



# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON A G E N D A

SPECIAL REGULAR OPEN MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020

**1:30 PM**

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER AND REQUEST A RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

A. BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter as follows:*

(i) *The receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose*

**2. ADJOURN TO OPEN COUNCIL**

A. THAT the Agenda for the April 15, 2020 Special Regular meeting be adopted as presented.

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES AND RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND PUBLIC HEARING RECORD**

A. THAT the minutes for the March 31, 2020 Special Regular meeting be adopted as presented. (P. 3)

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**5. GENERAL MATTERS**

**6. COUNCIL INQUIRIES**

**7. ADMINISTRATION UPDATES**

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9. MATTERS REFERRED: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND IN-CAMERA**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**11. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

AGENDA

MINUTES

**12. COUNCIL INFORMATION UPDATES**

**13. INFORMATION ITEMS**

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL REGULAR OPEN MEETING OF COUNCIL  
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020**

---

PRESENT: Mayor V. Cumming

Councillors: A. Mund, K. Gares, K. Fehr, B. Quiring, (D. Nahal, absent)  
\*S. Anderson  
\*(Attended via teleconference as provided by Provincial Ministerial Order M083. Council member is under the 14 day self-isolation as ordered by the Government of Canada under the *Quarantine Act*)

Staff: W. Pearce, CAO  
P. Bridal, Deputy CAO, Director, Corporate Services  
S. Blakely, Manager, Legislative Services  
D. Lind, Fire Chief  
K. Flick, Director, Community Infrastructure & Development  
D. Law, Director, Finance  
T. Martens, Manager, Financial Operations  
R. Manjak, Director, Human Resources  
P. McLuckie, Manager, Human Resources  
C. Poirier, Manager, Communications & Grants  
J. Winquist, Information Officer

**COVID 19  
MINISTERIAL ORDER  
NO. M083 –  
ELECTRONIC  
MEETING  
ATTENDANCE**

***Electronic meetings – municipalities***

***6 (1) Despite***

***(a) section 128 [electronic meetings and participation by members] of the Community Charter, and***

***(b) any applicable requirements in a municipality procedure bylaw of a council, a council or a body referred to in section 93 [application of rule to other bodies] of the Community Charter may conduct all or part of a meeting of the council or body by means of electronic or other communication facilities.***

***(2) A member of a council or body who participates in a meeting by means of electronic or other communication facilities under this section is deemed to be present at the meeting.***

***(3) Section 128 (2) (c) and (d) [electronic meetings and participation by members] of the Community Charter does not apply in respect of a meeting conducted by means of electronic or other communication facilities under this section.***

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cumming called the Special Regular Open meeting to order at 1:30 pm and requested a motion to move In Camera.

---

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

**APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT the agenda for the March 31, 2020 Special Regular meeting of the Council of The Corporation of The City of Vernon be adopted.

**CARRIED.**

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

**COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Fehr:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on March 23, 2020, be adopted;

**CARRIED.**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**POSTPONEMENT OF  
COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The March 23, 2020 decision to postpone Council meetings, except at the call of the Chair was reviewed.

- Council Procedure Bylaw did not provide authority for Council to use teleconferencing for meetings
- Meeting left at call of Chair in order to ensure quorum of Council could attend
- This will not be an issue moving forward due to the Ministerial Order authorizing teleconferencing for Council meetings
- As such, can proceed with Regularly scheduled Council meetings going forward.

Moved by Councillor Gares, seconded by Councillor Mund:

THAT Council directs that the Regular Council meeting schedule resumes, with the next Regular meeting being April 27, 2020.

**CARRIED.**

COUNCIL INQUIRIES

**FORTIS LEGACY  
FUND**

Council inquired as to the ability to use the Fortis Legacy Fund to exercise some rates stabilization? **A. Admin:** This is a budget Item, and at the discretion of Council.

It is a Reserve? **A. Admin:** Yes, this is a Reserve set aside per the instructions 17 years ago committing to the tax payers to set aside as legacy funds. The reserve can be used at Council's discretion.

**UNIFIED  
MESSAGING**

Council noted that some Councillor's are using Social Media to relay information coming from the Mayor's Office. Is there a way to do so through the Mayor's Office to ensure correct data is shared but with a broader reach? **A. Admin:** Members of Council can send info through to the Mayor to consider and advise. Confirming that the Mayor speaks on behalf of the Corporation.

This is to ensure statements are factual and correct – just want to make sure relaying information to the Community at large. **A. Admin:** Suggest including links to the City of Vernon website on Councillor's Social Media to ensure standard, correct and up to date information is being shared.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

*Councillor Quiring declared a conflict of interest in the following matter as the School District is a client of his firm. Councillor Quiring left the meeting at 1:42 pm.*

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT the Public Hearing for Bylaw #5807, "**Official Community Plan (Boundary Extensions) Text Amendment Bylaw Number 5807, 2020**", a bylaw to amend the City of Vernon's Official Community Plan Bylaw Number 5470, be rescheduled for April 27, 2020, at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers.

**CARRIED.**

*Councillor Quiring returned to the meeting at 1:43 pm.*

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT Council directs Administration to suspend bylaw enforcement of all on-street metered parking and two hour parking zones in the City of Vernon, with the exception of enforcement related to safety issues;

AND FURTHER, that this issue be reviewed at the April 27 Regular Council meeting.

**CARRIED.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**OFFICIAL  
COMMUNITY PLAN  
(BOUNDARY  
EXTENSIONS) TEXT  
AMENDMENT  
BYLAW NUMBER  
5807, 2020  
(3900-02)**

**SUSPENSION OF  
BYLAW  
ENFORCEMENT FOR  
METERED PARKING  
– DISCUSSION  
(4020-01)**

**QUARTERLY UTILITY BILLING INTEREST (1810-01)**

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT Council waive all interest charges on overdue utility accounts for the current billing period of January to March 2020.

**CARRIED.**

**COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR UBCM COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND (CEPF) APPLICATION - 2020 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRES & TRAINING GRANT (1855-20)**

Moved by Councillor Fehr, seconded by Councillor Mund:

THAT Council authorize the \$25,000 UBCM CEPF grant funding application as attached to the internal memorandum titled *Council Support for UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) Application - 2020 Emergency Operations Centres & Training Grant*, dated March 27, 2020, respectfully submitted by the Emergency Program Coordinator;

AND FURTHER, that Council authorize Administration to assume overall grant management.

**CARRIED.**

**REPORTS:**

**2020 TAX RATE OPTIONS (1970-13-05)**

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Fehr:

THAT Council selects **Option 1**, of the three tax rate options identified in Attachment 1 in the report recommendation titled "2020 Tax Rate Options", dated March 27, 2020, from the Manager, Financial Operations;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to prepare the Tax Rates Bylaw #5812 for initial readings at a future Council Meeting.

**DEFEATED, with Councillors, Gares, Quiring and Anderson opposed.**

Moved by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT Council selects **Option 3**, of the three tax rate options identified in Attachment 1 in the report recommendation titled "2020 Tax Rate Options", dated March 27, 2020, from the Manager, Financial Operations;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to prepare the Tax Rates Bylaw #5812 for initial readings at a future Council Meeting.

**DEFEATED with Councillors Mund and Fehr and Mayor Cumming opposed.**

SPECIAL OPEN MEETING OF COUNCIL TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT Council selects **amended Option 3** of the three tax rate options identified in Attachment 1 in the report recommendation titled "2020 Tax Rate Options", dated March 27, 2020, from the Manager, Financial Operations **adjusted by 50%, for a \$215,000 tax shift**, tax rate option;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to prepare the Tax Rates Bylaw #5812 for initial readings at a future Council Meeting.

**CARRIED, with Councillor Fehr and Mayor Cumming opposed.**

BYLAWS

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT Bylaw #5803, "**3001 39<sup>th</sup> Lane Closure Bylaw Number 5803, 2020**" – a bylaw to authorize closure and removal of the dedication as highway at 3001 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, be **read a first, second and third time.**

**CARRIED.**

COUNCIL INFORMATION UPDATES:

COUNCILLOR AKBAL MUND

Councillor Scott Anderson provided a verbal report on the following matters:

• **MEETING/EVENT ATTENDANCE**

- Was recently in Mexico – impressed with sensible precautions

COUNCILLOR BRIAN QUIRING

Councillor Brian Quiring provided a verbal report on the following matters:

• **MEETING/EVENT ATTENDANCE**

- Refreshing to see citizens taking pandemic issue seriously
- Surprising that working from home proving very successful
- Will be trying 'ZOOM' meeting for Downtown Vernon Association tomorrow

COUNCILLOR KELLY FEHR

Councillor Kelly Fehr provided a verbal report on the following matters:

• **MEETING/EVENT ATTENDANCE**

- Attending Affordable Housing Advisory Committee meeting yesterday
- Noted need to be patient with each other during this stressful time – people are doing the best they can
- Nice to see neighbours helping neighbours

COUNCILLOR KARI GARES

Councillor Kari Gares provided a verbal report on the following matters:

• **MEETING/EVENT ATTENDANCE**

- 'Shout Out' to Manager, Communications & Grants, Christy Poirier – great job on information releases – people are gravitating to these for accurate information
- 'Shout Out' to Staff for maintaining City operations and going 'above and beyond'
- Noted 'Social Distancing' not easy, but people are doing a good job
- Encouraged citizens to get out for some fresh air

COUNCILLOR AKBAL MUND

Councillor Akbal Mund provided a verbal report on the following matters:

• **MEETING/EVENT ATTENDANCE**

- 'Shout Out' to local businesses involved in making sanitizer (Okanagan Spirits), and to those offering free deliveries

MAYOR VICTOR CUMMING

Mayor Cumming provided a verbal report on the following matters:

• **MEETING/EVENT ATTENDANCE**

- **Attended several events including:**
  - Sat in on Regional Hospital District Board meeting wherein they voted for a 25% tax increase for the second year in a row – voted against
  - Participated in weekly conference calls between Mayors and Ministers Robinson and Farnworth
  - Kudos to Dr. Bonnie Henry for her amazing job during this difficult time
  - Noted the need for patience – this is a difficult situation, but it will pass
  - Notes full support for City of Vernon Emergency Operations Team - meeting twice per day, staying late – going above and beyond

**RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Mund, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 90(1) of the *Community Charter*

*d. the security of the property of the municipality;*

**CARRIED.**

**CLOSE**

Mayor Cumming closed the Special Open Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the City of Vernon at 2:26 pm.



CERTIFIED CORRECT:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Officer