



CITY OF BROOKS

Council Committee

May 11, 2021

NOTES

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Present:

- Mayor Barry Morishita
- Councillor Dan Klein
- Councillor John Petrie
- Councillor Jon Nesbitt
- Councillor Norm Gerestein
- Councillor Joel Goodnough
- Councillor Bill Prentice

CITY STAFF

Present:

- Alan Martens, CAO
- Amanda Peterson, Deputy CAO
- Amy Rommens, Manager, Administration
- Don Saari, Manager, Public Works & Utilities
- Adeib Bashar, Manager, Municipal Energy
- Randi McPhillips, Manager, Recreation Services
- Mark Brandt, Municipal Enforcement Practicum Student
- Logan Grant, CPO
- Peter Thompson, CPO
- Jenny Wallace, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
- Bruce Thiessen, IT Supervisor

Mayor Barry Morishita called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. Q1 MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

- ✚ A. Rommens introduced Mark Brandt who is a Municipal Enforcement Practicum Student who started with the City last Tuesday. Mayor Morishita welcomed Mark Brandt, and noted that it is great to see him doing his practicum in his home city.
- ✚ A. Rommens provided an overview of the Q1 Municipal Enforcement Statistics, which covered the following areas:
 - Outreach and Education;
 - Collaboration with External Departments;
 - Traffic Safety Program; and,
 - Animal Control/BAPS.
- ✚ There was discussion on the excellent financial reporting from BAPS, the APIS e-ticketing system and implementation date, and the breakdown of violations related to Class 7 Drivers versus speeding. L. Grant noted that speeding violations hardly ever involve a Class 7 Driver.

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Committee accepted the report as information.

2. CEMETERY BYLAW 21/12

- ✚ A. Rommens noted that the current Cemetery Bylaw is from 1984, and that many processes have changed.
- ✚ A. Rommens provided an overview of the major changes in the draft bylaw.
- ✚ Discussion was held on cremation with respect to the current utilization of having one or more urns in a burial plot, the definition of “Adult”, and whether a surcharge of \$150.00 should be levied for funerals arriving after 4:00 p.m. The \$150.00 surcharge was left in the draft bylaw.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KLEIN that Council Committee recommend that Bylaw 21/12 be forwarded to Council for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

3. REC PROGRAM ENERGY AUDITS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✚ A. Bashar advised that the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) offers a funding opportunity for recreation centres in the form of rebates for completing energy audits and implementing the identified energy conservation measures. The aim of the program is to help municipalities reduce greenhouse gas emissions and utility costs.
- ✚ A. Bashar noted that in July 2020, six engineering firms from MCCAC’s approved list of contractors were invited to submit a proposal, and one was selected. The audits took place in October 2020 at the JBS Canada Centre and the Centennial Regional Arena (CRA). A total of 26 projects were identified, and have been narrowed down to nine for initial implementation. There is potential for additional funding as grant stacking is permitted; however, the adjusted cost is the net cost only including REC Program rebates.
- ✚ A. Bashar provided an overview of the nine projects, five of the projects are upgrades to the JBS Canada Centre while the other four are upgrades to the Centennial Regional Arena.
- ✚ There was discussion about the project costs, continuing with low cost measures where possible, the life expectancy of an electric ice resurfacer versus a propane operated ice resurfacer. A. Martens advised that the total costs of the nine projects is \$632,159 with grant funding covering 75% of the costs. R. McPhillips advised that she believes the battery in the electric ice surfacer will last 10 years, and that the life expectancy of the resurfacer is 20 years.

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MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GERESTEIN that the application for the nine energy conservation measures be approved and if successful; that they be funded from the operating contingency reserve, and further that the operating contingency reserve be replenished by the amount saved from energy savings in the remainder of 2021, 2022, and 2023.

MOTION CARRIED

4. RECREATION USER GROUP GRANT

- ✚ R. McPhillips advised that the County of Newell provided a number of recreation user groups in the City of Brooks with funding as part of the annual Divisions 5 & 10 Recreation and Parks Board grants.
- ✚ R. McPhillips noted that due to the ICF Agreement with the County, funding is no longer available to City of Brooks recreation user group projects. In February of this year, Council allocated \$30,000 per year from the ICF recreation funding to the Brooks and District Recreation and Parks Board and provided direction to facilitate funding request applications and approvals for City recreation user groups.
- ✚ The Brooks and District Recreation and Parks Board has established a temporary committee to develop the “Recreation User Group Grant (“RUGG”)”. Administration recommended Council Committee approve the proposed Recreation User Group Grant (RUGG) Program.
- ✚ There was discussion that the grant process seems very detailed, and as such, might deter some groups from applying for funding. R. McPhillips explained that the program was established based off similar programs from other municipalities, and that the Board will be reviewing the processes and getting feedback from groups in November. She added that if the grant process is too rigorous, the Board would look at it and adapt the program accordingly.

Administration was directed to move forward with the Recreation User Group Grant Program.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morishita declared the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.