

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL OPEN MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD JUNE 21, 2021**

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
K. Poole, Director, Community Safety, Lands & Administration
K. Austin, Manager, Legislative Services
C. Poirier, Manager, Communications & Grants
J. Nicol, Deputy Corporate Officer
D. Law, Director, Financial Services
K. Flick, Director, Community Infrastructure & Development
D. Ross, Director, Recreation Services
R. Manjak, Director, Human Resources
J. Rice, Director, Operations
D. Lind, Director, Vernon Fire Rescue Services
A. Stuart, Manager, Financial Planning & Reporting
Cst. B. Heideman, Acting Insp., RCMP
M. Dowhaniuk, Manager, Infrastructure
A. Watson, Manager, Transportation
S. Melenko, Information Tech

Mayor Cumming called the Special Regular Open meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**LAND
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

As Mayor of the City of Vernon, and in the spirit of this gathering, I recognize the City of Vernon is located in the traditional territory of the Syilx People of the Okanagan Nation.

National Indigenous Peoples Day was recognized.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**APPROVAL OF ITEMS
LISTED ON THE
AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Fehr, seconded by Councillor Nahal:

THAT the agenda for the June 21, 2021, Special Regular Open meeting of the Council of The Corporation of The City of Vernon be amended as follows:

- 1. SEE ITEM: 3.A. – UNFINISHED BUSINESS – 2900 Block 30th Avenue Closure Cost Estimate Memo.**

CARRIED

INTRODUCTION

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

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

**COUNCIL STRATEGIC
PLAN – ACTION PLAN
2021 UPDATE
(0530-05)**

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 & Open Space
- Affordable & Attainable Housing
- Vibrant Downtown
- Organization Priorities
- Regional Relationships
- Other Sustainability Priorities.

Moved by Councillor Gares, seconded by Councillor Anderson:

THAT Council direct Administration to report of the progress of Action Plan items and prepare a draft Action Plan 2022 for Council's consideration for the Regular Meeting of September 27, 2021 as outlined in the memo titled Council Strategic Plan – Action Plan 2021 Update dated June 15, 2021 and respectfully submitted by the Director, Community Infrastructure and Development.

CARRIED

Councillor Nahal left the meeting at 12:10 pm and returned at 12:11 pm.

**MAY 31, 2021 BUDGET
TO ACTUAL
VARIANCE RESULTS
(1830-02 2021)**

Moved by Councillor Fehr, seconded by Councillor Nahal;

THAT Council receive the internal memorandum dated June 1, 2021 and titled "May 31, 2021 Budget to Actual Variance Results" as provided by the Director, Financial Services.

CARRIED

**2022 BUDGET
CHALLENGES
REVIEW
(1830-02 2021)**

The Director, Financial Services and the Chief Administrative Officer facilitated a Council discussion on 2022 Operating Budget targets for budget development.

The following points were noted:

- Major challenges:
 - RCMP contract negotiations including a potential 2.5% increase yearly (which has been budgeted for). Challenge would arise if yearly increase percentage is higher than 2.5%
 - IAFF contract negotiations – increases unknown at this time
 - Recreation Services – COVID restrictions
 - Operation Services – new development expands operating responsibilities for capital budget.
- All division managers have submitted service level increases that will be considered during budget deliberations
- Infrastructure Renewal Program levy (1.9%) was delayed last year but will be continued this year
- Reserve continuity schedule reviewed
- RCMP Reserve – balance is currently \$3.1M
- Residents encouraged to fill out online budget survey.

Councillor Mund left the meeting at 12:24 pm and returned at 12:29 pm.

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Fehr:

THAT Council receive the internal memorandum dated June 15, 2021 and titled “2022 Budget Challenges Review” as provided by the Director, Financial Services;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to submit a 2022 Operating Budget to be within a 2% tax revenue increase, excepting Recreation Services;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to include within the 2022 Operating budget the following (service level increases OR service level decreases) to be over and above the base budget and in addition to the 2% tax revenue increase (or as set by Council);

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 2022 Capital budget for Council consideration.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**2900 BLOCK 30TH
AVENUE CLSURE
COST ESTIMATES
(8300-07)**

Moved by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Nahal:

THAT Council authorize the expenditure of up to \$50,000 for the City's expenses for the nine and a half week closure of the 2900 block of 30th Avenue, funded from the 2020 unexpended uncommitted reserve:

AND FURTHER, that Council authorize the change of use of \$12,000 granted to the Downtown Vernon Association for 'Civic Sounds' in the approved 2021 Financial Plan, to be applied to programming, activation and amination of the 2900 Block Plaza initiative during 2021.

CARRIED

CLOSE

Mayor Cumming closed the Special Open Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Vernon at 12:49 pm.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Mayor



Corporate Officer