
Highlights of the Regular Council Meeting January 21, 2013

Fraser River Heritage Park – 2012 Work Plan

The Mission Heritage Association has an agreement with the District to maintain and operate Fraser River Heritage Park. Council commended the board members, staff and volunteers of the Mission Heritage Association for the significant efforts they undertake to maintain, manage and program the park on behalf of residents and visitors to the District.

Town Hall Meetings

The Town Hall meetings for 2013 will be held on January 24, April 25, September 12 and December 12 at 7:00 in the Council Chambers of Municipal Hall. There will be advance notice and advertising for each of these meetings.

The public is welcome to discuss any topic of interest with Council at those meetings.

Transit Future Plan

After a close vote Council has decided to adopt the Transit Future Plan (TFP) as the guiding document for transit expansion and investment in Mission. The TFP lays the groundwork and vision for the Mission/Abbotsford transit network 25 years from now and describes the services, infrastructure and investments required to achieve the vision. There are no financial implications associated with the adoption of the TFP, as any expansions will be subject to annual budget approval.

Full versions of the two documents: “Transit Future Plan: Abbotsford-Mission” and “Transit Future Plan Funding Strategies: Central Fraser Valley” are available on the District website and the BC Transit website at www.transitbc.com

Proposed Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations (Federal)

The federal government has proposed new regulations to replace the current Marihuana Medical Access Regulations. The new regulations will no longer authorize individuals to grow medical marihuana and will only authorize larger scale licensed producers. In light of these proposed regulations, Council has rescinded its previous resolutions to amend the Zoning Bylaw to permit licensed medical marihuana grow operations as an accessory use in the Rural, Rural Residential and Suburban zones. Staff will conduct a review of the Zoning Bylaw once the proposed regulations are enacted, which is currently thought to be in March 2014.

Sports Field Usage Issues

Parks, Recreation and Culture staff have been meeting with representatives of various minor sports organizations to address some of the concerns raised at the October 4, 2012 Town Hall meeting. Collaboration will continue and staff will be working with the user groups to try to resolve these concerns over both the short and long term.

The required drainage works on Field 2 at the Sports Park will be completed before the next baseball season, and will be paid for through the existing Sports Park operating budget.

Aesthetic Improvements to Cedar Street Stormwater Detention Pond

After a close vote Council has directed staff to work with the Gorilla Gardeners to provide aesthetic improvements to the stormwater detention pond located on the east side of Cedar Street, south of Tunbridge Avenue.

Joint Utility Agreement – New Cost Sharing Formula

The new Joint Sewer Capital Cost Sharing Formula has now been incorporated into the Water Supply and Distribution and Sewage Treatment Systems Ownership & Governance Agreement as Amendment #3. The Agreement is in the process of being signed by both the City of Abbotsford and the District of Mission. This new formula should reduce Mission's future regional sewer costs.

Fraser House Society Lease of 4th Avenue Property

The District's lease agreement with the Fraser House Society for the property commonly referred to as the Fraser House (33063 – 4th Avenue) has been renewed for another five year term.

Downtown Planning Process Update

The Downtown Planning Charrette held on January 16 and 17 at the Leisure Centre was extremely well attended. The Background Report and Design Brief produced by the consultant that were used at the Charrette can be found on the District website on the "MissionCity Downtown Planning" page.

Audit Planning Communication

The District's auditor, BDO Canada LLP, has provided Council with a copy of their 2012 Audit Planning Communication report. This report is provided in advance of the upcoming audit of the District's 2012 fiscal year, and outlines BDO's plan and approach for the audit.

Highway 11 Sanitary Sewer Forcemain Relocation

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) is currently upgrading the Mission Bridge to meet seismic requirements. The works will encroach on the alignment of the District's existing sanitary sewer forcemain, which could potentially cause settlement damage and a higher risk of failure. The District is obligated to relocate the forcemain so that MoTI can complete their works.

Civic Consultants Abbotsford Ltd. has been awarded \$14,541 out of the 2013 Sewer Capital Contingency Fund to complete a detailed design for the forcemain relocation. A further report regarding project construction estimates will be forwarded to Council once the detailed design is completed.

Updating Mission's Mapping Contour Lines

The District's current mapping contour lines (the lines on a map that join points of equal elevation) have not been updated for over 30 years. Various developments over this time have altered the land characteristics, including ground elevation within the urban areas, meaning that the old maps do not match current conditions or the 2012 aerial photographic maps.

Council has approved spending \$27,212 from the Improvements Next to Subdivisions capital budget to update the maps.

**Next Regular Council Meeting is
Monday, February 4, 2013 – 6:00 pm**

Council Chambers, Municipal Hall
8645 Stave Lake Street, Mission, BC