



**DISTRICT OF HIGHLANDS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL ELECTRONIC COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021 @ 1:00 PM**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ken Williams
Councillor Leslie Anderson
Councillor Ann Baird
Councillor Gord Baird
Councillor Marcie McLean
Councillor Karel Roessingh
Councillor Rose Stanton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Administrative Officer Lorraine Hilton
Corporate Officer Deb Hopkins
Municipal Planner Laura Beckett
Building Official Chris Leek

Public Observation: 1

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: 27-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2. RECEIPT OF CORRESPONDENCE

2.1

Correspondence, D. Watson, January 28, 2021

RE: BOW HUNTING BYLAW

MOTION: 28-2021

Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird
That the correspondence from D. Watson dated January 28, 2021 be received.

CARRIED

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1

Report – Chief Administrative Officer, January 25, 2021

RE: 2019-2022 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES – 2021 ANNUAL REVIEW

Mayor Williams welcomed Council, staff, and members of the public to the 2021 review of the Strategic Plan.

The Corporate Officer provided a brief presentation noting that the purpose of the meeting was to review the current strategic plan and to consider potential inclusion of referred items. She advised that associated costs for identified priorities will be considered as part of the upcoming annual budget process and highlighted staff and organizational capacity to undertake additional priorities pending Council direction.

The Chief Administrative Officer provided an overview of the 2020 accomplishments. She noted that staff experienced a number of challenges during the past year due to increased capacity required to implement asset management, impacts to core workload because of the ongoing pandemic, and significant land use considerations, substantial subdivision applications, and continuing legal matters.

Ms. Hilton highlighted significant operational projects to be addressed in 2021 such as completing an IT infrastructure review and the change in

dedicated resources to implement the groundwater protection plan. She expressed concern for staff capacity should additional priorities be added to the Plan as presented.

In response to questions from Council the Chief Administrative Officer noted that once Council sets the priorities staff will provide options to fund them as part of the budget process. She noted that ongoing operations are not permitted to be funded through the District's COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant. Ms. Hilton stated that staff believe that they can accomplish what's currently included in the Plan as outlined in the revised timeline.

Council asked about increasing staff capacity through consultants or temporary positions and using the Safe Restart Grant to fund these additional resources. The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Council may choose to increase staff resources, however the Safe Restart Grant must be used for COVID-19 related response and recovery costs. She noted that some funding from the grant would be included in the Financial Plan for eligible costs related to implementation of the Emergency Program Strategic Plan, among other operating costs. Following further discussion, Ms. Hilton expressed concern for individual staff capacity to manage additional consultants, organizational capacity to increase staff, and administrative capacity to manage additional growth within the current organizational structure.

Council discussed the revised timeline and the projects included in the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan. Staff presented information for Council's consideration on the following matters:

- Groundwater mapping recommendations;
- Bow hunting activities;
- Parks management; and
- Climate Leadership Plan action items.

Discussion ensued with consideration of the included scoping sheets. Council considered the items in terms of impacts of outcomes and what actions staff had already commenced or implemented to help determine the inclusion of any additional priorities in the Strategic Plan.

There was consensus that staff be requested to explore options for excluding species from permissible bow hunting activities within the District's boundaries, but that this item not be added to the Strategic Plan.

MOTION: 29-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That Council approve the revised timelines for Strategic Plan initiatives as attached to the report of the Chief Administrative Officer dated January 25, 2021 and titled "2019-2022 Strategic Priorities – 2021 Annual Review".

CARRIED

The Chief Administrative Officer clarified that Council's motion indicated that no additional items were to be included in the proposed timeline.

MOTION: 30-2021

Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Roessingh
That staff be directed to liaise with the Province of BC regarding available mechanisms for species exclusion for bow hunting in the District and report back to Council with potential options.

CARRIED

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 31-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the Special Council meeting of February 3, 2021 adjourn at 3:28 pm.

CARRIED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

Adopted February 16, 2021