

Fiscal & Environmental Select Committee (FESC)
Minutes of November 8, 2006
"Adopted"

Location: Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road

Present: Bob McMinn chair, Marcie McLean recording secretary, Bev York,
Paul Weyer, Hans Waelti, Warren Lee, Vicky Husband,

Staff: Chris Coates,

Council Liaison: Jane Mendum

Absent: Karen Burns, Vice-Chair

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item # 1. **Approval of the agenda**

The chair asked for any additions to the agenda, none were noted.

Motion by: Hans Waelti,

Seconded: Bev York,

"That the agenda be approved". **Motion carried.**

Item # 2. **Adoption of the minutes**

a) Minutes from the June 14, 2006 meeting,

Motion by: Bev York,

Seconded: Paul Weyer,

"That the Minutes of June 14, 2006 be adopted". **Motion carried.**

b) Minutes from the Special meeting held July 26, 2006,

Motion by: Hans Waelti,

Seconded: Marcie McLean,

"That the Minutes of July 26, 2006 be adopted". **Motion carried.**

Item # 3. **Update from Council Liaison/Staff**

Chris Coates, CAO, provided the Council update as Council Liaison had not arrived yet.

Mr. Coates went through the main points changed in the current amended 5 Year Financial Plan. Such as the \$117,000.00 received from the 2006 reassessment of Bear Mountain, and, the \$57,000.00 increase for 2006 in the provincial Small Communities Protection Grant. The 5 Year Financial Plan was advanced to include completion of paving Lost Lake Rd. and, the upgrading of Edward's Bridge. The budget targets approximately \$70,000.00 to the municipality's General Operation Surplus Fund.

The CAO also updated the committee on the situation of a new driveway access onto Millstream Lake Road near the junction of Millstream Lake & Munn Roads. In receiving some public objections to the driveway, municipal staff discovered that no "site line standards" existed technically for the District of Highlands. Council has now adopted a new bylaw which addresses standards for new driveways. There could be variances sought by the public in the future, if so, those will require a traffic engineer's report together with an application to Council.

And the administrator also updated the committee briefly on a meeting staff and council had with Ministry of Transportation staff, and, Regional Director Tracy Couper at the Union of BC Municipalities conference. Highlands staff and council were advised that they "should not be concerned" with the Malahat Corridor option which proposes a route through the Highlands.

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Item # 4. Unfinished Business

- a) the amended 5 Year Financial Plan Leaflet,
- b) Stipend to Volunteer Fire Fighters.

a) Leaflet:

A verbal update was provided by the chair to the committee on the 3rd version of the Leaflet appearing in the committee's agenda for this meeting, which now contains some updated financial information, and several changes in the content which council wanted implemented.

Some discussion ensued and, some questions were asked of the administrator pertaining to the future policing costs and if they should appear in the budget since the province has announced that they will add the policing costs onto owners' property taxes. The administrator advised that information can remain in the leaflet since council may have some opportunity to vary how those costs may be recovered.

Motion by: Paul Weyer

Seconded: Vicky Husband,

"That the Fiscal & Environmental Select Committee concurs with Council's edits and that the amended Leaflet be distributed."

Motion carried. (Hans Waelti opposed)

Some committee members expressed their "Thanks" to staff, and Bob McMinn acknowledged all the work they put into preparing the draft leaflets.

b) Stipend to Volunteer Fire Fighters:

Discussion ensued on the information provided to date on the matter to the committee, and, questions were asked of the chair and the administrator. Council Liaison also provided some additional information.

It appeared that committee members still did not have enough detailed information, in order to make an informed recommendation to Council. The administrator advised the committee that he is just starting to collect all information of the Fire Department, and will be meeting with the Fire Chief. Mr. Coates offered to gather additional information, and, to meet with the Fire Chief and to report back to the committee in the beginning of the New Year. The committee agreed with this offer.

Item # 5. New Business

Letter from Mayor of the City of Burnaby Re: Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDE's)

Some discussion occurred around this topic.

Motion by: Vicky Husband

Seconded: Warren Lee,

"That the committee supports recommendations 1 and 2 outlined in the letter dated October 02, 2006, from the City of Burnaby's mayor, and, that the committee recommends that Council support the City of Burnaby's recommendations 1 and 2 in their letter, and the committee suggests that a copy of this report be sent to Dr. Keith Martin."

Motion carried.

Item #6. Adopted minutes from the Community & Services Infrastructure Advisory Committee dated April 26, 2006.

The chair advised the committee that Council passed a resolution to forward these minutes to our committee for our information. Specifically pertaining to Item #3 of those minutes a Verbal Report from Fire Chief Barry Ford Re: Activities and Concerns of the Fire Dept. See page 2 of those minutes in this agenda.

It was discussed that there maybe items of interest for our committee from those minutes to discuss in the future. Some members had not had an opportunity to read the material, therefore the matter was tabled.

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Staff and Council, please note these minutes are in DRAFT form until "Adopted" by the Fiscal & Environmental Select Committee.

"Recommendations" from these minutes will appear on a separate page.

Chair, Bob McMinn sign off: 

Recording Secretary, Marcie McLean sign off: 