

Mayor, Doug McMynn opened the Regular Meeting of Council at 19:00 hours on October 3, 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, Pownall & Metcalf

Staff: Lisa Teggarty, CAO
Cam Kamigochi, Administrative Assistant

Gallery: Martin Fromme

Introduction of Late Items

Airport Improvement Grant to be inserted as New and Unfinished Business Item 8(d)

Adoption of Agenda

Moved/Seconded that the October 3, 2023, Regular Meeting agenda be adopted as amended.

Carried

Delegation – None

Question Period – None

Adoption of Minutes

Page 6841, spelling of "C-Cans" to be corrected to "sea cans."

Moved/Seconded that the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 5, 2023 (Page 6841-6842) be adopted as amended.

Carried

Moved/Seconded that the minutes from the Special Meeting of September 13, 2023 (Page 6843) be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Business Arising

Regular Meeting of September 5, 2023 (Page 6841-6842) – None

Special Meeting of September 13, 2023 (Page 6843) – None

New and Unfinished Business

- a) West Boundary Senior Housing Society – Parkview Expansion
 - WBSHS has contracted ATCORR Development Consulting Inc as their consultant for the expansion project. CAO is in discussion with ALR Planner re Eholt St being removed from the ALR. Architect will be presenting drawings to the Parkview Manor Committee. Some units appear to be small. The parking space ratio was drawn up as the same as the existing Manor, which is 0.6 parking spots per unit. Council will expect to hear back when the board has viewed the plans.
- b) Village of Midway Accessibility Framework Plan – Draft
 - Does accessibility need to consider financial accessibility? ie) Library, arena, etc.
 - RDKB pay committee members \$100 each for attending meetings to offset travel costs. RDKB is much larger, people shouldn't need to travel very far to attend committee meetings in Midway.
 - Midway's committee should be 3-5 members and be sure to include people who represent people with disabilities and indigenous people.

Moved/Seconded that the Council of the Village of Midway directs staff to place an advertisement in the Grand Forks Gazette asking for people to join the Accessibility Committee.

Carried

062-2023

Moved/Seconded that the Council of the Village of Midway accepts the Village of Midway Accessibility Framework Plan.

Carried

063-2023

- c) Local Government Climate Action Program Year 2 Survey

Moved/Seconded that Council of the Village of Midway approves the Local Government Climate Action Program Year 2 Survey as presented.

Carried

064-2023

- d) Airport Improvement Grant
 - Mayor McMynn requested Council's approval for the Village to submit a grant application for up to \$2,000,000 to the BC Air Access Program (BCAAP). During UBCM Convention Minister Anne Kang said that she would be happy to write a letter of support for the airport. Minister Mike Farnsworth said there is more money available out there. Mayor McMynn would like to try for the grant and see if we get it.
 - Councillor Willsey asked how much seed money would be required? 10% (\$200,000). Mayor McMynn said there are other grants to apply for to cover the shortfall. The grant would be good for a year if it is successful.
 - Councillor Willsey would like to wait until the Economic Diversification Plan is complete, to see if that's the direction Council would like to move in. Concerns that there will not be enough money to put towards housing needs. In the research update report previously provided to Council, one of the comments made was that there was not enough activity to warrant paving the Midway Airport given Grand Forks is 45 minutes away and the paving would only allow daytime flight activity in good weather.
 - Mayor McMynn has spoken to Air Canada pilots and Pacific Coastal Air employees and Midway is on the Visual Flight Rules lines from Abbotsford and Chilliwack, which makes it a perfect destination for new pilots. Chilliwack.

- In 2006, Council attempted to do something similar but fell short of reaching their goal. Their ideas included a small engine repair business and plane building. Removing the surrounding land from the ALR and fundraising were the hurdles.
- If the grant is successfully awarded, Council can still decide not to proceed with any further action if they choose.

Moved/Seconded that the Council of the Village of Midway approves for Wendy Higashi to apply for the BC Air Access Program grant from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for improvement of the Midway Airport.

Carried
065-2023

Councillor Dunsdon and Willsey opposed.

Correspondence

Moved/Seconded that the following Correspondence Item:

a) BC Nature – Municipal Protected Areas Project Webinar, 10am October 4, 2023
be rec'd and filed.

Carried

b) YRB – Invitation to 2023/2024 Winter Stakeholder Meeting. Mayor McMynn and Councillor Willsey are interested in attending.

Administrator's Report

1. Attended UBCM conference – Ministry meetings, informative sessions, networking.
2. Boundary Economic Diversification Plan – Proponent chosen/Planning for next steps.
3. WBCF Shareholder meeting to be arranged – for the shareholders to approve the financial statements and appoint the auditor for the 2023 audit.
4. Splash Park project – contract signed by all parties, project has commenced and making good progress.
5. Community Centre project – Tender review complete.
6. Attended West Boundary Community Clinic meeting with Councillor Dunsdon and Councillor Willsey. Seems like it is happening, and the group are asking for local governments to be supportive of the project. Further discussion to take place at the next meeting.
7. OCP Review and amendment – have reached out to previous Consultant to see if he is available to help get us across the finish line.
8. Budget Planning for 2024 has commenced.

Mayor and Council Reports

Councillor Dunsdon – Written

- Watershed Integrated Service, this is Christina Anderson, RDKB in favour of keeping the service.
- RDKB lobbying for a Forest Landscape Plan for the Boundary Timber supply area.
- Accessibility Committee, grants and help are available, also financial accessibility.
- Code of Conduct, some municipalities are using it as a sword, not a shield.
- We need to have a Reserve Fund Policy, need to leverage grant funds.
- We also need an investment policy for reserves. Eg) where does interest go? Interest is allocated to Reserve Funds.
- Do we have a rainy-day fund? We have reserves and surplus.
- Can we use the following generic land dedication, "In the spirit of respect, truth and reconciliation, we honour and thank the Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional and unseeded lands we operate." Should be read each meeting.
- RDKB received a Safety Improvement Award from the BC Municipal Safety Association, will save a lot of money on premiums.
- What are we doing for record keeping and disposal? The office follows the LGMA guidelines.
- Policy review. We should be doing at least one a month to keep current.
- Council issues around the province. Midway is doing pretty darn good overall.
- Where is the new Public Works vehicle? Picked up today.

Councillor Willsey – Verbal

- Would like to see regular water reports. Historical graphs.
- Has heard that wells in the region have run dry. Kettle Wildlife Association well has gone dry. Cannabis farms are capable of pumping 1,000 gallons a minute. Something to be aware of.
- Wondering about the Growing Communities Fund, Covid Restart Funds and Canada Community Building Fund? Covid funds need to be spent soon, don't they? Will be addressed during budget planning.

Councillor Pownall – Verbal

- Spray Park construction going well.
- This past weekend, 8 Volunteer Firefighters completed Level 2 training in automobile extraction.

Councillor Metcalf – Verbal

- The next West Boundary Community Forest meeting is on October 17th at 6:30pm in Greenwood.
- West Boundary Community Forest grant disbursement applications close on October 15, 2023.
- UBCM Convention summary:
 - Talking with other municipalities (even smaller towns), has noticed lots are dealing with similar issues: homeless, drugs, mental health. We are super fortunate to not have these issues in Midway.
 - Theft is also becoming a very large issue everywhere.

Mayor McMynn – Verbal

- UBCM Convention Summary:
 - Highway 3 Meeting, Sunday evening. Five priorities for improvement: Creston Highway 3 alignment, Eastbound passing lane west of Fernie, Northbound passing lane near Brilliant dam, Yak River crossing curves and Whipsaw Creek (Princeton).
 - Highway 3 Tourism, was dismissed regarding a safety concern near the Osoyoos viewpoint but will continue to push the topic.
 - Highway 3 Tourism has secured \$283,000 from various grant sources.
 - TOTA will be absorbed by Destination BC.
 - Alberta has plans to twin Highway 3 from Medicine Hat to the BC border. We will probably see a push to do the same in BC. Mayor of Fruitvale intends to bring up improvements from Greenwood on, at next meeting.
 - Positive meeting with Minister of Municipal Affairs, Anne Kang.
 - Minister of Agriculture, we need a plan for removing land from ALC.
 - Minister of Forests, Dan McMaster did a phenomenal job at the meeting.
 - Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture, positive discussion points but no help for funding sources provided.
 - Breakfast sessions were great, good presentations and networking.
 - Oktoberfest at the Museum, great event but got cold. Committee will consider afternoon event next year.

Question Period

When it comes to the adoption of the previous meeting minutes, how come the standard procedure of asking if there are any errors or omissions is not being followed? Yes, done before but missed this time.

Has anyone checked with the BC Government regarding any covenants on the airport land? Yes, Wendy

When trying to organize the WBCF Shareholders meeting, did you know you only need 2 representatives to vote? One from Midway, one from Greenwood.

Financial Report – NoneBylaws & Policies

- a) Bylaw 551 – A bylaw to exempt properties used for philanthropic or other not for profit corporation from taxation on both land and improvement for the year 2024.

Moved/Seconded that Bylaw 551 – A bylaw to exempt properties used for philanthropic or other not for profit corporation from taxation on both land and improvement for the year 2024 be **ADOPTED** this 3rd day of October, 2023. **Carried**

066-2023

- b) Bylaw 552 – A bylaw to exempt properties used for public worship from taxation on both land and improvements for the year 2024.

Moved/Seconded that Bylaw 552 – A bylaw to exempt properties used for public worship from taxation on both land and improvements for the year 2024 be **ADOPTED** this 3rd day of October, 2023. **Carried**

067-2023

- c) Bylaw 553 – A bylaw to exempt properties used for public athletic or recreational purposes from taxation on both land and improvements for the year 2024.

Moved/Seconded that Bylaw 553 – A bylaw to exempt properties used for public athletic or recreational purposes from taxation on both land and improvements for the year 2024 be **ADOPTED** this 3rd day of October, 2023. **Carried**

068-2023

Planning – NoneBudgets/Accounts

Mayor McMynn asked why we are paying the RDKB for a Sewer Debt? CAO explained the debt runs through the Regional District and they pay the Municipal Finance Authority of BC.

Councillor Metcalf asked if the new Bylaw Officer would be coming to the next Council meeting? She will be doing a report to the CAO, which will come to one of the next Council meetings.

Councillor Willsey asked what the Duraglass Composites vault is for? It is a cremation vault for the Cemetery, the costs will be recovered in the Cemetery fees.

Moved/Seconded that budgets and accounts totaling \$237,495.83 be drawn on the general account and be paid. **Carried**

Correspondence for Info Only

Moved/Seconded that the following Correspondence for Info Only item:

- a) Regional District of Kootenay Boundary – Building Inspection Report to the end of August 2023 be rec'd and filed. **Carried**

Correspondence for Info Only – to be held for two weeks only.

Moved/Seconded that the following Correspondence for Info Only – to be held for two weeks only items:

- a) Youth Parliament of B.C. Alumni Society – British Columbia Youth Parliament, 95th Parliament (brochure on file)
 b) Mitzi Dean, Ministry of Children and Family Development – Celebrating October as Foster Family Month
 be rec'd and filed. **Carried**

Martin Fromme leaves at 20:34 hours.

Moved/Seconded that Council move In-Camera at 20:34 hours under Section 90(1)(e) Acquisition, disposition of land or improvements.

Return to Regular Meeting at 21:00 hours.

Adjournment

Moved to adjourned at 21:00 hours.