

Hello again:

When, after the last municipal election, I committed (to myself) to attend and report on Gibsons Council meetings, I did so with the intent that I would not get caught up in all of the Town's meetings, whether those of standing committees or otherwise. So far I have managed to keep my pledge to myself and did not, therefore, attend the Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting of May 19th, which you may recall from the notes of the last Council meeting (May 5th), I predicted might be interesting. I learned, when I arrived at last night's Council meeting, that it was. Five hours it lasted, I was told, and it played to a full gallery, (which may explain why there were only four people in the gallery for the Council meeting). I look forward to reading the minutes. Meanwhile, anyone who is interested can review the COW agenda at <http://www.gowebtide.com/gibsonsddocuments/090519COWAgenda.pdf>

The Mayor called the Council meeting to order and noted one addition to the agenda - item 8.3 regarding a recommendation from Committee of the Whole regarding Gospel Rock. Minutes and the Post Meeting Action Checklist were dealt with promptly.

Rathaporn Pawakanun (nickname Fon), Cultural Coordinator for WelcomeBC on the Sunshine Coast, gave a presentation on WelcomeBC's work, noting that about 10% of the people on the Coast have a mother tongue other than French or English. A forum on making the Coast welcoming to immigrants was held May 8th in Gibsons at the Community Centre, and attended by about 40 people. Another one is scheduled for Sechelt next month.

Committee Reports

Planning Committee

Council approved a Development Permit Application for an industrial building (Quonset style) on Venture Way, Councillor Koopmans opposed. Koopmans noted that the project had started before the permit had been applied for, and that a neighbouring building had raised the bar in terms of the design style of the industrial park. He asked that the Planning Department bring a vision for the industrial park to the next Planning Committee meeting.

Council approved the award of a contract for \$25,000 to AECOM to take on

Phase 1 of the Harbour and Waterfront Plan, Councillor Koopmans opposed. Koopmans noted that the planned public process will be insufficient to meet public expectations, and felt that by accepting this bid, Council was missing an opportunity to undertake the Harbour and Waterfront planning process differently.

Parks and Community Services Committee

The Town will ask the Ministry of the Environment to publish air quality readings for the Town of Gibsons on the Ministry's website.

Council approved the award of a contract for \$24,250 to LEES and Associates for the development of a Parks Master Plan for Gibsons. It was recognized that this planning process may overlap with the Harbour and Waterfront planning process. The Parks Master Plan is intended to develop an overview, the Harbour and Waterfront Plan will be more detailed. Staff understand that coordination between the two plans will be required, while maintaining the separateness of them. It is also clear that the public must understand these differences in the two planning exercises.

Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole Agenda (see above) includes an excellent report from CAO Paul Gipps (pages 5-7) with recommendations on how to restart the Gospel Rock Neighbourhood Plan process, which Council adopted. A new working committee will comprise the Mayor, two Councillors, a staff member, a consultant and an owner's representative. Recommended members are the Mayor, Councillors Koopmans and Curry, Planning Director Marshall, consultant Michael Rosen (who helped get the Upper Gibsons Neighbourhood Plan finalized) and owner's representative Art Phillips. This working committee is to review the current information and options, interview the members of the Select Committee who had been working on the Gospel Rock Neighbourhood Plan, refine the work and the options and make recommendations to Council, particularly on a process to present information to and receive input from the general public. Gipps plans to bring a draft of the terms of reference for the working committee to Council's June 2 meeting.

While there was some "tooting and froing" about whether this reflected the outcome of the COW meeting held earlier in the day, and a late attempt by Councillor Johnson to add a representative of the Friends of Gospel Rock to the working committee (not accepted on the basis that Council represents the

community and the working committee will interview members of the Select Committee, some of whom are members of the Friends organization), it was clear from the full gallery at the COW meeting in the morning that everyone knows what is being proposed and accepts it. So it was

MOVED by Mayor Janyk
SECONDED by Councillor Koopmans

THAT Council resolves to strike a working committee to refine the options from HP Lanarc for the Gospel Rock neighbourhood plan and that staff develop a terms of reference based upon the recommendations in the staff report presented to the Committee of the Whole. Carried unanimously.

Good work.

Administration

Standing Committee terms of reference were approved. The Mayor made the following additional committee appointments.

Corporate Services - Deputy Chair, Councillor Koopmans; member at large, Tim Anderson, CA

Parks & Community Services - Deputy Chair, Councillor Johnson; member at large, Karen Careless

Infrastructure Services - Deputy Chair, Councillor Curry; member at large, Robert Bow

Planning - Deputy Chair, Councillor Rowe

(Readers may be interested to know that at a Special Meeting of Council held May 12, Mayor Janyk was appointed Council liaison to the Gibsons Community Initiatives Association, and Councillor Koopmans was appointed alternate liaison. The subject of the GCIA's work plan was on the COW agenda earlier in the day, but I don't know what the outcome of the discussions was. I assume the GCIA folks do.)

Correspondence

Council discussed a letter from the Province's Integrated Land Management Bureau outlining a new initiative designed to improve consultation between First Nations and provincial agencies on land and natural resource issues. Councillors agreed the letter was unclear, but that it is undoubtedly related to the work that the Province is doing on drafting of the Aboriginal

Reconciliation Act. The Town will invite to Bureau to come and explain.

Some time was spent discussing the UBCM's request for material for workshop discussions at its fall meeting. UBCM's topics do not include solid waste management or the subject of alternative revenue sources, which Councillors find frustrating.

Bylaws

Loan authorization bylaw 1005, 2009 (three capital programs) was given 2nd and 3rd reading. Provincial approval and an alternative approval process will now be required before final reading can be given.

Amendment 1006, 2009 to Development Procedures and Fees bylaw 1008, 2005 was given 2nd reading. The Planning Department will be asked to reconsider the \$0 fee for a development permit for an environmentally sensitive area.

Delegation of Authority on the issuance of geotechnical hazard area development permits by the Planning Director was given 2nd and 3rd reading

Final reading was given to Bylaw 1004, 2009, authorizing expenditures from the statutory reserve fund for two capital items.

Community Justice Program

The Mayor will work with the SCRD and the District of Sechelt to develop concrete resolutions for the UBCM annual conference that will get action from the Province.

Council Reports

Councillor Rowe

Attended the Sunshine Coast Tourism AGM in Sechelt. It was a dynamic session attended by 100 people or more, a surprising number given that the Canucks were playing what turned out to be their last game of the season.

Attended the Intergovernmental meeting, about which there is not much to report.

Mayor Janyk

ICET meets Friday May 29. The Town's application for a grant to assist with

the geo-thermal project is up for stage 2 consideration.

Attended the UBCM executive, where there is good information on initiatives throughout the province and on federal and provincial funding programs. Lake Country has a wholly owned IPP. HmMMM.

Councillor Curry

Also attended the SC Tourism AGM, at which the economic magnitude of tourism

to the Coast was announced at \$77 million annually. It is Councillor Curry's impression that SC Tourism would welcome a continuance of the municipal support that was made possible through the UBCM tourism grants. The comment raised eyebrows, as the deal on the grants was that they were for startup purposes, and should not be expected to continue.

Communities in Bloom - it appears that some of the Town's "Trees for Tomorrow" funding is being diverted to landscape requirements of the RD owned Community Centre.

Councillor Johnson

Encouraged Councillors to attend the next Welcoming Communities session
Will attend the Social Enterprise Forum next week.

Councillor Koopmans

Attended the Museum on "George Gibson Day" (Victoria Day is appropriate, as Geo G landed here on Victoria R's birthday, May 24, 1886). The Museum folk are a "perky bunch, wit a good sense of humour". (Thank goodness for humour!)

Inquiries

Matt Morris (CKAY) asked for an update on the tree cutting at Gospel Rock. The Mayor reported that the Town is awaiting reports from the environmental and geo-tech consultants.

The meeting adjourned about 9:15

Until next time,

Hammy

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