



**MINUTES
DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 24, 2016
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL HALL
7360 COLUMBIA STREET**

PRESENT: Mayor Hank Bood and Councillors Dennis Dugas, Pat Corbett-Labatt, Jessie Hemphill (via telephone), Rick Marcotte, Fred Robertson (via telephone) and John Tidbury

ALSO PRESENT: Allison McCarrick, Chief Administrative Officer; Heather Nelson-Smith, Director of Corporate Services; Adrian Maas, Director Financial Services Abbas Farahbakhsh, Director Operational Services.

REGRETS: None

MEDIA: None **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** One

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bood called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Addendum: Councillor Robertson requested a discussion regarding the soccer fields at Port Hardy Secondary School.

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the agenda for the Committee of the Whole May 24, 2016 be accepted as amended.

COW 2016-018
APPROVAL OF
AGENDA AS
AMENDED

C. STAFF REPORTS

1. Adrian Maas, Director of Finance (May 19/16) re: Tourism – Port Hardy and Visitor Information Center. Overview.

Moved/Seconded/Carried

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend:
THAT Council consider establishing a Tourism Advisory Committee and discuss with the Chamber of Commerce (Visitor Information Center) the additional duty of marketing utilizing Municipal Regional District Tax) MRDT funds.

COW 2016-019
RECOMMEND
ESTABLISHING
A TOURISM
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

D. DELEGATION

1. Carly Pereboom, Visitor Information Center – 2016 budget.
Mrs. Pereboom presented to Council the 2015 Visitor Centre annual report. This includes the following highlights:

- Visitor access to information is up 25%.
- The Chamber and the Visitor Centre are working cohesively together to promote Port Hardy.
- The shoulder season has been extended.
- Visits are lasting longer than 4 days in Port Hardy and surrounding area.
- Readily available print material has been prepared for visitors.
- Marketing online has increased.
- Social media has been utilized more and more traffic is coming to those sites.

VISITOR
INFORMATION
CENTRE
REPORT

In addition there was discussion on what the Visitor Centre would like to achieve in the future:

- Implementation of the 4 year strategic vision continues.
- Increasing advertising overseas.
- Increasing the MRDT FROM 2% TO 3%.
- Increasing staffing levels to support services.
- Marketing and collaborating with local businesses.

Council thanked Carly and staff for their work with the Chamber and the Visitor Centre. Council is also looking forward to how the District can support the Visitor Centre through the Tourism Advisory Committee.

E. NEW BUSINESS

Addendum:

PHSS Soccer Fields

ADDENDUM
PHSS SOCCER
FIELDS

Councillor Robertson reported that he has been approached by the Youth Soccer Association about the state of the fields currently being used at Port Hardy Secondary School. The fields are in disrepair and require extensive work to bring them up to a standard to increase their life span.

Councillor Robertson also reported that it has been the topic of conversation at the Parks and Recreation Committee, and that he and Councillor Dugas have facilitated a meeting with Darby Gildersleeve and the Youth Soccer Association to discuss how the fields can be addressed.

Councillor Robertson is asking for Council permission to attend a School District 85 board meeting to discuss potential options to remedy the situation in June. Councillor Robertson also reported that perhaps the reciprocal agreement could be considered for the soccer fields and that the Council could forgive the metered water amount so that the micro irrigation could be utilized.

Council expressed concern over the District providing services to the School District and the possible implications that may arise maintaining fields for another entity that taxes the residents of the District and should maintain their own facilities. The District also has facilities that require attention on District property.

Councillor Robertson stated that he does not expect the District to maintain or repair the fields but there may be a solution to work together on longer term remedies.

Mayor Bood stated that Councillor Robertson could attend the board meeting to discuss the issues, and that he could not offer District support.

Mayor Bood requested that Councillor Robertson and Dugas prepare a report for Council to consider with recommendations that Council can review.

Mayor Bood also asked that Councillors prepare their items in advance of meetings, preferably in writing, so that Council can review them and make decisions at the meeting in which they are introduced.

F. ADJOURNMENT

COW 2016-020
ADJOURNMENT

THAT the Committee of the Whole adjourns.

Time: 6:50 pm

CORRECT

APPROVED

Original signed by:

DIRECTOR
OF CORPORATE SERVICES

MAYOR

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