

Minutes of the Community Safety Standing Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 9:00 am in the Council Chamber, Municipal Hall, 2nd Floor – 7192 Lantzville Road, Lantzville, BC

PRESENT:

Members: Mayor Mark Swain, Chair
Councillor Joan Jones
Councillor Ian Savage

Absent: Councillor Lerner
Councillor Mundell

Resource Group: Glenn Morphy, Acting Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Public Works
Neil Rukus, Fire Chief
Inspector Andrew Burton, Operations Support Officer and incoming Superintendent, RCMP Nanaimo Detachment
George Robinson, Director of Planning and Community Services

Staff: Delcy Wells, Director of Corporate Administration (Recorder)

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 am and acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Snaw-naw-as, the Nanoose First Nation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the October 8, 2024, Community Safety Standing Committee meeting agenda be adopted, as amended, with the movement of Item 4a to a Closed portion of the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the regular Community Safety Standing Committee of Council meeting be closed to the public, pursuant to sections 90(1) (c), (f) and (m), of the *Community Charter*, for the purpose of considering:

- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (f) law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;
- (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting;

Following adoption of the above motion, the meeting was closed to the public.

MEETING REOPENED TO THE PUBLIC: 9:41 AM

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the April 12, 2022, Community Safety Standing Committee meeting minutes be approved, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STATUS OF COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL / AND COUNCIL MOTIONS - Nil

VERBAL UPDATES

Fire Rescue [Chief Neil Rukus]

- Fire incidents are down by 23 calls from last year; flat wildfire season helped
- Membership at 29 members; losing 3 due to work elsewhere; new recruit class needed now; in 2025, we will hire 5 more volunteer firefighters
- Staff changes; Chief of Operations has been replaced and two new Captains assigned
- Ladder truck purchase nearly complete
- Training; firefighters have spent lots of time down at Pierce Woods Marine Park to do training; great training opportunity to use this building; lots of learning
- Nanoose Fire Department approached the District about a new training facility
- 8 members have completed First Responder training; can now assist BC Ambulance; gap training identified—10 members going through this gap training; cost is free now for renewal training; no external funding for First Responder training for firefighters; also no external funding for related equipment for First Responders; Fire Chiefs are approaching the Province about funding for First Responders
- Cost for First Responder training is approximately \$250/day in wages plus \$800 for the course; gap training is \$450 for the course; no fee for renewals now, which helps
- 2-day auto extrication course coming up; lots of accidents have been attended
- Reflective address program is seeing great reaction from the public; lots of people asking; helps everyone
- Open House held October 5, 2024; over 500 people came through; great response
- Fire Prevention Week this week so the Open House was the kick-off
- Upcoming events are Halloween fireworks show on the water; annual food drive; Santa Parade on December 7th

Bylaw Enforcement [George Robinson]

- 41 complaints for 2024 to date; zoning issues this year due to legislative changes; business license is now required for rental properties; many did not have building permits; provided the opportunity to inspect the homes that had not done their work with a building permit to ensure safety; extra hours for the building inspector; once a building permit was completed, a business license could be provided; a business license is required to list the property on web sites; parking is reviewed per the zoning bylaw, which requires 2 parking spaces for a house and 1 for a rental; universal compliance achieved due to income potential
- RCMP has been helpful and provided support where needed
- 51 complaints were filed in 2023

Public Works [Glenn Morphy]

- Fully staffed now; able to move forward with projects; thank you to Council for support
- Full personal protective equipment (PPE); Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) training provided; chlorine handling training also provided
- Speeding concerns expressed; need direction from Council; some complaints about burn outs; lowering speed limit is not effective for these issues; need traffic studies to address these issues
- Speed study also involves RCMP to help with solutions

- Dickinson Road has gotten worse with bumps and dips; tender out right now to do repairs
- Security issues at Pierce Woods Marine Park; RCMP have been helpful; community problem and safety issue

Acting CAO [Glenn Morphy]

- Plan to move forward with new Occupational Health and Safety Committee; needs to be re-established; reflective address program generating great response—congratulations to the Fire Department

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Nil

NEW BUSINESS

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize staff to determine the location of traffic studies to be completed in 2024 and 2025; AND FURTHER THAT, these locations and the associated costs for the studies be reported to Council; AND FURTHER THAT, the 2024-2028 and 2025-2029 financial plans be amended accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Committee recommends to Council, THAT Council members receiving community safety complaints from the public be advised to respond: "Please call the RCMP direct (250.754.2345) re: speeding or criminal issues OR email district@lantzville.ca regarding other community safety issues providing name, civic address and concern. If your concern could not be resolved with the Chief Administrative Officer, you can email district@lantzville.ca, addressed to the attention of Council, and staff will distribute to all members of Council.

DEFEATED

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT a safety complaint reporting system be brought before Council for their consideration.

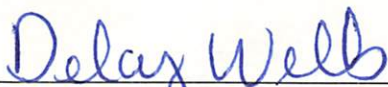
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:24 am

Certified Correct:



Delcy Wells, Director of Corporate Administration

Confirmed this 6th day of November, 2024.



Mayor Mark Swain, Chair

