

VILLAGE OF RADIUM HOT SPRINGS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 23rd, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor Clara Reinhardt, Councillors Logan, Shudra (via Zoom), Gray and McCauley, Erin Palashniuk, Kristin McCauley, Kent Kebe, Arne Dohlen, Jill Logan, and (via Zoom) – Haley Grinder, Wayne Holmgren, Christi Ferguson-Huston, and Karen Sharp

1. ORDER: Mayor Reinhardt brought the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Mayor Reinhardt acknowledged the First Nation's heritage for the lands upon which this meeting is being held. Mayor Reinhardt also brought forward the suggestion of having a plaque installed in the Chambers regarding land acknowledgment.

2. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Resolved that we add the following addition to the Agenda:

- a) Item 9(f) – Public Library Funding resolution
(Moved by Councillor McCauley) Carried.

3. MINUTES:

Resolved, that we approve the Council meeting minutes from February 9th, 2022, as circulated.
(Moved by Councillor McCauley) Carried.

4. DELEGATIONS:

None

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councillor Gray provided an update on the RDEK budget meetings, physician recruitment success and the Columbia Valley transit extension proposal. Mayor Reinhardt commented that the Kootenay East Regional Hospital District Board elected a new chair, Mayor David Wilks. Gary Jackman remains as the vice-chair. Mayor Reinhardt also advised that there were over 1000 responses received regarding the CV Recreational Planning Initiative's Steamboat Mountain area survey.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS / BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- a) "WHEREAS cost is a significant barrier to people accessing contraception, particularly to people with low incomes, youth, and people from marginalized communities;

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WHEREAS providing no-cost prescription contraception has been shown to improve health outcomes for parents and infants by reducing the risks associated with unintended pregnancy, and is likely to reduce direct medical costs on the provincial health system;

WHEREAS contraceptive methods targeted at men (such as condoms or vasectomies) are available at low cost or are covered by BC's Medical Services Plan, whereas contraceptive methods for people with uteruses (such as birth control pills, intra-uterine devices, or hormone injections) have high up-front costs, making access to contraception unequal and gendered;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council directs the Mayor to write to the Provincial Government to urge them make all prescription contraception in BC available at no cost under the Medical Services Plan.

(Moved by Councillor Gray)
Councillor Shudra)

Carried (opposed - Mayor Reinhardt and

b) Resolved that Village staff draft a bylaw with the intent of reducing the speed limit on Forsters Landing Road from 50km/h to 40 km/h.

(Moved by Councillor Logan)

Carried

7. BYLAWS

a) Resolved, that we provide two readings to the Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 471, 2022.

(Moved by Councillor Gray)

Carried

b) Resolved, that we provide two readings to the Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 472, 2022.

(Moved by Councillor Logan)

Carried

Resolved that the public hearing for both bylaws will be held March 23rd, 2022, at 7pm in the council chambers.

(Moved by Councillor Logan)

Carried

8. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS:

None

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9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Resolved that we approve Development Permit No. 164,2022
(Moved by Councillor Gray) Carried
- b) Resolved that we approve Development Variance Permit No. 40, 2022
(Moved by Councillor McCauley) Carried
- c) Council directed staff to add, as a future task, the creation of a Recognition and Naming policy.
- d) Council received public works report.
- e) Council resolved to bring forward the following resolution to AKBLG and UBCM regarding Emergency Medical Aid and First Responder Re-Imbursement

WHEREAS many rural areas in the Province are isolated with limited communications and large distances from established communities, there is a need in extenuating circumstances for Emergency Medical Aid First Responders (EMAFR) to attend emergency scenes at a considerable distance from the station. These 'Out of Jurisdiction' responses require both skilled personnel and a rescue vehicle and can be of several hours duration. In many instances, the EMAFR are located closer to the scene of an incident than BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) and can provide a response sooner than the BCAS;

AND WHEREAS during these 'Out of Jurisdiction' responses, Fire Departments are re-imbursed for activities under Emergency Management BC Policy 2.07, Road and Medical Rescue; while Emergency Medical Aid First Responders are not re-imbursed for their activities at the same scene;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Emergency Management BC be requested to amend Road and Medical Rescue Policy 2.07 to include Emergency Medical Aid First Responders as eligible for re-imbusement under Section 2.07.3 for extenuating circumstances.

(Moved by Councillor Gray) Carried

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f) Council resolved to bring forward the following resolution to UBCM regarding library funding:

Whereas libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by levies paid by local governments, and where provincial library funding has remained stagnant for the past 10 years;

And whereas public libraries are central to communities, providing equitable access to vital resources, including internet, computers, digital library tools, and in-person services from expert staff;

And whereas public libraries provide British Columbians with low-barrier services, that support job seekers and small businesses, that increase literacy in communities, that advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and that promote equity and inclusion;

Therefore be it resolved that The Village of Radium Hot Springs and Radium Library Board urges the Government of British Columbia to provide clarity on the funding formula and equity in funding for public libraries in BC;

And be it further resolved that the Province ensure that BC Libraries will henceforth receive regular increases to Provincial Government funding reflecting the BC Consumer Price Index in subsequent years.

(Moved by Councillor Gray) Carried

10. SUNDRY MATTERS & QUESTIONS:

Councillor Gray commented on the current housing needs and the impact of STR's on housing in the Village. Councillor Gray suggested a committee be formed with staff, however CAO Dohlen advised that staff time was limited right now. Mayor Reinhardt advised that the housing needs report will be tabled in mid March and following that Council needs to work with local economic development staff with the possibility of hiring a consultant.

Councillor Gray gave a shout out to all local Olympians, including his niece Cassidy Gray.

Councillor Logan asked for a sheep update. Kent Kebe advised that hill monitoring was going well and that they are seeing approximately 80-105 at the feeding station. No incidents in two weeks. Kent is also on a weekly call with MOTI.

CFO Sharp advised donations were coming in daily. Mayor Reinhardt advised that Minister Fleming was meeting with an environmental group and the potential for funding for the overpass project would be discussed. Tourism Radium is also creating educational postings via social media in order to keep up the interest in donating for the proposed overpass.

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Kent also provided an STR update, advising that approximately 52 licences have been issued or are in the process of being issued. As a result of applications, 24 hour call contractors and cleaning businesses looking after STR's are now being identified and are applying for business licences. CFO Sharp advised that RMI will continue for another year and that a new resort strategy will be required. Karen also advised that a village staff member is also looking for housing. CAO Dohlen advised that the CBT community meeting date is being decided upon. CVP reporter Hayley Grinder asked for clarification on the proposed new speed limit on Forsters and the resolution to have first responders paid for calls outside of Radium's jurisdiction.

11. NOTICE OF COMMITTEE, SPECIAL & CLOSED MEETINGS:

None

12. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm.

HEREBY CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Mayor Clara Reinhardt



Clerk, Jill Logan