

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL OPEN MEETING OF COUNCIL  
HELD MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2020**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor V. Cumming

**Councillors:** S. Anderson, K. Fehr, K. Gares,  
A. Mund, B. Quiring, D. Nahal

**Staff:** W. Pearce, Chief Administrative Officer  
P. Bridal, Deputy CAO / Director, Corporate Services  
K. Austin, Manager, Legislative Services  
S. Baher, Superintendent, RCMP  
K. Flick, Director, Community Infrastructure and Development  
D. Law, Director, Financial Services  
A. Stuart, Manager, Financial Planning & Reporting  
D. Lind, Chief, Fire Services  
R. Manjack, Director, Human Resources  
C. Ovens, Acting Director, Operations  
D. Ross, Director, Recreation Services

**Others:** Members of the public

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF ITEMS  
LISTED ON THE  
AGENDA**

**Moved** by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT the agenda for the June 19, 2020, Special Regular Open meeting of the Council of The Corporation of The City of Vernon be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**INTRODUCTION**

Will Pearce, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the afternoon as follows:

- Review progress on 2019 - 2022 Strategic Plan
- Set 2021 priorities within the Council approved Strategic Plan
- Review 2020 Budget Variances to date
- Set 2021 Operating budget targets (base), including 2021 Infrastructure Renewal Program
- Other items as determined by Council

**COUNCIL 2019 – 2022  
STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Director, Community and Infrastructure Development, reviewed Council's 2019 to 2022 Strategic Plan by reviewing the 2022 Vision, Required Actions and the Outstanding items for each of the following areas:

- Recreation, Parks and Natural Spaces;
- Affordable and Attainable Housing;

- Vibrant Downtown;
- Organization Priorities;
- Regional Relationships; and
- Other Sustainable Priorities.

Discussion in each of the areas included questions regarding specific actions, with Administration answering questions of Council.

• **ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE**

*Councillor Quiring declared a conflict of interest, indicating his firm will bid on the proposed Active Living Centre project. Councillor Quiring left meeting at 2:35 pm.*

Council was advised that the District of Coldstream, by Council resolution, does not support moving forward with the Active Living Centre until the Cultural Facility is well underway.

Moved by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Fehr:

THAT Council directs Administration to complete the planning process for the multi-purpose Active Living Centre, as a City of Vernon facility at this time, drawing funding from City of Vernon sources in order to prepare for a potential referendum in September 2021.

**CARRIED**

*Councillor Quiring returned to the meeting at 12:46 pm.*

• **OFF LEASH DOG PARK**

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor Anderson:

THAT the direction to find a new off leash dog be marked complete and removed from the "Recreation, Parks and Natural Spaces, What's Outstanding?" listing.

**WITHDRAWN**

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor Anderson:

THAT Council receive the progress report on Council's Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022, as presented in the report titled Council Strategic Plan 2019-2022 Update and dated June 16, 2020 and respectfully submitted by the Director, Community Infrastructure and Development.

**CARRIED**

- **LED LIGHTING** Moved by Mayor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Nahal:

THAT Council directs Administration to determine an alternate source of funding for the LED Street Light Conversion Project.

**CARRIED**

**2020 BUDGET  
VARIANCES  
(1830-02:2020)**

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor Gares;

THAT Council receive the internal memorandum dated June 15, 2020 and titled "2020 Budget Variances as of May 31, 2020" as provided by the Director, Financial Services.

**CARRIED**

**OPEN DISCUSSION –  
2021 STRATEGIC  
PLAN PRIORTIES**

Council participated in an exercise to identify the top priority items for the 2021 Action Plan. All actions receiving 2 or more Council members' support were endorsed at this time.

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor Anderson:

THAT Council endorse the 2021 Strategic Plan priorities, as identified by Council during the Strategic Planning discussion of June 19, 2020, as follows:

Climate Action Planning Recommended Priorities Endorsed by Council at their June 8, 2020 Meeting

- Complete the Flood Hazard Mapping study and update Floodplain Construction Level policies and amend bylaws to reflect
- Establish fleet policy transitioning all vehicle/equipment purchases to low/zero-emissions (future costs = difference between electric vehicles and fuel vehicles + charging infrastructure)
- Review City waste management practices and pursue community composting program options
- Develop a building retrofit program to support residents to be more resilient to climate change, reduce energy costs over time, and reduce greenhouse gas emission by improving building efficiency and installing low carbon energy systems.
- Advance buy local campaign, to build the network of local businesses and manufacturers

Affordable and Attainable Housing

- Develop a City Housing First Strategy
- Continue to partner with BC Housing, not-for-profits and the development community on affordable housing
- Review and streamline residential development approval process

- Complete a Housing Needs Assessment to inform the Affordable and Attainable Housing Implementation Strategy and the next Official Community Plan review

#### Vibrant Downtown

- Identify incentives to encourage redevelopment and upgrades to existing buildings
- Increase events and amenities in the Downtown
- Support economic development initiatives that attract skilled labour to the area
- Support the Folks on Spokes program and other clean-up initiatives in the Downtown core

#### Organization Priorities

- Increase public participation in the development of strategies and plans
- Review application processes to ensure they are efficient as possible
- Implement more on-line application types
- Investigate options to provide additional space for the RCMP
- Prioritize staff recruitment

#### Other Sustainability Priorities

- Investigate methods to increase recycling and alternatives to recycling, including an organics diversion plan
- Continue to implement Fire Smart principles in the wildfire interface area and improve communication with residents throughout the year, in addition to emergency events
- Undertake drainage studies, risk and threat assessments and related bylaw amendments
- Support the extension of water along Eastside Road

#### **CARRIED**

#### **2021 OPERATING BUDGET REVIEW**

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor Mund:

THAT Council direct Administration to submit a 2021 Operating Budget to be within a 2.5% tax revenue increase, excepting Recreation Services;


AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to continue the Infrastructure Renewal Program at the yearly incremental commitment of 1.9% and direct Administration to budget for expenditures of new revenues in the 2021 Capital Budget for Council consideration.

**CARRIED**, with Councillors Anderson and Fehr opposed.

CLOSE

Mayor Cumming closed the Special Open Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Vernon at 3:43 pm.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
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Mayor (Acting)

  
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Corporate Officer