Minutes of the SPECIAL MEETING of the DISTRICT OF MISSION COUNCIL held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Hall, 8645 Stave Lake Street, Mission, British Columbia, on Monday, February 25, 2019 commencing at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Pam Alexis
Councillor Cal Crawford
Councillor Mark Davies
Councillor Jag Gill
Councillor Carol Hamilton
Councillor Ken Herar
*Councillor Danny Plecas

Staff Members Present: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer
Jennifer Russell, Corporate Officer
Ken Bourdeau, Manager of Long Range Planning and Special Projects
Michael Boronowski, Manager of Civic Engagement & Corporate Initiatives
Kirsten Hargreaves, Manager of Social Development
Jennifer Ortman, Social Development Housing Coordinator
Maureen Sinclair, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture
Christine Brough, Executive Assistant

Guests Present: Staff Sergeant Steve Crawford, Operations NCO
*Sanjay Gulati, Executive Director Mission Community Service Society
*Paul Horn, Bootstrap Consulting
Judith Ray, Chair of the Sustainable Housing Committee
Laura Wilson, Early Childhood Coordinator, Ministry of Child and Family Development

*Present for a portion of the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Davies, and RESOLVED:
1. That the following items be added to this agenda:
Item 4. Waive Notice of Meeting (Closed)

Item 5. Resolution to Exclude the Public

2. That the February 25, 2019 Special Council Agenda be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

3. NEW BUSINESS

Social Development Discussion

*Early Childhood/Families: Early Development Instrument (EDI), Middle Development Instrument (MDI), SD75 Partnerships & Trauma Informed Practice*

The following documents were provided as background information:

- School District 75 – Mission Wave 6 EDI Results Community Profile;
- School District 75 – Mission MDI Grade 4 School District and Community Report 2017/2018; and

Ms. Wilson provided an overview of the most recent EDI and MDI results for Mission and stressed the importance of providing children and parents with the support necessary for children to thrive. Discussion ensued on the challenges facing Mission families, funding limitations, and the programs currently in operation within the community which address these outstanding needs.

Mr. Gulati joined the meeting at 1:47 p.m. and Staff Sergeant Crawford joined the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

Discussion ensued on upcoming changes to the Ministry of Child and Family Development and the imminent elimination of Ms. Wilson’s position. Council expressed concerns about the impact that this will have on the community and asked staff to provide an update on social development related issues within the next six months, including the impact on the community of no longer having an Early Childhood Coordinator.

*Sustainable Housing Committee Recommendations and Current Work Discussion*

The Manager of Social Development provided background on homelessness and affordable housing and outlined the roles of the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

Ms. Hargreaves identified the role of the municipality as follows:

- to facilitate housing options for the most vulnerable low income persons and households to those working full time at jobs that are still not able to pay the rent (and food);
- to encourage a greater mix (scattered housing and mixed use neighbourhoods);
- to work with community agencies to enhance services;
- to amend plans, bylaws and policies to encourage affordable housing;
- to protect our current (albeit limited) supply of affordable rental units; and
- to promote incentives to build affordable units in Mission (donation of land, assistance in development fees and costs, zoning/regulatory incentives, etc.)

Mr. Horn joined the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Ms. Orman provided an update on the housing continuum, the challenges presented by the lack of both affordable and adequate housing, and her new role with the District of Mission as the Social Development Housing Coordinator. She noted that there is a new requirement by the province that will require local governments to collect information necessary to identify current and projected housing needs.

Ms. Ray reviewed the Sustainable Housing Committee’s guiding principles with Council, identifying them as follows:

- safe and secure housing is a basic human need;
- poverty drastically limits housing options for people and increases vulnerability for exploitation;
- market housing will not meet the needs of those in poverty without financial and/or land resources from government – local and beyond;
- partnerships between government, developers, and non-profits facilitate innovative solutions; and
- multi-family housing developments can accommodate mixed incomes effectively with incentives to assist the costs of some units.

Councillor Plecas joined the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

Ms. Ray stated that the following are urgently needed to support the work of the Sustainable Housing Committee and its recommendations:

- District land immediately needed to increase shelter spaces – $15 million project approved;
- District partnership required to create “Living Room” space along with shower and laundry facilities to have basic human needs met;
- District partnership required to create youth shelter spaces in Mission;
- Support for rental housing operators in accessing federal and provincial sources for renovating and or retrofitting of existing housing stock;
- Development of policies to protect existing tenants from renoviction;
- Active collaboration with partners including Fraser Health to advocate for detox and rehab supports in Mission; and
- Active collaboration with partners including BC Housing and local housing providers to advocate for Third Stage Housing,
Ms. Ray also identified the following as critical to success:

- encouraging density bonus to create at least 10% affordable housing units in all new multifamily developments;
- incentivizing creative density – duplex/triplex to gently densify single-family neighbourhoods and create inclusive communities; and
- using District owned land directly and/or as asset leverage for the development of affordable housing.

In response to questions from Council, Mr. Gulati confirmed that there are 44 beds at Rivendell, all of which are at capacity.

**Stone Soup Update**

A background memo was provided regarding the Stone Soup initiative and containing the following requests for Council’s consideration:

That the District of Mission undertake a Global Social Development Planning process to ensure that Community Wellness projects and efforts are:

- adequately funded and resourced so that they may be sustained in a longer-term;
- coordinated to ensure maximum effectiveness;
- inventoried to identify gaps and assets;
- in line with Mission’s Official Community Plan and Council’s Strategic Plan;
- in line with community expectations;
- employing best practices and knowledge; and
- engaging the community to the highest possible degree.

That the District of Mission include the following in the planning process:

- housing;
- food security;
- education and literacy;
- Fraser Health and other Community Health providers (mental health prevention and wellness, and healthcare)
- specific services to children, youth, seniors, immigrants, re-integrating offenders, women and people of First Nations ancestry;
- faith and spiritual community;
- employment training and development;
- volunteer development; and
- District of Mission departments (Recreation, Policing, Social Development, Fire and Rescue, Planning).
That Council meet with representatives of the BC Government and Fraser Health to identify opportunities to provide or augment services in our area that include:

- youth housing;
- youth detox and treatment; and
- transitional support services.

That Council consider budgeting an amount of on-going funding support (via gaming funds) for locally developed social initiatives that include:

- Mission ECG program;
- Getting Ahead Training and the development of a Circles of Support program;
- enhanced “sharing” website that will include the ability to share:
  - food;
  - volunteer time;
  - affordable housing; and
  - donations of furniture, clothing and similar.

That Council make the development of Third Stage housing a priority in Mission.

Ms. Hargreaves and Mr. Horn provided an overview of the Stone Soup initiative, its history, its current work and the next steps.

The Manager of Civic Engagement left the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Discussion ensued on the need for funding, and for planning and coordination with connections to Mission’s other plans, as well as advocacy, as well as Council’s continued support in order to advance these initiatives, and it was:

Moved by Councillor Plecas, seconded by Councillor Gill, and

RESOLVED: That staff bring forward a report to support the Stone Soup Initiative and Social Development planning for Council’s consideration.

CARRIED

4. WAIVE NOTICE OF MEETING

Moved by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Crawford, and

RESOLVED: That pursuant to Section 127(4) of the Community Charter, notice of meeting is hereby waived for this Closed Council Meeting on the 25th day of February 2019.

CARRIED

5. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC

Moved by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Herar, and
RESOLVED: That, pursuant to Sections 90 and 92 of the Community Charter, this Special Meeting of Council be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to the following:

- Section 90(1)(g) of the Community Charter – litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality; and
- Section 90(1)(i) of the Community Charter – the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

CARRIED

6. ADJOURN TO CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Plecas, seconded by Councillor Davies, and

RESOLVED: That the Special Council meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

PAMELA ALEXIS
MAYOR

JENNIFER RUSSELL
CORPORATE OFFICER