

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

*An information report summarizing the Regular meeting of Council held December 14, 2020.
This is not the official minutes. For more information, please contact the Director of Corporate Services at 250.720.2823 or e-mail: twyla_slonski@portalberni.ca*

■ PUBLIC INPUT

Chris Alemany addressed Council with respect to his correspondence urging Council to submit a resolution for consideration to the 2021 virtual Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities conference requesting the province implement a 'Guaranteed Liveable Universal Basic Income' for all British Columbians.

Neil Anderson addressed Council regarding his outstanding concerns over renovations undertaken at the Kingsway Pub and Hotel.

■ DELEGATIONS

25 Year Employee Recognition Awards

Captain Randy Thoen, Port Alberni Fire Department was presented with a watch recognizing 25 years of service with the City.

Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce

Bill Collette provided an update on 2020 McLean Mill business operations and presented information regarding the 'Better Buy Port Alberni [BBPA]' website which offers a virtual shopping experience for a number of local businesses betterbuyportalberni.ca.

Sri Sanatan Dharam Society

Ashok Sharma, President of the Sri Sanatan Dharam Society – Alberni Temple requested Council provide a property tax exemption for their property at 4332 Scott Street. Council will review the current 'Permissive Tax Exemption' policy in relation to Mr. Sharma's request in advance of the 2022 application process.

■ STAFF REPORTS

2021 Council/Committee Schedules & Appointments

Council approved the Regular, Committee and Commission meeting schedules and appointments for the 2021 calendar year.

LGIA Leadership Forum | BCEDA Workshop

Council authorized Councillor Haggard's participation in the BC Economic Development Association - Building Strong Resilient Business Communities virtual workshop series January 11-21, 2021 and the annual Local Government Leadership Academy virtual forum February 3-4, 2021.

Bid for 2026 BC Summer Games

Council provided a resolution in support of the bid for Port Alberni to host the 2026 BC Summer Games as well as committing to an expenditure of \$55,000 cash and \$55,000 in-kind should the City be successful in its application.

Community Investment Program

Council approved the 2021 Community Investment Program Committee recommendations for the distribution of \$8,020.71 in-kind and \$6,941.00 in cash contributions as requested within the six applications received.

Facilities Operation Update

Council authorized the Director of Parks, Recreation and Heritage's request to grant staff the authority to modify facility operations as needed in response to COVID-19.

Dr. Hasselback presentation to Council June 24, 2019 – McLean Mill

Council received a report from the Director of Corporate Services in response to questions submitted by Mr. John Adams at Council's Regular meeting in November with regards to Dr. Hasselback's presentation to Council on June 24, 2019 regarding environmental issues at McLean Mill, the Council directives that followed, and the actions taken to date by staff.

Agricultural Land Reserve | McLean Mill

Council received a report from the Director of Corporate Services providing a cost estimate of approximately \$10,000 should Council elect to proceed with an application to exclude property located/designated ALR [McLean Mill]. Council directed staff to proceed with completing an application for exclusion.

3123 3rd Ave. & 4781 Margaret St. Update

Council received a report from the Director of Corporate Services regarding outstanding work required for buildings located at 3123 3rd Avenue & 4781 Margaret Street. Council directed staff to prepare a report for the January 11, 2021 Regular Council meeting outlining the options available to Council regarding property at 3123 3rd Avenue.

Total Debt Summary

Council received a report from the Director of Finance that outlined the City of Port Alberni's debt from borrowing, including projects with which the debt is associated.

McLean Mill – Oil Spill Response Update

The Chief Administrative Officer provided a report to Council regarding progress on the mitigation of damage caused by a release of bunker oil at McLean Mill. To date costs associated with the clean-up are \$1.25 million. Council directed that staff correspond with the federal government to request funding to assist the City with costs associated with its mitigation response and future Mill operations.

Small Business COVID-19 Support Measures

The Economic Development Manager provided a status update on small business COVID-19 support measures including costs associated with current and proposed economic development initiatives.

3118 3rd Avenue [Harbourview Apartments]

Given action taken by the property owner/managers in response to Council's Remedial Action Order, albeit outside of the extended deadline to complete, Council directed staff to refrain from considering additional enforcement measures so long as significant and appropriate progress continues to be made. Council will revisit this matter at its Regular meeting on January 11, 2021 to ensure remedial action requirements are continuing to be met.

■ BYLAWS

"Five Year Financial Plan 2020-2024 Amendment, Bylaw 5003-1" was introduced, read three times and adopted. Amendments made captured financial directives of Council made throughout the year.

■ CORRESPONDENCE

City of Port Moody

Council received a letter from the City of Port Moody requesting Council support the need for flood risk mitigation by writing to the provincial government requesting support through grants and funding for a green economic recovery.

Randy Reiffer

Council received a letter from Randy Reiffer requesting Council provide information related to the oil release at the McLean Mill National Historic Site, specifically with regards to costs and environmental consulting and reporting.

Chris Alemany

Council received an email from Chris Alemany urging Council to submit a resolution to the upcoming 2021 virtual Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities [AVICC] conference requesting the province implement a 'Guaranteed Livable Universal Basic Income' for all British Columbians. Council requested staff prepare a report regarding the AVICC resolution submissions process for Council's consideration in the New Year.

Roland Smith

Council received a letter from Roland Smith requesting the combined amount of current City debt and estimated servicing costs the City is faced with paying over the next three decades.

■ REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

The Director of Corporate Services provided a verbal report in follow-up to the advertisement inviting individuals to serve on City Council Committees and Commissions and confirmed the appointment of Ryan Hart to the Community Investment Program Committee.

■ NEW BUSINESS

Council requested letters be sent following the Tseshaht election offering congratulations to successful candidates and thanks to previous members of Council.

■ QUESTION PERIOD

Graham Hughes

Council received an email from Graham Hughes inquiring how to submit a claim to the City for replacement of his MacBook lost during the deconstruction of the camp at Roger Creek Park.

John Adams

Council received an email from John Adams regarding clean-up activity on two properties adjacent to McLean Mill and whether the City will be responsible for the costs.

■ PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

While City facilities remain closed to the public, citizens are reminded to continue to engage with City Council by submitting your comments/questions to council@portalberni.ca. Submissions received in advance of, or during a council meeting will be read out by City staff during 'Public Input' or during the 'Question Period'. Please identify your submission as either Public Input or a Question and submissions will be presented in the order that they are received. Individuals wishing to provide public input and/or questions of Council in real time [during Council's virtual meeting] we ask that you contact the Corporate Services department [250.723.2146] **no later than 9:00 am on the day of the meeting** in order to register and to discuss details on virtual participation. Please note that we will accommodate up to a maximum of four [4] individuals each re: public input/question period. We thank residents for their ongoing patience and cooperation as we continue to navigate through this difficult time.

Council Summary

is prepared following each regular Council meeting. It is posted on the City's website at www.portalberni.ca and distributed by e-mail. To be placed on the distribution list, please contact: twyla_slonski@portalberni.ca

Complete Council agendas

including all correspondence and reports are available at www.portalberni.ca Generally these are posted the Friday before each regular Council meeting and are archived on the site.

MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Thursday, December 17th

12:00 pm – Advisory Planning Commission
[Zoom Platform]

Wednesday, January 6th

7:00 pm – Alberni Valley Heritage Commission
[Zoom Platform]

Monday, January 11th

2:00 pm – Regular Council Meeting
[Zoom Platform]

**On behalf of Mayor, Council, and
City Staff – Happy Holidays**

