

Mayor, Doug McMynn opened the Regular Meeting of Council at 19:03 hours on March 25, 2024, 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 and Metcalf

Teleconference: Councillor Pownall

Staff: Lisa Teggarty, CAO
Cam Kamigochi, Administrative Assistant

Delegation: Brenda Steer, Treasurer & Chelsey Boersma, Director – Midway Public Library

Gallery: Martin Fromme, Ron Nocair, Mary Lautard

Introduction of Late Items – None

Adoption of Agenda

Moved/Seconded that the March 25, 2024, Regular Meeting agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Delegation

Brenda Steer & Chelsey Boersma, Midway Public Library. A copy of the library's budget and proposal letter was provided to Council. Brenda stated the library has been struggling for many years and they are the point where closure is a reality unless they receive a substantial increase in unrestricted funding. They have restricted funds obtained from grant applications, but they do not allow the library to use those funds for operations (wages, utilities, supplies, etc.). They are running a \$20,000 - \$30,000 deficit each year which is no longer feasible. They received a one-time grant from the BC Gov't and were granted permission to use it for operation expenses, due to their closure concerns. Mayor McMynn asked if they have applied to the West Boundary Community Forest for funding opportunities? Chelsey stated she is working on an application for this year's funding, but the funds are restricted and cannot be used for operations. Mayor McMynn asked if they've reached out to Roly Russell. Brenda said they have not, but it is on their to do list. Brenda said the province expects municipalities will cover 80% of a library's budget. Councillor Willsey was concerned to see how little the Regional District contributes, considering the large area the library services. They will be requesting more this year from the RDKB. Chelsey stated that the service agreement the library has is with the Village of Midway. They are supposed to be charging RDKB Area "E" residents a membership fee. The Grant-In-Aid they receive from the RDKB is to offset the membership fees for Area "E" residents. The library is therefore asking if the Village will work with the RDKB to fund the library? Council agrees that they will talk to the RDKB, but they would like the library to be a part of the conversation and to continue to reach out to the RDKB as well. Council will include the library's funding request in their 2024 budget discussions.

Question Period – None

Adoption of Minutes

Moved/Seconded that the minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Moved/Seconded that the minutes from the Special Meeting of March 12, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Business Arising

Regular Meeting of March 4, 2024 (Page 6872 – 6873) – None

Special Meeting of March 12, 2024 (Page 6874) – None

New and Unfinished Business

- a) Anitra Winje, Corporate Officer, RDKB – Consent for RDKB Bylaw 1867. Council has already approved this Bylaw; however, the Ministry has requested the RDKB to combine the two amendments (deletion of the sunset clause and an increase to the annual requisition limit) to the Boundary Integrated Watershed Service into one bylaw. The funding has not changed and is for Council's information. Council discussed and do not have an issue with the changes to the bylaw.
- b) Bylaw Officer Report. Council would like to invite the Bylaw Officer to the next meeting to address any areas she requires guidance on.

Correspondence

- a) Desiree King, Parade Marshal, Vice President Greenwood Board of Trade – Greenwood Founders Day Parade 2024. Council directed staff to send a thank you letter for the invitation; Council will be considering a float. Bring topic back to a future meeting.
- b) Greenwood Elementary School – Community Connect Fair. Council directed staff to send a thank you letter but due to short notice and staff being busy with budget and audit, the Village will not be able to participate.

Administrator's Report – Written Report on file

1. Community Centre project – the closing date for the bids has been extended by 2 weeks, to April 16th, to accommodate the number of questions and queries from contractors and sub-contractors. Wendy Higashi has been working with Cover to answer questions on a timely manner, so as to not to delay it further. The end of the Query Period for the bidders is on April 9th.
2. Bylaw 559, 2024 – Midway Official Community Plan - The proposed Bylaw and schedules have been made available for public viewing. No formal questions have been received at the Village office to-date.

3. Strategic Planning – Tracey Lorensen has provided a revised draft based on the Strategic Planning workshop. CAO added a couple of items, that Council deemed important at the workshop. Once the draft is complete, it will be forwarded to Council for review. In future, when a staff report is provided to Council, it will refer to Council's strategic priorities, which will assist Council in decision-making.
4. Accessibility Advisory Committee – The first accessibility meeting was held on March 19th. Items discussed included Terms of reference, Accessibility framework, Logo and letter of support for Sparc Library grant. The Committee members who have volunteered to be on this committee bring a broad range of experience and knowledge.
5. Year-end 2023 – Working on final journal entries and reconciliations but we are on target to hand over the Trial Balance to the auditors, next week. Audit is planned for the week of 8th April.
6. CAO will be taking some time off next week for Spring break but will be available if staff need help with anything.
7. Deputy Finance position closing date on Monday. Next steps are to set up interviews.
8. Spray Park opening – staff discussed signage at the monthly Health and Safety meeting on 20th March. Feedback from Council on the proposed opening will be needed. CAO will bring a draft plan for Council consideration.
9. Infrastructure Canada Disaster Mitigation Adaption Fund grant - Kettle River Flood Protection – Funder is still working on the review of application. They confirmed that assessment of all projects submitted is almost finalized. Once the assessments have been completed and decisions have been made, Infrastructure Canada will inform all applicants of the results of their respective application(s).
10. Bylaw Officer – Completed Bylaw Officer Level 2 Compliance course.
11. Email correspondence re: Annual emergency preparedness Fair – carried forward from last meeting: Trails to the Boundary are hosting the 5th annual emergency preparedness fair Sunday, April 7th, at the fairgrounds pavilion in Rock Creek. The event runs from 11-2. They feel that representation from the Midway Garden would be beneficial to Midway as well as west boundary communities. In Councillor Dunsdon's absence, she is wondering if someone else would be able to represent this brilliant project. Food security is an ongoing, ever-increasing issue for us all. Councillor Dunsdon will be here during the time after all and will see if he can make it.

Mayor and Council Reports

Councillor Metcalf – Verbal

- West Boundary Community Forest Spring Funding intake will run from March 15 – April 15, 2024.
- Next West Boundary Community Forest meeting, April 30, 6:30pm, in Greenwood.
- Disc golf project is progressing. Volunteers are needed, can the Village spread the word? Newsletter, flyer, social media? Yes.

Councillor Pownall – None

Councillor Willsey - Verbal

- Still uncertain where we go on the Diversification project after the Lochaven presentation. Will they provide us with a plan or direction? CAO has received some information from them, she will review and report back to Council.
- Still waiting on the graph of the historical water usage.
- In reading the OCP, there is a desire for a tree planting program to create a village shade canopy. It would help with water conservation; deciduous trees would help with wildfire control and add to the beautification of the village. It would also contribute towards the Climate Action Charter that the Village signed on for. Councillor Dunsdon said Public Works is looking into adding trees on village property. Councillor Metcalf remembers a similar program, but it did lead to problems as trees were planted in places that led to issues as they grew. A similar program would need to be planned properly with consideration for powerlines & property lines.

Councillor Dunsdon – Verbal

- Has two meetings Wednesday at the RDKB, policy/personnel and board meeting.
- Provided indemnification policy to CAO.
- Community Garden is moving along well out of winter.

Mayor McMynn – Verbal

- Thanked Village staff and everyone else who helped and attended the Celebration of Life ceremony for James G McMynn over the weekend.

Question Period

Martin Fromme concurred with Councillor Metcalf about the previous tree planting program. Water and sewer lines need to be considered as well. Mayor McMynn also commented that private v's Village property needs to be planned as well. A tree planted today could be unwanted in 30 years as it grows. Trees planted under a Village program could be assumed it would be cut down at Village expense.

Bylaws & Policies

- a) Bylaw 559, 2024 – A Bylaw to Establish an Official Community Plan for the Village of Midway Bylaw No. 559 for second reading.

Moved/Seconded that Bylaw 559 – A Bylaw to Establish an Official Community Plan for the Village of Midway Bylaw No. 559, 2024 be **READ A SECOND TIME** this 25th day of March 2024. **Carried**

Planning – None

Budgets/Accounts

Moved/Seconded that budgets and accounts totaling \$144,776.23 to be drawn on the general account and be paid. **Carried**

Correspondence for Info Only

Moved/Seconded the following Correspondence for Info Only items:

a) Regional District of Kootenay Boundary – Building Inspection Report to the end of February 2024.
be rec'd and filed.

Carried

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

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

a) Regional District of Kootenay Boundary – Boundary Freshet Dashboard March 19th, 2024
be rec'd and filed.

Carried

Moved/Seconded that Council move In-Camera at 19:55 hours under

- Section 90(1)(e) – acquisition, disposition of land or improvements.

Carried

Martin Fromme, Ron Nocair, Mary Lautard, Chelsey Boersma, Brenda Steer leaves at 19:38

Return to Regular Meeting at 20:14 hours.

Adjournment

Moved to adjourned at 20:14 hours.

Mayor McMynn

CAO Teggarty