
6ATTENDING

Mayor Don Clarke, Chair
Deputy Mayor Mike Trinacty
Councillor Ty Walsh
Councillor Adam Lutz
Councillor Derrick Jamieson
Councillor Rod Reeves
Jen Boyd, Chief Administrative Officer
Lisa Buchan, Director of Finance
Tim Harding, Director of Public Works
Krista Longmire, Planning & Bylaw Administrative Coordinator

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Gregory Hubbert, Berwick Mural Society
Paul Beazley, PVSC
Rod Tremblay, PVSC

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Councillor Chris Goddard

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA
BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.**

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**a. IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 28, 2023, BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.**

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS

a. Greg Hubbert with the Berwick Mural Society thanked Council for their continued support of the mural projects. The 3rd mural in the commercial district will be a wrap-around on the Wilson's Discount Building. This mural will have an indigenous theme. Mr. Hubbert requested \$3,000 financial support for the project.

Mr. Hubbert left the meeting at 6:39 pm

- b.** Paul Beazley and Rod Tremblay from Property Valuation Services presented an overview of their services. They highlighted that Berwick's 2024 Assessment Roll activity over 2023 includes:
- Residential assessments increased 8.48%
 - Commercial assessments increased 7.90%
 - The CAP is set at 3.2% with 90% of the residential dwellings in Berwick under capped assessment.

PVSC Staff left the meeting at 7:23 pm

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. Community Development

The report was circulated and reviewed by the Committee.

b. Public Works

The report was circulated and reviewed by the Committee. Director Harding indicated that the mild winter has allowed staff to be able to work on other projects.

c. Finance

The report was circulated and reviewed by the Committee.

e. CAO

The report was presented and reviewed by the Committee. CAO Boyd highlighted that interviews for the Director of Electric Utilities will take place next week. The Virtual meeting policy will be presented at the next Council meeting. The new bridge will be completed by the end of 2024. The stop-and-go traffic will continue for the next week. CAO Boyd met with other Valley municipalities to discuss homelessness.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. AREA Board** - CAO Boyd mentioned that the strategic planning session is at the end of February

b. Interim IMSA Board

i. Kings Transit Authority

The KTA report was reviewed by the Committee.

ii. Valley Waste

The Valley Waste report was reviewed by the Committee.

c. Police Services Advisory Committee

Unapproved minutes from the committee meeting and report were

circulated and reviewed.

d. Kings Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee
Report circulated and reviewed.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. 2024/25 Draft Operating Budget V1

Director Buchan reviewed V1 of the draft operating budget and highlighted some of the key revenue and expenses. At present, there is a shortfall of \$306,000 projected. Under the MGA, Berwick must present a balanced budget.

Revenue:

- V1 of the draft operating budget assumes a 0% change in the tax rate, resulting in an increase in taxation revenue of \$327,900 based on assessment growth alone.
- The Municipal Capacity Grant has increased by \$33K as reflected within the new provincial service agreement.

Expenses:

- \$15,000 has been included for the Municipal election
- Low-income tax exemptions have increased by \$15K based on the increase in eligible property assessments
- An additional \$80K will be added to the debt financing expense as the Fire Hall debenture is up for refinancing
- A 6% increase to RCMP services is included, increasing \$75K

Director Buchan reminded everyone that the public engagement session is on Monday, January 29, 2024.

8. MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Clarke will review his activities over the last month at the next meeting.

9. IN-CAMERA

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED TO DEFER THE IN-CAMERA ITEMS UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

MOTION CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 10:45 pm

MOTION CARRIED

Approved by Council *February 27, 2024*

**As recorded by Krista Longmire, Planning & Bylaw Administrative
Coordinator**