

Hi everyone:

Hardly seems like two weeks have gone by!

Gibsons Council met briefly this evening. All four members were present, and their number was matched by the gallery, which included regulars Donna Thomas and myself, along with Council candidate Claudia Ferris and a distinguished looking gentleman I did not recognize. Paul Gipps and Ian Poole represented the staff. The usual chaps from CKAY and the Coast Reporter were also there.

The only addition to the Agenda was dealt with quickly. The Town had issued an RFP for a five year contract for Visitor Information Services with a deadline of November 18th.

Unfortunately the advertisement for the RFP did not make it into the Coast Reporter until November 13th, leaving respondents only five days (two of which were weekends when the Town office is closed) to prepare and submit a proposal. I earn my living by responding to RFPs, and while those of us who work this way are used to requirements for quick turnarounds, I've never seen anything less than ten days, and three weeks is more normal. I'm pleased to report that COA Gipps recommended that the deadline for the RFP be extended by a week to November 25th, which will give respondents a fairer shot at making a good proposal, and will allow the Town to meet its contract approval deadline of December 1st. Council approved.

COMMITTEES

Planning

Council approved a recommendation directing staff to write amendment to the Zoning Bylaw to define "short term rental accommodation"

Council approved a recommendation directing staff to draft a Recreational Water Lease Regulation Bylaw to define and regulate mooring of vessels in the Recreational Water Lease Area.

Parks & Community Services

The Gibsons Fire Department is short 11 volunteers. HWTM asked the media to help by investigating this. He pointed out that the shortage could have dire consequences for taxpayers, saying that a professional rather than volunteer Fire Department could result in a 20% tax increase. His tone was oddly threatening, sort of people has better volunteer or else.

Council approved a recommendation to

- Write to the Fire Department to offer any assistance in finding ways to recruit new volunteers
- Invite the Fire Chief and Directors Turnbull and Lewis to attend the December 8th meeting of the Parks and Community Services Committee.

(Many of our volunteers are laid off workers at HSP&P who have had to find jobs elsewhere. Thus they no longer have the time to serve as volunteer fire fighters.)

Administration

Council received reports regarding

- Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1065-8 for 348 Burns Road
- 2009 Statutory Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaws

CORRESPONDENCE

Council received correspondence from

- The Premier, congratulating the Town on its LivCom award (an amusing typo in the Agenda referred to "Gordon Campbell, Premier, Liberal part of BC")
- Heart & Stroke Foundation regarding Heart Month in February and March

BYLAWS

First Reading was given to

- Amendment Bylaw 1065-8, 2009 regarding 348 Burns Road; Public Hearing to be December 15th at 6:30 pm
- Water Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw 1110, 2009 (\$558,800)
- Statutory Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw 1111, 2009 (\$83,700)
- Road Development Cost Charge Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw 1112, 2009 (\$87,270)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councillor Rowe noted that the report on the Policing Service Task Force should be ready by the end of the year. Documentation is proving difficult.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Upcoming meetings/events include

- SCRD, November 23rd, a session on economic development, Al Mulholland (Community Futures) and Michael McLaughlin (BCI) attending. HWTM says the jurisdictions outside E, F and G are looking to our model.
- Gibsons, November 25th, 8:30 am, Gospel Rock Refinement Working Committee
- Wendy's/Tim Horton's. November 29th, 5:30 pm, Lighting the Lights

Councillor Johnson

- Resilient Cities Conference, reinforcing the alarmist position on anthropogenic climate change
- Cranbrook, Affordable Housing (apparently the Sunshine Coast is in the forefront of dealing with this issue)
- GLBA
- Ferry Advisory Committee will meet November 26th at Cedars, 9-12 am

Councillor Rowe

- Noted the large and youthful crowd in attendance at the Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Attended the Fire Department Dinner
- Nipped off to Edmonton to see his son graduate as a police officer (congratulations all around!)

Councillor Curry

- Noted that the timetable calls for public sessions on the Waterfront Plan and Parks Master Plan in early December, a time when people are occupied with the coming Christmas season and less likely to attend.

Mayor Janyk

- Responded that there is no good month for public meetings, and if people want to be involved, they will find a way, just as they did on Remembrance Day.
- Nov 4th, reported to Minister Bennett (Community & Rural Development) on the last two years of ICET operations
- Nov 5th, appeared on Coast Cable with Mayor Inkster and Chair Shugar; very few new phone-in people; can the media help drum up more callers?
- Nov 6th, meeting with Mayor Inkster and the RCMP. Sgt Russ Howard is the interim Detachment Commander
- Nov 18th, 7:30 am; BCI
- Nov 19th, Vancouver Health Authority re St Mary's Expansion @ Seaside Centre
- Nov 20th, ICET will decide whether or not to change the funding ratio for the Lower Sunshine Coast
- Nov 25, address to the Okanagan Similkameen RD on the LivCom award
- Dec 1st, Air Quality Management Plan, Lions Bay, 10 am -3 pm

As HWTM said, "It's easy when there's only four of us." The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

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