of the City to ensure the spirit of the Assembly's recommended actions and outcomes are being met.
- iii. Update Council at least biannually on items i. and ii.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED in response to a question from a Council member, Councillor Pachal advised that the key to the Citizen's Assembly model is that it seeks out individuals from a cross-section of the community, including those with lived experience, who may not otherwise have the opportunity to participate, and would be focused on addressing Langley-specific challenges through a more coordinated, holistic lens.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

Opposed: Mayor van den Broek

3. Motion - Electoral Redistribution 2022 - Councillor Martin

It was MOVED and SECONDED

WHEREAS the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commissions in each province are established to revise the electoral district boundaries in their province once every 10 years, after the census is conducted, to reflect population shifts and growth;

WHEREAS British Columbia will gain one seat in the House of Commons from 42 to 43;

WHEREAS the commissions each work separately to propose a new electoral map for their province by considering such criteria as average population numbers, communities of identity and interest, historical patterns of an electoral district, and geographic size of electoral districts;

WHEREAS the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for British Columbia is holding public hearings to gather opinions on the proposed boundaries and electoral district names which provide an opportunity for citizens to participate in the process of redrawing the electoral map;

WHEREAS the hearing in Langley is scheduled for Coast Langley City Hotel & Convention Centre on Thursday, Sept 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.;

WHEREAS the new proposed boundaries would create a new Langley-Cloverdale riding, including (a) the City of Langley; (b) that part of the Corporation of the Township of Langley bounded as follows: commencing at the intersection of the westerly limit of said township with 72 Avenue; thence easterly along said avenue to 200 Street; thence southerly along said street to the northerly limit of the City of Langley at 62 Avenue; thence generally westerly along said city limit to the westerly limit of the Corporation of the Township of Langley; thence northerly along said limit to the point of commencement; and (c) that part of the City of Surrey described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the easterly limit of said city with 56 Avenue; thence westerly and southwesterly along said avenue to 192 Street; thence northerly along said street to 56 Avenue; thence westerly along said avenue to 144 Street; thence northerly along said street to 64 Avenue; thence easterly along said avenue to 152 Street; thence northerly along said street to 68 Avenue; thence easterly along said avenue and its production to the Serpentine River; thence generally north-easterly along said river to the Fraser Highway; thence southeasterly along said highway to the intersection with the production of 72 Avenue; thence easterly along said production and avenue to the eastern limit of the City of Surrey; thence southerly along said city limit to the point of commencement.

WHEREAS the proposed election boundaries will reconfigure Langley and Cloverdale into new configurations, and change which Member of Parliament represents local residents;

WHEREAS the Langley riding was created a couple of decades ago that included just Langley City and Township;

WHEREAS the City of Langley and the Township of Langley should be one electoral boundary represented by one Member of Parliament given the historical context, the number of shared services, shared school district, shared RCMP detachment, and shared regional city centre designation between the two communities;

WHEREAS the proposed electoral reconfiguration will further split the riding into multiple electoral boundaries from the current electoral boundaries and create further challenges for the Member of Parliament that needs to represent three municipalities within the riding;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Langley objects to the proposed Federal Electoral Boundaries for the City of Langley;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Langley request the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for British Columbia to consider reconfiguring the electoral boundaries to have one boundary for the City of Langley and the Township of Langley and be represented by one Member of Parliament;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Langley submit this motion to the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for British Columbia for their consideration.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED in response to a question from a Council member, Councillor Martin advised that this motion was brought forward of her own accord and not on behalf of the City of Langley's MP.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED and the motion was

CARRIED

4. Notice of Motion - Gala – Mayor van den Broek

The following Notice of Motion was provided:

- a. *Whereas Council members of the City of Langley sought or requested three investigations into the actions of Officer in Charge (OIC) and Mayor van den Broek for a charity fundraiser gala and publicly commented on their opinions after the information was received by Council, and whereas a complaint was made by City Council members to the RCMP that resulted in the reassignment of the OIC harming his reputation, standing and career opportunities, and whereas the investigation by the RCMP has now completely cleared the OIC of any wrong doing it is moved that*
 - i. *Upon the review of the RCMP and a consideration of the reports/allegations it is clear upon review that some significant portions of the allegations were based on unsupported claims and improper assumptions which may have resulted in harm to the Officer involved and Mayor van den Broek, which should be investigated by a third independent organization including another Police force if necessary. This should include interviewing of all RCMP members involved to conclude if members of Langley City Council abused their power of authority, how and why private confidential information was released to the RCMP & press before the report was completed and released, why the RCMP removed the Officer in Charge without consulting with City & Township Councils and staff and the total costs should be released for public knowledge.*
 - ii. *Council members formally acknowledge that the actions of the OIC regarding the Gala were appropriate and acceptable in terms of the existing RCMP policies and procedures and further that there was no intention to cause harm to the member and last an apology for any damage or inconvenience.*

5. Notice of Motion - Governance Review – Mayor van den Broek

The following Notice of Motion was provided:

This motion calls for restoring the “balance between the office of the mayor, councillors, and employees in order to fix a “broken” system.

Conduct a full, comprehensive and independent civic governance and operational review and performance assessment that will set as its goal an improved civic government in terms of democratic reforms, transparency, openness, and accountability, by directly taking steps to reduce administrative red tape and costs and restore the balance of power between the Office of the Mayor, Councillors and employees

To review the powers, roles, responsibilities, budgetary costs/resources and reporting relationships of the:

i) CAO/City Manager model and the senior management team including an analysis of the advantages/strengths, disadvantages/weaknesses, and the best practices

ii) Office of the Mayor, including an analysis of its advantages/strengths, disadvantages/weaknesses, and the best practices

iv) Office of the City Councillor and Council in general, including an analysis of its advantages/strengths, disadvantages/weaknesses, and the best practices

v) Standing Policy Committees & Task Groups, including an analysis of its advantages/strengths, disadvantages/weaknesses, the number of Standing Policy Committees

vi) Administrative and Operational departments, including an analysis of its advantages/strengths, disadvantages/weaknesses, the number of departments and their alignment and the best practices

Council shall oversee and approve the Terms of Reference, the tendering, hiring, public consultation and reviews of draft and final reports of the full and independent civic governance and operational review and performance assessment, with said final report being submitted to Council for consideration and approval within six months as of the approval of this motion.

The said final report shall provide comprehensive recommendations including, but not limited to, all necessary steps that will provide for the systematic structural changes required for the democratic reforms and mandate outlined in all Council By-

laws, Procedures, informal or not, Council Policies, Administrative Directives and Provincial Legislation required for the democratic reform of civic governance and to be reported with the said timeline.

b. New Business

Councillor Martin acknowledged the passing of Jim Smith, who worked with and helped children and families in the community over many years as co-founder of Langley Youth and Family Services.

5. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:33 pm.

The meeting was ended.

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER