

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
2016-2020 FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN
HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016 AT 2:00 PM
IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT: Mayor Ruttan, Councillors McLeman, Minions, Paulson, Sauve and Washington

REGRETS: Councillor Alemany

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded:

That the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

B. DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

***NOTE: ALL PRESENTATIONS ARE INCLUDED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT
www.portalberni.ca**

Departmental Budget Presentations were provided by the following.

1. FIRE DEPARTMENT – Tim Pley, Acting City Manager/Fire Chief

The Acting City Manager/Fire Chief presented an overview of the Fire Department and confirmed a number of their long term financial strategies, including: maintain level of service, manage costs, extend the lives of fire engines, discontinue tender truck service, renewal of existing fire hall and partner where possible.

A 1.9% increase is proposed for 2016, which is primarily driven by collective agreement wage increases.

The Acting City Manager/Fire Chief reviewed both the proposed operating and capital budgets for the Fire Department. He explained in detail the current Fire Underwriters' Survey process and the potential impact to commercial and industrial insurance premiums depending on their findings.

In response to questions from Council, the Acting City Manager/Fire Chief confirmed the following:

- Fire prevention expenses include fire code inspections performed as part of business licensing.
- The fire safety message board project was mistakenly included in the 2016 budget but has since been removed.

In response to a question from Council, the Acting City Manager/Fire Chief outlined that the Fire Underwriters do not recognize service vehicles older than 20 years and explained that these vehicles are often bought by rural communities to be used as back up service vehicles. This type of use is permitted by the Fire Underwriters.

The Mayor invited questions and comments from the public. There were none.

C. COUNCIL REVIEW

Mayor Ruttan requested information regarding a \$30,000 grant received from Fortis BC.

D. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned at 2:35 p.m

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor

Clerk