

COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, March 9, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Council-in-Committee convened on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 2:02 p.m. in the Council Committee Room of City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mayor Richard Stewart
Councillor Brent Asmundson
Councillor Craig Hodge
Councillor Steve Kim
Councillor Trish Mandewo
Councillor Dennis Marsden
Councillor Chris Wilson
Councillor Bonita Zarrillo

REGRETS: Councillor Teri Towner

OTHERS PRESENT: Gord Schoberg, Senior Manager Municipal and Community Relations, FortisBC
Vanessa Connolly, Senior Manager External Relations, FortisBC
Darrin Marshall, Senior Project Manager, FortisBC

STAFF: Peter Steblin, City Manager
Raul Allueva, Deputy City Manager
Jim Ogloff, Fire Chief
Jozsef Dioszeghy, General Manager Engineering and Public Works
Michelle Hunt, General Manager Finance, Technology and Police Services
Don Luymes, General Manager Civic Lands and Facilities
Jim McIntyre, General Manager Planning and Development
Donnie Rosa, General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services
Nikki Caulfield, Director Human Resources and Corporate Planning
Andrew Merrill, Director Development Services
Lanny Englund, Manager Parks Planning and Forestry
Darryl Lal, Manager Police Services Operations
Kathleen Reinheimer, Manager Parks
Tiana Solares, Manager Policy and Business Services
Graham Stuart, Manager Corporate Planning
Kathleen Vincent, Manager Corporate Communications
Mark Zaborniak, Manager Design and Construction
Angela Christensen, Human Resources and Administrative Services Manager
Andre Isakov, Park Planning and Design Manager
Sean O'Melinn, Legislative Services Manager

Kate Nasato, Legislative Services Clerk

Councillor Asmundson, as per the Acting Mayor schedule, assumed the role of Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, March 2, 2020

The Legislative Services Manager noted a correction to page 6 of the Minutes.

The Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, March 2, 2020 were approved as revised.

DELEGATIONS

2. Gord Schoberg, Senior Manager Municipal and Community Relations, FortisBC – FortisBC's Eagle Mountain – Woodfibre Gas Pipeline Project Update

Mr. Schoberg appeared before the Committee and provided an onscreen presentation entitled "Eagle Mountain – Woodfibre Gas Pipeline Project (EGP)" with slides titled as follows:

- Project Overview
- The project in Coquitlam – Westwood Plateau
- City of Coquitlam Regulatory Engagement
- Next Steps
- Thank you

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Clarification regarding whether the original scope of the project included natural gas or electric powered compressors
- The proposed Eagle Mountain Compressor Station upgrades and the potential impact that these may have on the neighbourhood
- The desire to minimize the impact of this project on the community and the need for cooperation between FortisBC and the City to achieve this goal

Mr. Marshall appeared before the Committee and provided information relative to the following:

- Clarification regarding the proposed fuel for the compressors in the original project
- The proposed compressors and the potential impact that these may have on the neighbourhood

In response to questions from members of the Committee, Mr. Schoberg provided information relating to the City's role in the development of FortisBC's Community Services and Infrastructure Management Plan, their Traffic Management Plan, and the proposed scope of these plans.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- Clarification regarding the changes to the proposed project and the associated amendments to the Environmental Assessment Certificate
- The twinning of the gas line and the proposed route of this line
- The impact that the new compressors may have on the electromagnetic field surrounding, and the level of noise emitted by, the electrical substation
- The justification for the larger compressors at the Coquitlam site and whether it is possible to use smaller compressors
- The proposed tax benefits to the City of Coquitlam resulting from this project
- The environmental footprint of the project
- The consultations that FortisBC has undertaken with First Nations communities
- The size of the compressors in Coquitlam compared to those located in Squamish

Mr. Marshall provided information relating to the electromagnetic field surrounding the electrical substation and the Noise Impact Assessment conducted for this project. He provided further information relating to the size of the compressors at the Coquitlam and Squamish sites.

Mr. Schoberg provided information relating to the tax benefits to the City of Coquitlam resulting from this project. He provided further information relating to the environmental footprint of this project, the proposed expansion of the substation, and the proposed removal of trees from the site.

Ms. Connolly appeared before the Committee to provide information relating to the consultations that FortisBC has undertaken with First Nations communities.

The City Manager provided information relating to negotiations that the City has had with FortisBC relating to a proposed community amenity contribution associated with this project and ongoing issues that the City has had with FortisBC regarding projects located within the City. He expressed the desire for an agreement to be reached regarding the community amenity contribution before the commencement of this project.

Mr. Schoberg provided information relating to FortisBC's position relating to the proposed community amenity contribution.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Mr. Schoberg for his presentation.

REPORTS OF STAFF**PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES****3. Report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services – Sports Field Strategy Update: Terms of Reference**

The General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services provided introductory comments regarding the proposed updates to the 2013 – 2023 Sports Field Strategy, the accomplishments of the strategy to date, the need for the proposed updates, and the next steps of this project.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Support for updating the strategy at this time
- Issues associated with the funding model of the existing strategy and the desire to ensure that the new funding model is reviewed on an ongoing basis
- The desire for the updated Terms of Reference to provide greater clarity regarding the types of sports fields that this strategy applies to
- The need for community and user group engagement in the development of the updated strategy
- The desire to ensure that non-traditional sport/user groups are consulted in the development of this strategy
- The desire to include unstructured play in the development of the strategy
- The desire for information regarding those who use the sports fields and those who do not
- The desire for information relating to the modes of transportation that are used to access sports fields
- The possibility of including weather protection for spectators on the sports fields
- The desire for the strategy to focus on participation and not on user fees
- The work that staff has done with sports groups to explore options for learn-to-play and recreational league play for youth and adults
- The understanding that organized youth sports can be too competitive for some youth and the desire to facilitate recreational opportunities that focus on fun and participation
- The understanding that the cost of organized sports can be prohibitive for some people and the desire to ensure that there are barrier free options available for participation
- The factors that contribute to decreased youth participation in organized sports
- The desire for data relating to the use of sports fields when they are not being used by sports and user groups that have booked the fields
- The understanding that sports groups want to see increased participation at all levels and all ages and that the City can work with them to facilitate this
- The desire to encourage parent participation in sports

- The understanding the user and sports groups are having difficulty recruiting and retaining volunteers
- The desire for the development of storage strategy for parks and facilities
- Clarification regarding the process that the City will undertake to select the consultant who will be working with the City on this project

The Committee received the report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services dated February 27, 2020 and entitled “Sports Field Strategy Update: Terms of Reference” for information.

4. Report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services – Town Centre Park – Lake Loop Improvements Concept Plan

The General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services provided introductory comments regarding Town Centre Park and the next phase of improvements for the park as set out in the Town Centre Park Master Plan.

The Park Planning and Design Manager provided an onscreen presentation entitled “Town Centre Park – Lake Loop Improvements – Concept Design” with slides titled as follows:

- Town Centre Park Master Plan
- Proposed Site Plan
- Garden Walk
- Island Walk
- Urban Walk
- Forest Walk
- Project Budget and Timelines
- Thank You

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The popularity of the Town Centre Park Lake Loop and the desire to ensure that the proposed improvements do not negatively impact the user experience
- The understanding that parts of the Lake Loop are not accessible to all members of the community

Councillor Asmundson left the meeting at this time (3:02 p.m.) and returned at 3:03 p.m.

- The need to balance the preservation of the natural elements of the lake and the addition of paved pedestrian and cycling paths
- Concerns regarding the proposed Island Walk and Landing and potential alternative design options for this feature
- The understanding that Town Centre Park is located on a former gravel pit and that work will need to be done to ensure the long-term sustainability and health of the forest

- The desire to leave the land proposed for the Island Walk and Landing in its natural state and to leave a portion of the lake inaccessible to the public
- The belief that one of the features that draws the public to the lake is the number of animals that live there
- The possibility of building a boardwalk instead of the Island Walk and Landing
- The desire for the pedestrian walkways to be large enough to avoid bottlenecks
- The desire to increase and improve the signage relating to the prohibition of feeding animals at the lake
- Support for the proposed Island Walk and Landing and possible options to maintain portions of the natural habitat in this location
- The desire for the inclusion for hammocks and swings in the Lake Loop portion of the park
- Concerns regarding the timing of the construction of the proposed Garden Walk and the future tennis court related works in Zones A and B

The Park Planning and Design Manager provided information relating to the timing of the construction of the proposed Garden Walk and the future works in Zones A and B.

The Deputy City Manager provided information relating to the development of the Town Centre Park Master Plan and the phasing of this plan.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- The proposed washroom facility to be located near the Evergreen Cultural Centre and whether there is a timeline for the construction of this facility
- Factors that may delay the construction of this facility
- Whether there are trees that are resistant to beavers and if those trees can be planted around the lake
- The impact that the proposed improvements may have on the habitat of the beavers that live at the lake
- The distinction between an urban park and a nature park and the belief that this park is an urban park
- The desire for more trees along the Urban Walk
- The potential future enhancement options for the lake and whether some of these enhancements could be incorporated into the Lake Loop Improvements project
- The pros and cons of developing an urban beach at Town Centre Park
- The desire to minimize the operating costs associated with the proposed improvements

The Manager Parks Planning and Forestry provided information relating to the City's experiences with beavers and how this will influence the types of trees that are planted around the lake. He provided further information relating to the impacts that the proposed improvements may have on the habitat of the beavers and stated that the City will continue to consider the animals that live in the lake when managing the area.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- The understanding that wider pathways are more accessible
- The desire to discourage cycling on these paths in order to facilitate a pedestrian friendly experience
- The desire for abundant and clear signage at the park
- The pros and cons of the proposed Island Walk and Landing
- The otter that lives in the lake and the potential need to restock the lake more frequently
- The operational costs of the potential future enhancement options
- The Class D estimated cost of this project and the desire to keep the costs within the existing budget
- The desire to limit the amount of invasive species in the park and the need to educate the public on this issue
- Appreciation for the work of staff in the development of the proposed plan
- The desire for information relating to the current and proposed operating budget for this area of the Park
- The desire for more information relating to the current uses of the park
- The public consultation undertaken regarding the proposed Lake Loop Improvements project
- The belief that the community is tired of development and the desire to delay the implementation of the next phases of the Town Centre Park Master Plan
- The impact that the City Centre Area Plan will have on the park and the desire to expand the park in anticipation of the growth of this area
- The desire to reduce the costs of this project by using City staff instead of contractors to complete the works
- The phasing of the improvements and the desire to limit the impact that the construction may have on users of the park

The Committee received the report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services dated February 27, 2020 and entitled “Town Centre Park – Lake Loop Improvements Concept Plan” for information.

CITY MANAGER

5. Report of the Director Human Resources and Corporate Planning – 2019 Final Trimester Report

The Director Human Resources and Corporate Planning provided introductory comments regarding the 2019 Final Trimester Report. She highlighted the achievements of the City over the 2019 year, and provided context for the information included in the report. She concluded by thanking the Manager Corporate Planning for his work in compiling this report.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Clarification regarding the achievements relating to the facilitation of market rental units as a part of the Housing Affordability Strategy and whether this data should be presented differently in future Trimester Reports
- The resources needed to develop the Strategy Energy Management Plan
- The delays to the Centennial Turf Field project
- The desire for a legend to be included in the vacancy report to clarify the information provided in the recruitment status section

The Manager Corporate Planning provided information relating to the facilitation of market rental units and how this information will be provided in future reports.

The Director Human Resources and Corporate Planning provided information relating to the resources needed for the development of the Strategy Energy Management Plan. She undertook to ensure that a legend is included in future vacancy reports to clarify the information provided in the recruitment status section.

The General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services provided information relating to recent developments relating to the Centennial Turf Field project.

The City Manager provided information relating to desired changes to the vacancy report and indicated that it may be revised in the future.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- Clarification regarding the relationship between the Strategic Goals, the Business Plan Priorities and the Work Plan tasks
- The business planning process, how priorities are determined, and how these priorities are assigned to the appropriate departments
- The utility of sorting Work Plan tasks into A, B and C priorities and the resources dedicated to tasks in each category
- The number of completed C priority tasks compared to tasks in the A and B priority categories

The Manager Corporate Planning provided information relating to the relationship between the Strategic Goals, the Business Plan Priorities and the Work Plan tasks and the business planning process.

The City Manager provided information relating to the utility of sorting Work Plan tasks into A, B and C priorities and the resources dedicated to tasks in each category.

The Deputy City Manager provided further information relating to the resources dedicated to tasks in each category.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- Measures that the City and Metro Vancouver will be undertaking to decrease water consumption
- Appreciation for the work of volunteers and the desire to revisit how volunteer hours are tracked
- The desire for timelines to be assigned to tasks designated as A, B and C priorities
- The desire for information relating to how long items have been on the Business Plan

The General Manager Engineering and Public Works provided information relating to the measures that the City and Metro Vancouver will be taking regarding water conservation in 2020.

The Manager Corporate Planning provided information relating to the difficulty associated with, and the utility of, assigning timelines to A, B and C priorities. He provided further information relating to proposed changes to the trimester reporting process.

The Committee received the report of the Director Human Resources and Corporate Planning dated March 3, 2020 and entitled “2019 Final Trimester Report” for information.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – March 30, 2020

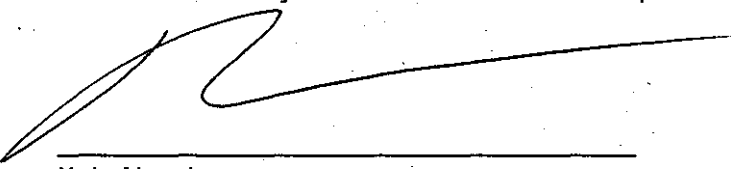
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR

I hereby certify that I have recorded the Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held Monday, March 9, 2020 as instructed, subject to amendment and adoption.



Kate Nasato
Legislative Services Clerk