

Mayor Fromme opened the regular meeting of Council at 19:00 hours on October 5, 2020 at the Midway Community Centre, 692 Seventh Ave., Midway, BC. *Due to the Covid-19 virus the Council Chambers is restricted to an occupancy level of only 5 people in order to safely accommodate the physical distancing requirement. Until further notice Council meetings will be held either in-person at the Midway Community Centre or by virtual meeting via zoom.*

The Village Council acknowledges that this meeting is taking place on the non-treaty traditional lands of the Okanagan Nation Alliance and the Osoyoos Indian Band.

Present: Mayor Fromme  
Councillors Schierbeck, Grouette, Dunsdon  
Councillor Metcalf absent

Staff: Penny Feist, Chief Administrative Officer  
Tami Peters, Deputy Clerk

Gallery: Gus Van Loewen, Ted Theelen, Vivian Uimonen, Monica Shalay, Colleen

Delegation: None

**Introduction of Late Items** – None

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved /Seconded** that the October 5, 2020 regular meeting agenda be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**Question Period** - None

**Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved/Seconded** that the minutes from the September 8, 2020 regular meeting of Council be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

**Business Arising**

Page 6595 – None

Page 6596 – None

**New and Unfinished Business**

8a) Volunteer Appreciation Day – Volunteer of the Year Nomination – One application received with four nominees – After Council discussion it was:

**Moved /Seconded** that of the applicants nominated either did not meet the criteria of volunteer of the years or have been past recipients. **Carried**

Volunteer Appreciation Day to be deferred to the new year.

**Correspondence**

- a) Gladys Brown – Spraying in Midway
- b) City of New Westminster – Universal access to no-cost prescription contraception
- c) City of Port Moody – Dedication of 1% of PST to local governments
- d) Boundary Community Church – Request for permissive tax exemption for 2021 year the land surrounding the building - BC Conference of the Mennonite Brethren.
- e) King of Kings New Testament Church – Request for permissive tax exemption for 2021 year the land surrounding the building.
- f) Boundary District Curling Club – Request for permissive tax exemption for 2021 year both land and improvements.

**Moved /Seconded** That correspondence item a-f be received and filed.

**Carried**

**Administrator's Report** – Written Report on file

1. UBCM Convention Meetings:

- September 14, 2020 meeting with Minister of Forests/Doug Donaldson – Topic: Sustainable Forest management through Forest Tenure: Discussion background: As a Community Forest we have been following the initiatives and directions that this provincial government has laid out for the forestry sector, but cannot continue this path if the entire Boundary-Similkameen forest region is under the control and decision-making grasp of the major licensees. We have recognized leadership in Forest Management. Request: Give the power back to the local communities and First Nations Bands to make decisions on their local forests and keep the jobs and profits local. Without forest tenure, we cannot continue our successes, and the major licensees will continue to dominate without local benefit.

- September 15, 2020 meeting with Premier John Horgan – Topic: Innovation in the Forest Sector - Discussion background: Premier Horgan has challenged the Forest Sector to create value-added products, such as, mass timber products. Request: In order for investment in innovation and new technologies, a guaranteed supply of timber is required for our local mill, our Community Forest and our First Nations partner.

- RCMP – Topic: What is the status for replacement of the Corporal position in the Midway Detachment? There is already enough burden on the detachment members with time off, required training, other duty related issues taking them from the detachment area. Now even more strain with the short staffing until the Cpl. position is filled. What relief is in place to assist the detachment while waiting for the replacement? Future assurance the replacements of members are stationed prior to current members leaving.

2. YRB Yellowhead Road & Bridge (Boundary) winter stakeholder meeting reminder – emailed to Council and P/W's Foreman.
3. Kristin Basnett / 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Formal request to ask permission to build a fence beyond the edge of their property. Below is Kristin's outline detailing the reasons for the request.

*"It makes sense to us to line up with our eastward neighbours pre-existing fence. There is pre-existing underground irrigation on our property that extends to that corner, so it makes sense to us to contain that irrigation within the fence line rather than remove it.*

*For the sake of fire protection as well as aesthetics, we would prefer to keep the grass mowed to that line, as it currently is, rather than fence to our property line and leave it to grow wild beyond it. On the subject of safety, with the highway being not that far away, we would like to have our yard completely fenced so that children and pets are contained in a safe area.*

*We would also like to keep wildlife out of the yard, I have noticed bear scat on the KVR/Trans-Canada Trail that passes in front of our house, and we had a buck on the steps of our front porch last week. We respect that this is their home as well, but we feel it is in their best interests as well as our own to draw a reasonable boundary.*

*In case it is a potential concern, we do not intend to keep our driveway locked. We understand that the Village of Midway will require access, and also, we don't want to lock out emergency services such as firefighters, ambulance, or RCMP. We are of course happy to cooperate with the Village of Midway in terms of snow removal or any other public works activity that the proposed fence may effect.*

*In the event that the Village of Midway decides to connect the two ends of Twelfth Avenue, we take full responsibility to move the fence. For this reason, we intend to build it with T-bar posts and wire that can easily be relocated if necessary."*

CAO and Public Works Foreman did a site review. *Included in report are two photo's showing the area of encroachment.*

- The adjacent properties east of this property towards Division Street have fenced a portion of the undeveloped portion of Twelfth Avenue.
- FortisBC has a three-phase line (statutory ROW) on our road allowance on this undeveloped portion

Public Works Foreman does not have concerns with this request:

- as long as the property owner does not lock gate in order for the plow truck to be able to turn around and in order to be able to access the manhole.
- if the two vacant properties east towards Division Street were developed and a road was to be constructed, the fencing would need to be removed (as well as all of other property owners fencing). After discussion it was

**Moved /Seconded** that the Council does not approve the request from Kristin Basnett / 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue for permission to build a fence beyond the edge of their property as council feels this would be precedent setting.

**Carried**

**075-2020**

4. Obstruction (tree) under Florence Street Bridge – CAO has filed a Change Approval and Notification Application with FrontCounterBC for the removal of the tree that lodged under the bridge in this springs high water freshet. The application is currently being reviewed by a Natural Resource Specialist.
5. FireSmart – CAO met with the RDKB's consultant doing their FireSmart program. The consultant (Brandy) is a Fire & Life Safety Educator from Frontline Operations Group. Meeting was to discuss our FireSmart funding and deliverables. They feel they can meet the deliverables in the specified timeline (before grant deadline). Consultant will stop in the next time she is going through to the RDKB again. CAO will bring further information back to Council.
6. Boundary Creek Water/Sewer Line removal – CAO is still working on this project and a cost recovery plan that is required to get into EMBC as soon as possible.
7. Fire Chief – Nomination Fire Chief of the Year Award – Fire Underwriters Survey and Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs – Letter advising that Chief Osellame was not the award recipient for the 2020 Fire Chief of the Year Award but advised that the nomination itself is significant and the CAFCA and FUS are very appreciative of the recognition of excellence and have recognized his nomination at the CAFCA's Celebration of Excellence Ceremony held Sept. 14, 2020.
8. Fire Chief Recruitment – Received 23 applications. Jamie Svendsen and CAO reviewed, graded and shortlisted all applications on Monday, Sept 28<sup>th</sup>. Three members of the Fire Department reviewed the applications and have added one more to the shortlist. Interviews dates and times have been scheduled and will be taking place October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Letters have been sent to those that did not make the shortlist.

9. ElectionsBC – Advanced polls will be held on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and the election day is October 24<sup>th</sup>. All days the polls are open from 8 am – 8 pm.
10. Arena – Manager is waiting for further information on how the minor hockey structure will look like for this upcoming season but are presently getting the arena ready to open last week of October.
11. Farm Credit Application – Received notification that the application for funding for the spray park was not approved.

### **Mayor and Council Reports**

#### **Councillor Schierbeck – Verbal Report**

- Has the library heating/cooling system been installed yet? CAO advised that quotes were received, the contractor has ordered parts and the schedule for work will be determined once the parts arrive.
- CAO advised Medical Clinic radon mitigation will be getting done

#### **Councillor Grouette – Verbal Report**

- 5.3 Million dollars has been allocated for general medical personal for interior health
- Next West Kootenay Hospital Board Meeting will be October 17<sup>th</sup> via zoom

#### **Councillor Dunsdon – Verbal Report**

- RDKB meetings will be continuing via zoom
- Can we get the Village's website counter fixed?
- What are the COVID costs to date – CAO advised approximately \$3900 plus administrative costs
- Would like to receive quarterly budget reports submitted to council
- Bzam Management - does anyone know what it is they are hauling to the site on Fritz road?
- CAO requested a second opportunity for a site visit to Bzam Management Facility but was advised at this time they are extremely busy, CAO to check to see when this can be arranged and what it is that is being haul to the site.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer Extension – Staff to send letters to all property owners affected to see if there is interest in the Village trying to apply for funding through Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.
- RDKB Housing Needs Report due end of November.
- ALC exclusion – Affordable housing for the five acres – CAO reminded Council that the ALC decision on the exclusion request outlined that the lands earmarked for the Riverfront Park expansion requires a comprehensive plan for development and requires to be done concurrent to the request for exclusion for the lands earmarked for affordable residential development that also requires adoption of community-based development plan.
- Council feels that we should have public engagement regarding use of this property first. Council feels this would be a good and advised staff to setup a public meeting.
- RDKB to Forestry, Lands and Natural Resources – re – clear cuts – does the Village want to get involved in the discussion?
- Can we advertise the BC Transit Bus ride share – 70 health connection schedule and phone # on our website, newsletter etc.
- RDKB tipping fees will be increasing in the New Year
- Animal Control – Is the Village interested in this service? Council advised that they are – Councillor Dunsdon will let RDKB know.
- BC Energy Step Code – Councillor Dunsdon advised that RDKB has begun the step for implementation of the BC Energy Step Code - CAO advised that we usually align our bylaws/policies with what the RDKB does.
- Property for sale abutting the undeveloped proportion of Jesalin Street. Would the Village be interested in purchasing the property which is not in the ALR.
- Staffing for the Office – CAO advised this will be addressed when time permits.

#### **Mayor Fromme – Verbal Report**

- UBCM – update – discussion on fiber connected with our local mill – the local mills need a sustainable fiber supply
- RCMP – New Cpl is already here
- Three UBCM breakfast meetings - Mining, Energy and Forestry – well attended

#### **Question Period –**

- Vivian Uimonen asked what problem are we having with dogs in Midway?
- Monica Shalay – will part of the animal control officers job enforcing dog owners to pick up after their dogs?

#### **Financial Report – None**

#### **Bylaws & Policies –**

- a) Bylaw No. 528, 2020 Being a bylaw to exempt properties used for philanthropic or other not for profit corporation from taxation on both land and improvements, for the year 2021 – Ambulance Station.

**Moved/Seconded** that Bylaw No. 528, 2020 Being a bylaw to exempt properties used for philanthropic or other not for profit corporation from taxation on both land and improvements, for the year 2021 be introduced for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

**Carried**

- b) Bylaw No. 529, 2020 Being a bylaw to exempt properties used for public worship from taxation on both land and improvements, for the year 2021. – (The BC Conference of the Mennonite Brethren and the King of Kings New Testament)

*Mayor Fromme excused himself from reading of bylaw citing a conflict of interest at 1944 hours. Councillor Dunsdon stepped in a chair of meeting*

**Moved/Seconded** that Bylaw No. 529, 2020 Being a bylaw to exempt properties used for public worship from taxation on both land and improvements, for the year 2021 be introduced for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020. **Carried**

*Mayor Fromme return to meeting at 1945 hours and resumed his position*

- c) Bylaw No. 530, 2020 Being a bylaw to exempt properties used for public athletic or recreational purposes from taxation on both land and improvements, for the year 2021.

**Moved/Seconded** that Bylaw No. 530, 2020 Being a bylaw to exempt properties used for public athletic or recreational purposes from taxation on both land and improvements, for the year 2021 be introduced for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020. **Carried**

**Planning** – None

**Budgets/Accounts**

**Moved /Seconded** that the accounts totaling \$111,907.78 be drawn on the general account and be paid.

**Carried**

**Correspondence for Information Only**

**Moved /Seconded** that correspondence for information only items:

- a) RDKB – Building Inspection Report – August, 2020
- b) Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch – Policy Directive No: 20-25: Non-Medical Cannabis Retail Store (CRS) Branding and Associations Update.
- c) Lidstone & Company – Memorandum: Single Use Plastic Bags
- d) Linda Larson, MLA Boundary Similkameen – Farewell and thank you letter.
- e) BC Community Forest Perspectives and Engagement in Wildfire Management – Sept. 2020 (emailed to Council/Community Forest Board)
- f) Agriculture Advisory Committee – re: Results of Public Feedback on Residential Flexibility Bill 52 – ALC Amendment Act, 2018.

be received and filed.

**Carried**

**Correspondence for Information Only - to be held for two weeks only**

- a) Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia – Forest Enhancement Society of BC's 2020 Accomplishments Report
- b) Canadian Wood Council – Update

be received and filed.

**Carried**

Councillor Schierbeck requested council to consider an additional cost of \$1,000 for Kenton Gilchrist who is the producer of the video clip for Midway for travel. After discussion, it was:

**Moved /Seconded** that the additional travel costs of up to \$1,000.00 be approved for Mr. Gilchrist the producer of the video clip of Midway. **Carried**

**076-2020**

**Question Period** - None

**Moved /Seconded** to move in-camera at 1956 hours under section 90(1)(g) of the Community Charter.

**Carried**

The public left the meeting

Returned to the regular meeting at 2057 hours

**Moved** that the meeting be adjourned at 2058 hours