



Finance and Audit Committee

Minutes

March 8, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

15322 Buena Vista Avenue, White Rock, BC, V4B 1Y6

PRESENT: Mayor Walker
Councillor Chesney
Councillor Kristjanson
Councillor Manning
Councillor Trevelyan

ABSENT: Councillor Johanson

STAFF: Guillermo Ferrero, Chief Administrative Officer
Jim Gordon, Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations
Eric Stepura, Director of Recreation and Culture
Ed Wolfe, Fire Chief (via electronic means)
Shannon Johnston, Acting Director of Financial Services
Joseph Calenda, Acting Director of Planning and Development Services (via electronic means)
Chris Zota, Manager of Information Technology (via electronic means)
Debbie Johnstone, Deputy Corporate Officer
Chloe Richards, Committee Clerk

GUEST: Paul Murray, Budget Consultant

PUBLIC: 3

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Kristjanson, Chairperson

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion Number: 2022-F&A 026 It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Finance and Audit Committee adopt the agenda for **March 8, 2022**, as amended to include:

- On-Table Document titled “Summary of Preliminary Incomplete 2021 Asset Improvement Projects to be Carried Over to 2022”; and,
- Under Item 3 – Utilities to be added as a topic for discussion.

Absent (1): Councillor Johanson

Motion CARRIED (5 to 0)

3. ASSET IMPROVEMENT (CAPITAL) PROGRAM

The Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations provided an overview of the City's Utilities and the Asset Improvement (Capital) Program.

The following discussion points were noted:

Utilities:

- Solid Waste:
 - Question was asked why the green waste is taken to Delta and not to Surrey. Staff noted Delta provides the best value. Suggested staff look into if this could be taken to a facility in Surrey.
- Drainage Utility:
 - Water quality testing information from the outfalls into Semiahmoo Bay – how often is this posted on the website? Staff noted that at this time the data is provided to the Ministry and the Semiahmoo First Nation. It is not posted on the city website.
 - Concerns were noted with climate change and an increase in storm events, such as atmospheric rivers. Staff confirmed that while there was flooding and road closures in the city due to the atmospheric river, there was no flooding into the sanitary system.

- Provincial and Federal Grants for climate change issues (landslides) are available. The City has applied for grants of this nature before and could apply again for certain projects.
- This is another area in which a full-time grant writer position could be utilized.
- Sanitary Sewer:
 - Questions were asked regarding difficulties to source supplies for projects. Staff noted that items such as asphalt and concrete can be affected with inflation. Raw materials are more of a concern than supplies at this time.
 - Johnston Road and Thrift Avenue work – hoping to postpone with many development projects in that area. Staff confirmed this is a utility project, and that the small mains are old and will need to be replaced in the next three (3) to four (4) years.
- Water:
 - Water Treatment Plant - arsenic scrubbers are aging faster than expected – it was enquired if this being covered and if there is anything that can be done to prolong their longevity. Staff confirmed that the arsenic media filters are not performing as well as the City had wanted. Regeneration for the media filters was done once last summer and is taking place again now.
 - A request was made to ensure that information on arsenic levels for the water continue to be updated on the City website. Staff will look into this to make sure that the data is being posted regularly.

General Fund Asset Improvement Program

- When replacing City vehicles – are we looking at electric vehicles where possible? Staff noted this is something that is being looked into. When replacing a vehicle, a business case can be made for it to be electric, if possible.
- For roads – on Thrift Avenue, from Johnston Road to Vidal Street– is there concern with heavy vehicle traffic on Thrift due to other projects (Foster Martin, for example) breaking ground? Staff confirmed they are not concerned with heavy vehicles, as they need to operate within the road limits. Concerns were noted, however, with digging in the area. Staff will look into this further.

- Are there plans for a left turn signal at Oxford Street and North Bluff Road? Staff will report back on this.
- For the Kent Street Activity Centre – it was enquired what the remaining lifespan of the building is. Staff noted this building is very well used, especially prior to COVID. Staff can provide a better estimate on the lifespan once the Facility Master Plan is completed (estimated time is eight (8) or nine (9) months for completion of that project).
- The road reconstruction project for Johnston Road – Russell Avenue to Thrift Avenue – it was noted that price seems high. Staff will review the estimate.
- Pedestrian controlled crosswalks at Martin Street / Parker Street and Johnston Road and Prospect Street – when will these be completed? Staff noted that there have been delays working with Surrey on these projects and Surrey does not feel as though this is required. The previous Manager of Engineering was working on this; as this position is now vacant, this project is requiring additional time. It was noted that a compromise needs to be reached to move forward on this.
- Speed reduction on Marine Drive – what has been done/ are there any plans to address this? It was noted that there is nothing budgeted for speed humps/ curb extensions. Staff confirmed any work done on this would require an agreement with Surrey. Some common ground may be reached through narrowing roads at intersections, road paintings or other methods of traffic calming.
- Noted that a corporate report was brought forward to Council on speed calming options for Marine Drive. It was requested that this be brought forward to a future Council meeting for further discussion.
- How is it determined which roads take priority and is there public input on this? Staff noted they are working on an Integrated Transportation Master Plan, which is to be completed later this summer. Public consultation has been part of this process and is being used to formulate the plan.
- Staff confirmed that the Development Cost Charges (DCC) Bylaw is scheduled to be reviewed in 2022. Once a project is included in this Bylaw, the City can use DCC's to fund it.

4. **CONCLUSION OF THE MARCH 8, 2022 FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The meeting was concluded at 6:13 p.m.



Councillor Kristjanson, Chairperson

Debbie Johnstone, Deputy
Corporate Officer

Unapproved