

Anmore Regular Council Meeting
September 24, 2013
Held in Anmore Elementary School Portable Classroom

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:03. All of the Council members, Tim Harris, Chief Administrative Officer, Christine Milloy, Manager of Corporate Services, Kevin Dicken, Manager of Public Works, Brent Elliott, Planning Consultant and 13 members of the General Public were in attendance. The Agenda for the meeting was approved with several items moved forward so that staff could leave.

The first item on the Agenda was a delegation from the Honorable James Moore, MP for Port Moody – Westwood – Port Coquitlam. Mr. Moore had been invited by the Council to 're-establish a connection with him as Anmore's member of Parliament'. Mayor Anderson introduced herself to Mr. Moore and then proceeded to introduce other members of the Council.



Although he looked prepared to do so, the Honourable Mr. Moore did not speak to the assembled residents rather, he responded to questions from Mayor Anderson and other Council members, largely to do with Council interest in receiving grants from the Federal Government to build a new municipal building.

Mr. Moore indicated that the federal Building Canada Program was designed to get people back to work and at the same time improve infrastructure during the global recession. He said that this program has lapsed but a new larger program

would be introduced in 2014. In response to a question from Mayor Anderson, Mr. Moore indicated that the details of this program, and whether it would be appropriate for Anmore needs, are yet to be determined.

Councillor Isaak talked about the heritage nature of the old Ma Murray homestead (the decommissioned Anmore Village Hall) and asked if monies might be available through the Heritage Ministry where Mr. Moore was formerly Minister. Mr. Moore talked about a Cultural Spaces Canada grant fund with grants from \$30,000 to \$150,000 for upgrading heritage buildings. He mentioned a recent \$450,000 grant to Port Moody for moving a heritage building.



Mr. Moore indicated that he was pleased to see that new MLA Linda Reimer had recently visited Council. He said that most of the federal grant money requires partnership with the provinces. He also suggested that, to further the conversation, Anmore staff might speak with a person in his constituency office. He left his personal business card.

The Honourable Mr. Moore politely waited for Mayor Anderson to recognize Jim and Karen Matthews as the recipients of the 2013 Anmore Community Spirit Award. The Matthews were thanked for their leadership with the 1st Anmore Scouts. A bench in their honour will be placed in a location of their choosing in the Village. Mr. Matthews thanked the Council for their financial backing for the

Scout's participation in the recent Jamboree at Sylvan Lake, Alberta. Mr. Matthews brought a special collection of badges to show the Council.



Item 11(b) under New Business was the Public Works update on Operations and Projects by Anmore Manager of Public Works, Kevin Dicken. He began with an up-date on the 'Boil Water until Further Notice' advisory. Mr. Dicken indicated that the Village is making some progress in ameliorating the problem. He talked about using a temporary hyper-chlorinator to disinfect the lines. He also indicated that Village staff continues to flush the lines and retest the samples. He said that we should know better where we stand after this.

Councillor Green asked if Mr. Dicken knew where the water contamination was coming from. He indicated that staff do not know this but they know that there is no problem in Port Moody. The affected area seems to be in the northern part of the Village but there is nothing definitive.

Councillor Thiele asked if the temporary chlorinator near Sunnyside Road and Leggett Lane (East Hemlock) would be removed when the new chlorine booster station was online. Mr. Dicken was not sure and said that they would have to assess the situation at that time. Councillor Isaak inquired about the possibility of fast tracking the chlorine booster station currently being built at Hummingbird and Robin Way. Mr. Dicken indicated that it was already moving along and would be in the lock-up stage by next week. He also indicated that the cost for renting the temporary chlorinator is \$1000.

A resident was concerned about possible damage to washing machines and dishwashers, and potential liability for the Village. Mr. Dicken indicated that there are 6 inch water mains in parts of the Village and any time a fire hydrant is opened, there is a potential problem. He said that staff try to open only one hydrant at the time. CAO Tim Harris indicated that the Village could alert residents to the flushings on the Anmore website.

A resident was very concerned that Fraser Health Authority had indicated that when the bad sample was first found it was 10 times the maximum coliform count. He wanted to know when the last sample was taken prior to the first indication of bad water. He was told that the sample was taken almost a month before.

Mr. Dicken indicated that for the last two weeks the water has been highly contaminated and it should be of concern to the man, his family, and his neighbours. The resident was extremely upset about his children drinking bad water. Mr. Dicken indicated that in the future the Village hopes to increase the frequency of the sampling. The resident went on to complain about the lack of communication with residents. He said that he had no idea that the contamination was 10 times the maximum allowed.

Councillor Isaak said that the question of installing the chlorinator booster station in Anmore has been outstanding for six years. She said health and safety must be a top budget consideration. Mayor Anderson indicated that there has never been a 'Boil Water Advisory' in Anmore before. She also said that the reason for the delay in building the chlorination booster station was that Anmore Council was waiting on Port Moody to decide on the location of their chlorinator booster station. She said that as soon as she became aware that there was a potential problem with the water, she started working on the situation eight months ago.

The same resident worried that residents do not know the extent of the contaminated water problem and some are not taking the boil water advisory seriously enough. Several Council members indicated that although they were not personally aware of the gravity of the situation, residents must take personal responsibility for acting as indicated on the 'boil water until further notice' advisory maildrop.

Councillor McEwen was very concerned that members of Council did not know how serious the boil water advisory was and asked why the temporary chlorinator was not put in earlier. Mr. Dicken indicated that staff needed to find a location that would work and a water main where they could draw water. He also said that after the initial flushing they had hoped that the contamination would come down. He said that the coliform contamination number was 53 in 100 and it should be less than one in 100.



A resident explained that he understood that in 2005-2006 the Village had received a two thirds grant of the \$67,000 cost for the chlorination booster station that is currently being built. He wondered why it was not built then and expressed concern that the current cost is going to be well over \$400,000.

Mr. Harris explained that it was only an engineer who estimated \$67,000 and that the cost would likely have been higher. He said that they didn't proceed with the building because the staff was waiting to see what would happen with the installation of the chlorination booster station in Port Moody. He said that the Village had been working with the Fraser Health Authority all along. Then, after a considerable period of time, the Fraser Health Authority wrote a letter to Council saying that they would remove Anmore's drinking water permit unless the chlorination booster station was quickly built.

Another resident wanted to know who is ultimately responsible for this problem. He asked why the seriousness of the contaminated water situation was not clearly communicated to residents and why the problem was being minimized. The same resident accused the mayor of mismanagement and sweeping the problem under the rug. The Mayor indicated that she had done everything possible over a period of time.

Mr. Dicken then talked about moving forward and getting the chlorination booster system online. He indicated that "until the chlorination booster station is up and running we are vulnerable. There is no chlorine residual and we are open to anything."

Another resident, asked if the Village is now sure that we have the right spot for the new chlorine booster station? He wanted to know why the booster station had to be moved and how much it cost. Mr. Dicken indicated that there was a zoning conflict and that the relocation would cost an extra \$9200. This same resident then invoked the memories of the Walkerton water fiasco where two people went to prison. Mr. Harris said that that situation was very different because Walkerton residents were on a well system not a reservoir.

Councillor McEwen expressed concern that this issue had not been brought urgently to the Finance Committee, and that Council members were not aware that the contamination levels were 53 to 100 times what they should be.

Another resident asked a technical question. With only two main roads in Anmore and a number of dead-end streets, is there not a problem with water flow? Mr. Dicken indicated that it is better to have a looping water system. The resident asked if, in future developers could be required to install water mains that do not dead-end. Also, he wanted to know if there were plans to upgrade the existing infrastructure.

Another resident recalled a letter from the Fraser Health Authority which put the Village on notice about the possible removal of the Anmore water permit because of a number of infractions in 2010. Mr. Harris said that there had been only one bad sample. This was in fact incorrect. The March 30, 2012 letter to Mr. Tim Harris from Mr. Lloyd Struck, Environmental Health Officer, Drinking Water Program, Fraser Health Authority states,

"As noted in your 2010 annual report, the Village was not in compliance with the regulation on two months of that year due to unacceptable bacterial levels. In June and September of that year 25% of those months samples showed the presence of total coliforms. The Drinking Water Protection Regulation, Schedule A, states that at least 90% of all samples must have no detectable total coliform bacteria in them (or find more than 10%). Therefore in 2010 the Village is in violation of the regulation... Therefore, I am requiring that the Village install an acceptable secondary

treatment system as soon as possible... If the Village does not pursue this action in a timely manner, I will place it as a condition on the Village's drinking water permit."

Another resident asked if staff was sure that the contaminated water problem would be fixed when the new booster station, near the entrance to the Village off of East Road, is operational. Mr. Dicken said that he is hopeful that it will be. However, because the problem appears to be at the north end of the Village, at the foot of East Road, they would have to wait and see. He said if it does not work then a further booster station and auto-chlorinators would be considered. Mr. Harris indicated that there is potential for a booster station in phase 2 of Pinnacle Ridge.



Councillors McEwen and Thiele asked about higher chlorination levels at the entrance to the Village. Another resident asked if a full model of the water system was ever done, and if engineers had ever recommended more than one chlorine booster station. Mr. Harris indicated that no one had recommended more chlorination stations. He also reiterated that the Pinnacle Ridge reservoir and auto-flushes were possibilities if the water contamination continued after the new chlorine booster station is installed. Another resident wondered at what cost for all of this.

One resident returned to his concern about the possible effects of the high coliform count on people's health. He wanted to know what the Village will do to communicate the seriousness of the 'boil water until further notice' advisory. One resident spoke about her neighbours who had filled up their water tanks with Anmore water and went camping on the weekend of September 6, five days

before the advisory, not realizing that the water quality was bad. Both of these people were seriously ill, the lady for six days. Mr. Harris indicated that their problem with the contaminated water would have been complicated by the water being in a closed container where bacteria can multiply. The couple indicated that when they got violently ill, they drank even more water trying to stay hydrated.

Councillor Green advised residents to take responsibility for their own behaviours during the boil water advisory. She said that, when informed of the problem, the principal at Anmore Elementary School had all of the drinking fountains and sinks in the school bagged. The only open water is for flushing toilets. Children are drinking bottled water.

A resident indicated that it is absolutely necessary for Council to properly communicate the context for the boil water advisory. Another resident reinforced this request. Yet another resident said that he was told not to worry because the water contamination problem was at the other end of the Village. He said that he has since found out that the problem is much more complicated than that. Mayor Anderson said that the staff could regularly update the Village website on the current context for the contaminated water. Because of the lengthy discussion on the Boil Water Advisory, Mr. Dicken was unable to up-date Council on the rest of the summer Public works projects.

The next Agenda item 11(a) was a report dated August 2, 2013 from Brent Elliott, CitySpaces Consulting Limited in which he recommended the awarding of a contract for the Parks Master Plan. Mr. Elliott indicated that there had been three responses to the request for proposals. He said that one of the proposals was not within the budget and should be eliminated. He said the other two were comparable and he made a recommendation that Lees and Associates be chosen.



Councillor McEwen, the Chair of the Parks Committee, indicated that while he is pleased to be moving forward on the development of the Parks Master Plan, he would have liked to have details on the names of the bidders, the dollar amounts, and the pros and cons of each proposal. He indicated that he was not looking for proprietary information simply sound information on which to make a decision about which consultants to hire. Councillor McEwen said that he did not want to simply rubber stamp Mr. Elliott's recommendation but rather make a decision based on his further analysis. This item was deferred for further information.

Under item 11(d) an Addendum to the September 24 2013, Regular Council Meeting Agenda, Mr. Brent Elliott made a recommendation for the selection of a consultant architect to scope out a concept plan/program for new Village Hall. He indicated that there are three stages for architectural contracts for services. This is simply the beginning stage. It will be followed by a programming and due diligence phase. That will be followed by a design and development stage.

Councillor McEwen indicated the same concerns about this item as with the last. He also indicated that with all of the additional costs for unforeseen projects this past summer; such as the unplanned need for security for the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department detachment on the south-side of the Mossom Creek detour on East Road and the boil water work with the temporary booster station, further financial consideration by Council was necessary before further spending commitments. Mayor Anderson suggested a meeting at 6:30 on October 1st before the 7:00 meeting of the Finance Committee.

Under item 8 Correspondence, Council endorsed the Greater Vancouver Regional District Bylaw to repeal the mosquito control administration and coordination service.

Under Agenda Item 9, the Minutes of the January 31, 2013, February 20, 2013, and April 18, 2013 Emergency Preparedness Working Group; the Minutes of the June 24, 2013 Environment committee; and the Minutes of the April 2, 2013, the April 9, 2013, and the April 15, 2013 Finance Committee were received. A resident noted that there was only one resident member of the Finance Committee shown in the Minutes. By law, the Finance Committee is made up of all Council members plus two members of the public. The resident asked if there was another non-Council member of the Finance Committee. Mayor Anderson indicated that Nick Chang has joined Mark Roberts as the second non-Council member.

The next agenda item 11(a) under New Business was a funding opportunity for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Councillor Thiele informed Council that there was an October 4, 2013 deadline to apply for a grant under the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative. This grant would be in support of the April 2007 Community Wildlife Protection Plan. There are four separate funding stages for this plan: i) fuel management prescription; ii) inventory of multiple fuel sources; iii) a demonstration site; and iv) the full fuel management plan.

Councillor Thiele indicated that she understands the staff time constraints for writing the grant proposal at the moment. She was also hoping that the Protective Services Committee would be operational. Council decided to refer this project to the Protective Services Committee as a top priority when it is formed.

Under Agenda item 12, Mayor's Report, Mayor Anderson talked about the value of UBCM meetings that were held from September 16 to September 20th and, in particular, meetings with BC Hydro about their emergency plans for Buntzen Lake. She also thanked Coquitlam resident Gord Bytelaar, his family, and others for organizing the Anmore Terry Fox Run.

Under Agenda item 13, Councillors' Reports, the Council members talked about their participation in the Union of British Columbia Municipalities meetings and some grant possibilities.

Under Agenda item 14, Chief Administrative Officer's Report, Mr. Harris thanked staff for all of their work over this busy summer. Christine Milloy was acting CAO when Mr. Harris was away in July, August and early September.

Under Agenda Item 15, there was one question in Public Question Period about UBCM discussion of a BC Recycling proposal. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35.

