

Anmore Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 10, 2013

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The Regular Council meeting began at 7:03 PM in the portable classroom behind Anmore Elementary School. All of the Council members, Christine Milloy, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Kevin Dicken, Manager of Public Works, Brent Elliott, Planning Consultant, and 8 members of the public were in attendance. This meeting followed a Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:30. At this pre-Council meeting, Mr. Dicken gave an update on 'the Boil Water Advisory until Further Notice' and all of the construction activity in Anmore.

With reference to the Boil Water Advisory, Mr. Dicken reported that the Fraser Health Authority found unfavorable water in Anmore on Friday, September 6th. After further testing, a Boil Water Advisory was implemented on Tuesday, September 10th. There are four water quality testing spots around the Village. The problem area was at Anmore Creek and Sunnyside Road in the vicinity of the Anmore store. The Village will immediately begin flushing the water pipes. This should take approximately one and a half weeks. Then new samples will be tested and, if the water quality is good, the Boil Water Advisory will be lifted.

Councillor McEwen asked Mr. Dicken about the status of the road works. Mr. Dicken indicated that the Mossom Creek culvert installation across East Road is 95% complete. He also indicated that he was 'not too thrilled' about the dip in the road at this site. He said that the cause was a variation from the original design when the two sections of East Road were merged. In response to Councillor McEwen's question, he also indicated that he does not expect any water pooling in this area. Repaving East Road is expected to cost half \$1 million which the Village does not now have in its budget.

Mr. Dicken indicated that he expects the chlorination booster station to be finished by the end of October and expressed the wish that it was already in place so he wouldn't have to be dealing with the Boil Water Advisory. In response to a question from former Anmore Councillor Piamonte, Mr. Dicken indicated that re-siting the chlorination booster station had an additional price tag of \$9200. The installation of the second culvert to replace the collapsed one over a tributary of Mossom Creek on Thompson Road should be completed by Friday.



The first item on the Regular Council Meeting Agenda was the introduction of MLA Linda Reimer to Council members. Some residents were disappointed because Ms. Reimer was not invited to speak to those in attendance. Rather she sat in the audience and responded to questions from the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Anderson asked Ms. Reimer to help find grant money to build a new Village Hall. She indicated that Anmore expects the new Village Hall to cost around \$2 million. Ms. Reimer indicated that most municipalities are responsible for their own infrastructure and that she knows of no grant money available. She said that she is the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Culture, Sport and Community Development, and she would ask staff to keep working with Anmore if grant money comes available.



Mayor Anderson then asked Ms. Reimer to attend meetings with BC Hydro at the upcoming Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) meetings. She said that BC Hydro has no emergency evacuation plan in place for Buntzen Lake. Ms. Reimer indicated that she would check her calendar for availability.

The MLA indicated that a white paper on local government elections will be discussed at the UBCM. The Ministry is seeking feedback on this white paper by October 23rd, with legislation to follow in the spring. The changes will not likely be implemented in time for the 2014 municipal elections. The website address is www.localgovelectionsreform.gov.bc.ca. MLA Reimer also indicated that the government is currently reviewing BC liquor regulations at www.gov.bc.ca.

Council members refocused the discussion on the funding prospects for building a new Village Hall. Councillor Thiele mentioned the heritage nature of the Village Hall and its importance to British Columbia history. Ms. Reimer was quite animated by this discussion and indicated that designation of a heritage site in the provincial registry is up to each municipality. She said that the heritage Village Hall was the soul of the community. She also talked about Maillardville as the heritage heart of Coquitlam.

Editors note: Lloyd E. Lucas, A ScT, CPI, Building Inspector for Emerald Inspection and Consulting Services Ltd gave a \$663,750 price tag to completely

restore the 1916 heritage building to commercial standards, instead of the \$2 million quote by Mayor Anderson to build a new municipal building.



New MLA Linda Reimer indicated that her office will be in Suterbrook above the liquor store. Her telephone number is 604-469-5430.

The next item on the Council Agenda under New Business 11(b) was 'Recycling Collection Incentives offered by Multi-Material BC'. This item had been moved up on the Agenda so that Mr. Dicken could leave the Council meeting earlier, and deal with the Boil Water Advisory communication to residents.

Mr. Dicken first presented the background on the nature of Multi-Material BC. The provincial government has put the onus on companies such as Costco and Walmart to be responsible for the end-of-life products that they sell. They have formed a non-profit organization to develop a residential stewardship plan for packaging and printed paper.

Mr. Dicken presented the strengths and weaknesses of three options for the Village relative to the proposed recycling offers by MMBC.

1. The first option is to opt out of the service. This would mean no financial incentive, the financial burden remaining with the taxpayer, and the control and responsibility remaining with the Village.
2. The second option is to accept the financial incentive provided by MMBC for a five-year contract beginning August 1, 2014 at the expiry of the current contract with Smithrite. This would mean a commitment to a non-negotiable contract, liability for the program, control would remain with the Village, as would the collection of the recycled material. If Anmore accepted this offer, there would be a shortfall of \$8000.

3. The third option is for MMBC to provide recycling in Anmore. There would be no charge for this and taxpayers would no longer pay an annual recycling levy. MMBC would administer the program, and the collection and processing of recyclables.

After a good deal of discussion, Council chose to move forward with Option Three where MMBC would provide no-cost recycling in Anmore, conditional on legal approval of the arrangement. Mr. Dicken then left the meeting.

The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on July 23rd were approved, with no business arising from the minutes. Under item 7, no By-laws were discussed. Under item 8, all Correspondence was received with minor follow-up. There were no Committee Reports and Recommendations, or Unfinished Business.

The next item 11(a) on the Agenda, under New Business, was public feedback for Rezoning Application: Lot Eight Section 20 Township 39 New Westminster District Plan LMP49309 – 3230 Sunnyside Lane. (request by the owner Mr. Milton Hunniford for the rezoning of the Anmore campground from commercial designation C-2 to six 1 acre RS-1 residential lots).

Editors note: Although Mayor Anderson has development interests in the next block, she did not recuse herself from this discussion. At the August 13th Regular Council Meeting, Planning Consultant, Ms. Kate Lambert, indicated that their analysis and that of the Advisory Planning Commission supported this rezoning request by the landowner. At the September 10th meeting Councillor Green indicated that the Environment Committee had not been sure of how to advise since they did not have enough information.

At this Council meeting, Planning Consultant Mr. Brent Elliott followed up on a request by Council, led by Mayor Anderson, for a consultative process to gauge public reaction to this rezoning of one of the two remaining commercial zones in Anmore. Mr. Elliott broke the Council request into two parts (1) public reaction in general to the value of having commercial land in the Village, and (2) the best future use for this particular site.

Mr. Elliott suggested that first item could be discussed at the second Official Community Plan (OCP) Open House to be held mid October. The site-specific consultation could be hosted by the landowner near the end of October.

Councillor McEwen, who was not in attendance when this item was discussed at the Council Meeting on August 13th, suggested that a frank discussion could be held in-camera with Mr. Hunniford. The other Council members reminded him that this information was already in the public domain from the last meeting. Council agreed to Mr. Elliott's proposed strategy to engage the community and to talk to the Village Solicitor about the legality of this proposed in-camera meeting.

Under item 11(c) Council discussed the Outdoor Green Gym. Mayor Anderson presented two options for moving forward in the selection of a location. The first location is adjacent to the tennis courts behind Anmore Elementary School. The second location, and that preferred by Mayor Anderson, is across the road from the Village Hall, at the corner of Ravenswood and Sunnyside. After considerable and often acrimonious discussion, Council agreed to ask staff to analyze the pros and cons of the second location. Councillor McEwen was concerned that the advice of the Parks Committee was not adequately being considered.

Under item 11(d) under new Business, consistent with the tenor of the British Columbia Community Charter, Councillor Thiele put forward the following Motion “That Council, direct staff to amend the Procedures By-law to include a procedure for releasing in-camera meeting minutes that have been deemed appropriate for release; in particular, the procedure states that once in-camera minutes have been adopted by Council, they be evaluated to determine if they can be released and, if they are in fact deemed so, that Council immediately make a motion to release them and direct staff to include them in the agenda package of the next Regular Council Meeting.”

After considerable discussion about the need for openness and transparency, and pressure from Councillor Thiele to formalize a procedure for release of in-camera information that should be made public, Council decided on a two-pronged approach. In the first prong, Christine Milloy indicated that Council could establish a policy where at the end of an in-camera meeting they could decide whether or not to release information from the meeting.

The second prong responded to Councillor Green’s request for staff to review and revise the Anmore Procedures By-law for openness and transparency. Councillor McEwen was opposed to this without attaching a specific timeline reflecting the urgency of this issue. Councillor Isaak indicated that she is not in favour of in-camera information being made public.

Editors Note: Shortly after Mayor Anderson was successful in a by-election on May 15, 2010, the Anmore Procedures By-law was substantially changed to limit the availability of documents and information from in-camera meetings. A lawsuit about the lack of public access, openness, and transparency on Council and in this new Procedures By-law was launched by Anmore resident Mary Jane Atkins. This lawsuit was eventually dropped because of time delays in the courts.

Under item 12, Mayor’s Report, Mayor Anderson announced that Jim and Karen Matthews had been awarded the 2013 Community Spirit Award. Jonathan Davidson was awarded the Hal Weinberg Scholarship, sponsored by the Village of Anmore, in support of his studies at UBC. She also talked about several meetings she attended or plans to attend. Councillor McEwen left the meeting at 9:20.

Under Item 13, Councillors' Reports, Councillors Thiele, Green, and Isaak reported on their participation in several meetings and events. Under item 14, Christine Milloy, Acting CAO, reported that Tim Harris would be back in the office on Monday. She also reported that a draft Financial Plan will be available on Thursday, September 26 at 7 PM.

There were no questions from the Public. Only two residents remained at this point. The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 PM.