

Mayor, Doug McMynn opened the Regular Meeting of Council at 19:00 hours on March 6, 2023, Midway Council Chambers, 661 Eighth Ave., Midway, BC.

We acknowledge that our gathering takes place on the unceded and traditional territory of the indigenous peoples of that region as well as the Metis people whose footprints have marked these lands.

The Council of the Village of Midway agrees to uphold the Guiding Principles for Responsible Conduct as per Village of Midway's Policy No. 387

Present:	Mayor McMynn Councillors Dunsdon, Willsey, Metcalf, Pownall
Staff:	Lisa Teggarty CAO Tamara Lovett, Administrative Assistant Mike Daloise, Fire Chief Don Smythe, Bylaw Officer
Delegation:	Monica Nederend, B.A. Blackwell and Associates – Community Wildfire Protection Plan Overview (via Zoom) Sandy Elzinga, Manager of Community Economic Development, Community Futures Boundary – Proposed Economic Diversification Plan Wendy Higashi, Kettle River Museum Curator
Gallery:	Martin Fromme

Introduction of Late Items – None

Adoption of Agenda

Moved/Seconded that the March 6, 2023, Regular Meeting agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Delegation

- a) Monica Nederend and Bruce Blackwell of B.A. Blackwell and Associates – Community Wildfire Protection Plan Overview. The Power Point presentation included plans update to our 10+ year old Community Wildfire Protection Plan with a new Community Wildfire Resiliency Fire Plan.
 - Over the last 10 months they went over background and field work to develop the plan which includes identifying wildlife threat thru spatial analysis and interpreting that data to come up with 29 recommendations to increase wildfire resiliency.
 - The area of focus is the Eligible Wildland Interface (EWI) as outlined in the Provincial CWRFP (Community Wildfire Resiliency Fire Plan) guidelines. Note: Plan does NOT include private land, only area within the municipality.
 - The recommendations are based on the Fire Smart disciplines: Education, Legislation and Planning, Development Considerations, Cross Training, Interagency Co-operation, Emergency Planning and Vegetation Management.

West Boundary Community Forests did some mitigation last year and now the remainder of the area is under a prescription for fuel management. When Blackwell reviewed the area, it was noted that logging had occurred in the past and merchantable timber was light, so understory treatments and downing of standing dead timber was the main focus.

Monica leaves at 19:30

The CWRP assessment for the municipality was grant funded. Midway's CWPP plan was over 10 years old and any future funding for Fire Smart or Fire Resiliency work needs to have a current Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan. The plan is now updated and just a guideline to make sure we are keeping up with necessary assessments and treatments for mitigation.

Midway Evacuation plan should be assessed and if grant money is available to update this plan. Early warning information is available to the residents through Midway's Voyent Alert system whereas, the Regional District will not put out an early warning message regarding evacuations.

- b) Sandy Elzinga, Manager of Community Economic Development, Community Futures Boundary – Proposed Regional Economic Diversification Plan
 - Update on progress with the REDIP-FIT (Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure – Forest Impact transition) Fund.
 - It was decided that the Village of Midway would be a better applicant than the Regional District and the RDKB would be providing a letter of support to the Village for that application.
 - The RDKB voted to make it a Regional Plan but with special emphasis on Midway due to the recent loss of jobs from Vaagen Fiber Canada.
 - The planning phase (Forest Impact Transition – FIT) is for \$500,000 and is 100% covered with 15% allotted to project management. The Letter of Intent application and projects identified is required for this phase. Community Futures Boundary would manage the project and any cost would come out of the 15%. There would be minimal resources and costs of the Village of Midway. Once the application has been made, a stakeholder engagement process would occur to identify their 3 top priority projects. Business cases would be developed for those top 3 priorities.
 - From those priorities, additional funding could be applied for. These projects could be identified any place within the Boundary area but will be unknown until the stakeholders identify their priorities.
 - Job loss from Vaagen was spread equally throughout the West Boundary – 33% from Midway, 32% from Greenwood, 12% from Rock Creek, 11% from Grand Forks and the remainder from Westbridge, Oliver, Osoyoos and Kelowna.
 - The planning phase is expected to last 10 months. It will take time to gather information from the stakeholders, digest the data and implement the pieces in order to move forward.

- If the process is started April 1, 2023, and the Province approves the funding to Midway, for this fiscal year, the process may be able to be completed by the end of January of 2024. There is likely to be further funding out there for implementation of projects.
- To maximize the budget in order to move forward with the Expression of Interest, RFP, contracts for consultants in place, get the committee's established with good communication between the Village of Midway, Boundary Services Committee and all other stakeholders identified, within that 10-month time frame. Community Futures role can be the first point of contact or adjusted to reflect what the Council needs.
- The implementation phase is the second portion of this process and the Village of Midway does not necessarily need to be as involved.

Councillor Willsey was concerned what the term "*Regional*" defined for area and that as more things were going to HUBS, then most of funding might be allocated to Grand Forks. The Boundary region encompasses the area from Christina Lake to Bridesville and up to Beaverdell/Carmi. Big White is also part of the Boundary region, but Sandy was not clear if it was included. The Boundary Service Committee tends to portion out funding throughout the Boundary, recognizing the differences within this region and portioning out Economic Development by these differences. The implementation phase can be part of the top 3 priorities but not necessarily. Pockets of different funding can be accessed for projects that have a solid business case. Councillor Willsey and Metcalf still concerned about the Regional based application funding projects that are not within the West Boundary area. The need for non-forestry related businesses; perhaps agricultural development projects would be preferable. Councillor Dunsdon noted that this money is just to set up this project, what happens afterwards is up to the Village what we want to do with it. The Village will be a stakeholder. Community Futures have drafted the application with some more information needed before the application can be submitted.

No motion was made. Motion to be brought to next council meeting.

Council thanks Sandy Elzinga for her presentation.

Question Period – Martin Fromme asks Sandy Elzinga: after the application has been made and the funding is available who does the research? A hired consultant? Would the Community have representation? If the municipality was represented, then we could ensure our needs/projects be prioritized. Sandy noted that this is not a research project but a Stakeholders engagement process of which the Village of Midway is definitely a stakeholder. Stakeholders could include the Osoyoos Indian Band, Community Forests, Village of Midway and perhaps some of the contractors within the community. Agriculture representation may also be included.

Sandy Elzinga leaves at 20:03.

Adoption of the Minutes

Moved/Seconded that the minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Moved/Seconded that the minutes from the Special Meeting of February 23, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Business Arising

Regular Meeting of February 21, 2023 (Page 6790-6792) – None

Special Meeting of February 23, 2022 (Page 6793-6794) – None

New and Unfinished Business

- a) Bylaw Officer's Report to Council – full written report on file
 - The Bylaw Officer briefed Council on the last 4 months in his new position. He noted that his focus was directed to examining the needs, wants, and methods within our organization and community regarding bylaw development and enforcement issues.
 - The purpose of Bylaw Enforcement is not to punish or penalize the residents of our community but, rather to promote compliance through education and the provision of information in order to maintain the quality of life for each resident.
 - Bylaw Officer has joined the Licence Inspector and Bylaw Officers Association (LIBOA) and remains actively involved with Webinars (Animal Control/use of drones/preserving evidence during the great resignations/Section 8-Human Rights Code) Reviewed numerous past workshops relevant to bylaw development and enforcement issues and great networking with member posted questions.
 - Meet RCMP, Fire Chief, Mayor and councillors, Building Inspector, Public Works team, Officers and City staff, Business operators and Residents.
- b) 2023 Budget request – Village Office renovation
The renovation of the Chief Administrative Officer office is necessary for private conversations and focused work and have a functional space. At present this is a high traffic area housing the safe as well as locked files used by all employees. Staff is recommending the addition of a partition wall with new doorway, creating a hallway to the files and safe for use by other employees.

Moved/Seconded that Council approve a 2023 Budget of up to \$10,000 for renovation to Chief Administrative Officers Office space.

Carried

015-2023

Correspondence

- a) KWAST-en-ayu (L. Maynard Harry), Founder, Indigenous Insight – Indigenous Engagement Lunch-n-Learn session offer
- b) Phoenix Foundation – Invitation to Volunteer Appreciation and Job Fair Event – April 22, 2023

Moved/Seconded to receive and file.

Chief Mike Daloise leaves at 20:23

Administrator's Report - Verbal

1. BC Housing – Microsoft Teams meeting set for March 14, 2023 at 9:30-10:00am. Parkview staff will be invited.
2. Met with Sandy Elzinga, Manager of Community Economic Development, Community Futures Boundary on February 28th, 2023, to clarify some questions about resources and how much extra work will be required. The CAO feels more comfortable with letter of Intent and work required of the office staff.
3. CAO and Deputy Clerk have been working on 2023 year-end reconciliations, audit continuity questions, procedural review is taking priority. Year-end reconciliations are taking priority right now which is putting the budget back a bit. This is necessary as the reconciliation impacts the budget.
4. Working on the Greenpeaks Forestry Camp agreement and accommodation plans.
5. Still have some back-and-forth questions about the Circus coming in August.
6. Working to complete the final grant reports and ensure the revenue is received for 2022 projects to be accounted for in the 2022-year end.

Mayor and Council Reports**Councillor Willsey** – Verbal

- ◆ Attended the MES (Midway Elementary School) repurposing meeting and updated council.
- ◆ Congratulated Councillor Dunsdon on his well-written letter regarding the Electoral Boundaries sent to MP Cannings.
- ◆ Registered for the Webinar - Readiness in Transition by Ron Poole.
- ◆ Another webinar through UNBC with Greg Halketh was about strategies with Community Futures the way to go.
- ◆ Missed an ombudsperson webinar but got all the material and it was very interesting – Fairness by Design. How to avoid the Perception of unfairness for Municipal governments.
- ◆ Reading recommendation called 13 Ways to Kill your Community.
- ◆ Questioned the speed at which large trucks were heading to the border on Dominion

Councillor Metcalf – Verbal

- West Boundary Community Forest Meeting is Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 6:30pm in the Village of Midway Council Chambers.

Councillor Pownall – None**Mayor McMynn** – Verbal

- Grant Funding from Provincial Government was announced - \$763,000 for economic development.
- Can have seed money available to apply for grants for possible ideas:
 - Electric Highway signs stating services in Midway – park, trails, pharmacy, grocery, etc.
 - RV park upgrade grant
 - Airport development – where Federal government pays up to 90% of project with 10% of possible In-Kind up to 2 million.
 - Bike trails - \$500,000 available to convert trails to bike trails.
 - Community gardens
- Need to come up with ideas for the allocated money and be ready with projects
- July 4th – start with organizing music and fireworks.
- A group of individuals is hoping to bring forward ideas on bike park in Midway, Jolly, Heinz Kreuzer, Ross Elliot and Jenny Simmonds are hoping to come to the next council meeting to present the idea.
- Spoke to Dr. Hugh Fischer who would like to have an ad hoc meeting regarding the medical clinic
- Community Forest estimate dividends of \$200,000 is on hold temporarily.
- What is the possibility of a Regional Fire Training center?

Question Period – Martin Fromme asked if there was a motion made with regard to the Letter of Intent for the REDIP-FIT (Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure – Forest Impact transition) Fund. Motion was tabled to the next meeting. A motion to support the Letter of Intent had been previously made.

Financial Report – None**Bylaws & Policies** – None**Planning** – None**Budgets/Accounts**

Moved/Seconded that budgets and accounts totalling \$133,452.21 be drawn on the general account and be paid. **Carried**

Correspondence for info only - None**Correspondence for Info Only – to be held for two weeks only.**

Moved/Seconded that the following Correspondence Items:

- a) Jay Chalke, Ombudsperson, Province of BC – Welcome, Info and Webinar information.
- b) BC Economic Development Association – Highlights of 2023 BC Budget

be rec'd and filed.

Carried

Moved/Seconded that Council move In-Camera at 20:53 hours under Section 90(1) (e) Acquisition, disposition of land or improvements.

Martin Fromme & Don Smythe leave at 20:53 hours.

Return to Regular Meeting at 21:24 hours.

Moved to adjourned at 21:24 hours.

Mayor McMynn

CAO Teggarty