

TOWN OF CRESTON
SPECIAL REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 28th, 2020

Minutes of a Special Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council held on Tuesday January 28th, 2020 at 4:38 p.m. in the Town of Creston Council Chambers, 238 - 10th Avenue, North, Creston, BC.

PRESENT: Mayor Ron Toyota
Councillor Jen Comer
Councillor Arnold DeBoon
Councillor Jim Elford
Councillor Ellen Tzakis
Councillor Joanna Wilson

STAFF: Michael Moore, Chief Administrative Officer
Steffan Klassen, Director of Finance & Corporate Services
Ross Beddoes, Director of Community Services
Jared Riel, Fire Chief
Marsha Neufeld, Executive Assistant
Bev Caldwell, Corporate Officer

MEDIA: Jensen Shields, JuiceFM
Lorne Eckersley, Creston Valley Advance

GALLERY: Marnie Temple, Resident
James Wallis, Resident
Dallas Magrum, Resident

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Toyota called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Moved by Councillor DeBoon, seconded by Councillor Unruh
THAT the agenda for the Special Regular Committee of the Whole meeting of
January 28th, 2020, be adopted. MOTION CARRIED

**PRESENTATION
RE REVIEW OF
PROPOSED FIVE
YEAR FINANCIAL
PLAN & 2020** The Director of Finance & Corporate Services provided a PowerPoint presentation
on the draft Five Year Financial Plan and 2020 proposed budget for the Town of
Creston, a copy of which is attached to and forms a part of these minutes as
Appendix I.

BUDGET: Following the presentation by the Director of Finance & Corporate Services,
members of the Gallery were provided the opportunity to provide comments or ask
questions.

Mr. Jensen Shields asked if the Town's Reserve funds were invested and were
receiving interest, and from which Reserves was the Town drawing from with
respect to the construction of the new fire hall facility?

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services advised that the Reserve funds were
invested in 100% Guaranteed Income (GIC) bonds with the Credit Union. For the
fire hall construction, the Town will be drawing from the General Surplus, LILO and
Property Purchase Reserve funds, which will reduce the amount of borrowing
required for the project.

A member of the Gallery asked if there was grant funding available for the Woodstove Exchange Program and the Grand Fondo Sponsorship under 'General Government', also for the following Capital Projects: Storm Water Retention Pond & Paving at Schikurski Park; Security Fencing (Davis Road – Public Works); Security Fencing (Davis Road – Fire Training Centre); New Equipment – Skid Steer; and, Highway Realignment – Highway 3 to Cook Street.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services advised that the Town was providing grant funding for the Woodstove Exchange Program and the Grand Fondo Sponsorship through its grant budget. The Town has applied for Northern & Rural Community Grant funding to assist with capital projects but has not been advised of a decision on that application as yet. The Director also advised that on another Capital project, Council has decided to proceed with the reconstruction of two blocks on Cedar Street in this year's budget, even if grant funding is not available.

Ms. Magrum asked if the Town is going to change all street lighting on Northwest Boulevard to LED lighting. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the plan is to continue with the decorative lamp posts currently in the downtown area, along Northwest Boulevard and that FortisBC was changing their light fixtures to LED within Town.

Ms. Magrum asked what was planned for the beautification and traffic calming for 19th Avenue North. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that no definitive plan has been developed for the beautification and traffic calming for 19th Avenue North as yet, but it would include the intersection of 19th Avenue North and Highway 3 (Canyon Street), improving the entrance to the Recreation Complex.

Ms. Marnie Temple asked if Committees had been established to review/plan/recommend options for the beautification and traffic calming of both 10th Avenue North and 19th Avenue North capital projects, and if so, allow members of the public to attend those committee meetings to listen and/or support the projects? Councillor Elford stated that all meetings are open to the public, unless they are closed meetings; however, all decisions made are addressed at a Council meeting, which is open to the public.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services stated that the Town will be publishing a budget book which will include more detail. The Director advised that for each capital project contained in the budget there is a separate budget sheet which provides more detail on the project including description, cost, purpose, priority and value to the Town's operation.

Mr. Jensen Shields asked if there were budget funds allocated to the Fire Department/Road Rescue for the West Creston area. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Town has an agreement with the Regional District of Central Kootenay for Road Rescue services, which includes vehicle replacement, etc.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services asked if there were further comments from members of the Gallery, to which there were none. The Director also stated that no other comments from the public, with respect to the proposed 2020 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan, had been received prior to this meeting.

Mayor Toyota thanked the Director of Finance & Corporate Services for his presentation and all members of Council commended staff on the 2020 Budget process and their presentations to Council during the 2020 Budget meetings. Mayor Toyota stated that the budget process carried out this year was efficient and allowed both Council and staff to stay focused with little to no interruptions in the process.

COUNCIL**COMMITTEE****► PROPOSED 2020
BUDGET & FIVE
YEAR FINANCIAL
PLAN****RECOMMENDATION NO. 1:**

THAT the presentation from the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, regarding the proposed 2020 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan for the Town of Creston, be received; AND FURTHER, THAT staff prepare the Five Year Financial Plan (2020 – 2024) Bylaw for Council's consideration at the February 11th, 2020 Regular Council Meeting.

**► SHARED
POLICING COSTS****RECOMMENDATION NO. 2:**

THAT the Request for Decision from the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, regarding an equitable police funding model, be received; AND FURTHER, THAT the following resolution be submitted for consideration at the 2020 Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments' Annual Conference, as follows:

WHEREAS the current RCMP policing model sees BC municipalities over 5,000 in population pay the full provincial cost share (either 70% or 90% depending on the size), while unincorporated areas and municipalities under 5,000 in population pay the provincial police tax rate, which covers up to 50% of the estimated cost of policing;

AND WHEREAS due to this system there is an inequity perceived by municipalities and their taxpayers due to the Province subsidizing policing costs for some taxpayers and not others:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the current model of funding RCMP police services be reviewed with consideration given to equitable funding of police services through a provincial police tax based on the assessed value of improvements for the areas served by the detachments.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any provincial contribution towards policing be shared equally with all police taxpayers.

**► AKBLG
RESOLUTION RE
SHARED POLICING
COSTS****RECOMMENDATION NO. 3:**

THAT Recommendation No. 2 from the Special Regular Committee of the Whole meeting of January 28th, 2020, with respect to submitting a resolution to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments' 2020 Annual Conference, be brought forward to the Regular Council Meeting of January 28th, 2020 for adoption.

**► QUESTION
PERIOD**

There were no questions from members of the Gallery.

ADJOURN

The Special Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 28th, 2020, adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

AS TO THE MINUTES OF THIS SPECIAL REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING:

Mayor Ron Toyota

Bev Caldwell, Corporate Officer