

HIGHLIGHTS OF DEC. 14, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING

*To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, meetings use online video conferencing technology.
Watch City Council meetings live or view recordings at campbellriver.ca/webcasts.*

FINANCIAL UPDATES

- **2020-2029 Ten-Year Financial Plan amendments confirmed** – The amendments incorporate initiatives approved in 2020 that were unknown when the budget was adopted in December 2019. Initiatives include:
 - Funding for the new Qwalayu House development
 - Expansion of services for the recreation department’s restart plan
 - Decommissioning of the former water facility
 - Funding for supportive housing at 580 Dogwood St.
 - Housing Growth Review study
- **2021-2030 Ten-Year Financial Plan adopted** – The 2021 budget includes a 1.95 per cent tax increase. This equates to approximately \$41 on a Campbell River home of average value (estimated at \$442,000). Pressure on the City’s budget was relieved by using a portion of the \$4.6 million provincial COVID Safe Restart grant and an additional \$160,000 in property tax revenue related to new construction.
The City anticipates another challenging year in 2021 and is working to ensure Campbell River is well-positioned to adjust as the pandemic unfolds and eventually resolves. Council will meet early in the new year to carefully consider the use of the remaining \$3,178,000 in provincial restart funding to best benefit our community.
The 2021 budget includes more than \$1.24 million in service cuts (\$360,200 are permanent cost savings). The budget includes funding for outdoor pool operation (if public health restrictions allow) and a significant investment in downtown safety (select committee, matching grants for building and property improvements). The budget also funds a COVID-safe by-election and a riverside parklette and signs that promote safe, outdoor activity in Campbellton.
- **Building permit fee increase adopted** – Council approved increasing the City’s building permit fees in line with the average of comparable municipalities. Fee increases take effect on Jan. 1, 2021.
- **Evergreen reservoir upgrades** – Western Tank & Lining Ltd. will conduct work valued at up to \$387,381.41 to prevent leaks in the reservoir.
- **Traffic signal rebuild** – Daeco Installations Ltd. will rebuild the traffic signals at Dogwood Street and 13th Avenue. The work is valued at up to \$171,756.
- In response to a request from Tom Joyce to keep the **Ken Forde boat ramp** open all year, Council asked for a staff report outlining costs, including an update on launch fees at Discovery Harbour, and use of the salmon enhancement fund.

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquires by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

- **Secondary suite approved for 501 Maria Grove**
- **Duplex approved for 1905 Wood Road** – The proposal for a three-lot subdivision at this location will be a separate process and require a public hearing.
- **Rezoning considered for parking lot at 1047 Island Highway South** – The City purchased the residential property to include in future expansion of the Big Rock boat launch, and this application would rezone the property to permit future use for public parking. The proposed rezoning aligns with the Sustainable Official Community Plan. A public hearing will be scheduled in the new year.
- **Rezoning considered for 400 Arizona Drive** – The developer is applying for residential zoning that will exclude secondary suites and allow smaller property sizes for retirement-oriented single family and patio homes. A public hearing will be scheduled in the new year.
- **Rural lot subdivision considered for 6702 Island Highway** – A public hearing will be scheduled in the new year to consider a comprehensive plan for five-acre lots on this property.
- **Single-family neighbourhood considered for 6805 Island Highway** – A public hearing will be scheduled in the new year to consider rezoning for a single-family neighbourhood on this property. The application proposes a new, low density, residential strata development with open space, public access to the waterfront and a commercial component to allow construction of a hotel.
- **Application deferred for multi-family development at 292 Island Highway** – In response to neighbourhood opposition, Council deferred this application to allow the developer to revise the proposal so that it aligns more closely with the character, height and density of the area.
- **Rural road standard approved for development at 1920 Shetland Road** – Council approved a variance to frontage improvement requirements for this subdivision to allow a rural local residential road standard.
- **Larger electronic sign approved for Dairy Queen** – The variance allows an increase in the electronic portion of an existing freestanding sign for the restaurant at 1250 Dogwood St.
- **Letter to Province regarding Upland Contracting Ltd. mine permit application** – The City will send a letter to the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources requesting that a full response be provided to questions and concerns posed by the Campbell River Environmental Committee about the mine permit application.
- **Letter of support for purchase of Crown land adjacent to 1090 Evergreen, subject to conditions** – The City will provide a letter supporting Handyside Development Corp.'s proposal to purchase a portion of Crown Land to drain stormwater from the development into Nunns Creek under the following conditions:
 - Design, construction and operation of the drainage system must comply with the City's engineering and environmental standards and permitting requirements.
 - A restrictive covenant must be registered on the land to be purchased, noting that it can only be used for drainage, and will not be used in density or lot coverage calculations.
 - The developer is required to provide habitat compensation (in land or cash) at a three-to-one-ratio for land changed by stormwater infrastructure, as recommended by a Qualified Environmental Professional.
 - Approval of all subdivisions and legal agreements required for the portion of Crown land to be purchased will be consolidated with the development parcel.

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquires by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.

- In response to correspondence from the City of Port Moody on flood risk mitigation through green infrastructure and natural assets, Council encouraged City staff to connect with and share information and ideas on flood protection with City of Port Moody staff.
- **Praise for Highway 19A work** – Mayor Andy Adams gave kudos to the City’s Capital Works Department and all the contractors involved in the Seawalk, road, cycling, sea level rise and sewer upgrades along Highway 19A. “To Jason Hartley and our City Team, thank you for an outstanding job,” he said, adding “Get a good Christmas break as there is still a bit more to finish off in the new year.”

GOVERNANCE UPDATES

Council appointments confirmed for 2021 to the Strathcona Regional District Board, Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital District Board, Comox-Strathcona Regional Solid Waste Board, and Strathcona Gardens Commission – Appointments are in effect until November 2022 and are based on the highest number of votes received in the 2018 municipal election. Mayor Adams and Councillors Cornfield, Kerr, Moglove and Evans will sit as directors, with Councillor Dahl and the councillor to be elected in February 2021 as alternates. For the Strathcona Gardens Commission, Councillors Evans, Kerr and Mayor Adams will be appointed with Councillor Moglove as the alternate.

Advisory committees review – Council confirmed plans to review the City’s advisory committee structure in early 2021. Advisory committees include:

- Airport Advisory Committee
- Community Planning Advisory Committee
- Environmental Advisory Committee
- Community Health and Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Tourism Advisory Committee
- Community Partnership Committee

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **North Island communities send letters about the importance of forestry, aquaculture** – Campbell River signed on to letters to the provincial and federal governments about the importance of resource-based industries in our region. The letters outline support for:
 - the fish farm industry and wild salmon restoration
 - Vancouver Island forest industryThe letters will be referred to the City’s economic development department, along with correspondence from Geoscience BC regarding responsible resource development in the province.
- **Island North Film Commission update** – Council received an annual report and request for 2021 funding from INFILM and will invite the commission to present on their annual plan in the new year.

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquires by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING/SUPPORT

- As recommended by the Community Health and Public Safety Committee, the City will invite Maja Langrish, Policy Analyst for the Office of Crime Reduction – Gang Outreach, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, to present to Council regarding Situation Tables, a community safety and well-being initiative developed by the provincial government.

PUBLIC HEARING

An online public hearing was held to consider an application to amend the Official Community Plan land use designation and rezone the property at 1040 Dogwood St. to retain it for residential use and to permit a future secondary suite. No one commented during the public hearing, and no objections have been received on this proposal. Council will give final consideration to the proposal in the new year.

HIGHLIGHTS of the DEC. 15 COMMITTEE of the WHOLE MEETING

Social Grant program – recommendations will be discussed by Council at a future strategic planning session.

Urban Indigenous Housing and Wellness Coalition delegation – The coalition provided an update to Council about the need for diverse and affordable housing options in Campbell River. They shared that Indigenous people make up 12 per cent of the Campbell River population and represent diverse communities, including eight major First Nations territories in the Strathcona Regional District. They also shared that Indigenous people make up more than 50 per cent of our community's homeless population and requested collaborative opportunities to support anti-racism programs and to advocate for additional housing support from the Province.

View the presentation, including videos, at campbellriver.ca/webcasts

Housing growth livability assessment – Council received a staff presentation summarizing livability in different Campbell River neighbourhoods. The assessment considers the effects of:

- the built and natural environments
- economic and cultural opportunities
- access to education, social spaces, recreation and amenities
- ease of movement and walkability

Detailed reports are shared at campbellriver.ca (Under Development Resources / Housing and Community Development). This report is part of the City's Housing Growth Review that will help identify good locations for infill development, amenity contributions and zoning for new facilities. The review will also help provide direction for future Official Community Plan revisions.

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

For the most recent information on City services, please see our website campbellriver.ca/COVID-19
Reach us with general inquires by email: info@campbellriver.ca or telephone 250-286-5700.