

Minutes of the special meeting of the Council of the Village of Fruitvale held on February 25, 2019 in the Council Chambers.

Council Present:	Mayor:	Steve Morissette
	Councillors:	Vickie Fitzpatrick Bill Wenman Lindsay Kenny
Council Absent:	Councillor:	Bert Kniss
Staff Present:	CAO:	Mike Maturo
	MFCS:	Kelli Tuttle
Media Present:		None
Gallery:		2

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morissette called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The purpose of the February 25, 2019 Special Meeting of Council is to reconsider and possibly adopt three utility rate bylaws: Sanitary Sewer, Stormwater, and Solid Waste.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Addition to the agenda: AKBLG submission on preferred corporate rate for credit cards for BC municipalities and regional districts.

2019-02-25-01

MOVED Kenny / SECONDED Wenman

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended with the addition of item D. c) AKBLG submission on preferred corporate rate for credit cards for BC municipalities and regional districts.

CARRIED

BUSINESS AT HAND

a). Request for Decision: Sanitary Sewer and Stormwater utility annual service rates.

Discussion: Councillor Wenman opposed to the Sanitary Sewer Bylaw for the following reasons:

1. Passing before the Town Hall meeting scheduled for March 5, 2019.

2. There is no reason to accelerate the passing to ensure invoicing can be done before the end of February because Council is able to set the invoicing and discount dates.
3. The bylaw is not transparent due to all the prior year amendments that make it difficult to track to the parent bylaw.

Councillor Wenman is in favor of the fee, but the bylaw in its current form is too confusing.

Response: Mayor Morissette informed that the parent bylaw is easily found on the Village's website and is available to the public. The bylaw is clearly laid out on-line and the main point to the bylaw is the fees.

Discussion: Councillor Fitzpatrick ask how much effort it would take to do a new bylaw.

Response: CAO Maturo responded that it requires a redraft of the bylaw and to bring the new bylaw back for 3 readings and adoption.

Discussion: Councillor Kenney asked if Council was passing all three bylaws at once

Response: CAO Maturo responded that there are 2 reports with 3 separate motions.

Discussion: Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that she is uncomfortable with the process because she has not fully understood the process.

Response: Mayor Morissette responded that he has also had some concerns, but Council has been elected to make these types of decisions.

Discussion: Councillor Wenman reminded Councillors that at the last Committee of the whole it was discussed that the bylaw passing could be repealed if the accelerated process did not meet Council's intent. He would now like to stop the process in order to clean up the bylaws.

Discussion: Councillor Kenney stated she is concerned with passing the Stormwater Bylaw due to the reasoning of citizens that they do not have storm drainage on their property.

Response: CAO Maturo responded that all lots have some form of storm drainage as stormwater runs through all land. The rates are now used for a specific, identified purpose rather than including the charges for expenses in the tax rate where it is not specifically identified for stormwater.

Discussion: Councillor Fitzpatrick asked if sewer lines had been camera'd.

Response: CAO Maturo responded that some may have been done in 2010 and that visual inspection may also have been done that showed disfunction in the system.

Discussion: Mayor Morissette stated that the new utility is more transparent; it is easily seen what money is collected and where it is spent. Infiltration has been a huge problem and can now have specific funding to solve the problem.

Discussion: Councillor Wenman stated that there are alternative fee structures and other utilities usually come into a home and/or leave a home, but storm does not.

Storm drainage issues can be fixed through capital improvements. There is no way to substantiate how a fee structure for storm drainage is imposed.

Response: CAO Maturo responded that the estimates of expenses in the budget substantiate the rates.

Discussion: Councillor Wenman feels that citizens will rather see it included in taxes than a fee. Citizens do not see the fee as being for usage so it is not a real user fee.

Response: CAO Maturo responded that this is a point where we must designate specific funds to storm.

Response: Mayor Morissette clarified that Council supports a stormwater utility, but not necessarily the stormwater fee.

Response: Councillor Wenman stated:

1. He is speaking against the motion.
2. Recommends that we change the discount date in the bylaws to read 30 days after billing date.
3. More consistency be built into the bylaws. For example, a discount exists in the sewer bylaw, but not in the stormwater bylaw. Utility rate bylaws should be consistent.
4. Rounding is done differently on all rates. Rounding needs to be applied more consistently.

2019-02-25-02

MOVED Wenman / SECONDED Fitzpatrick

THAT Council provide reconsideration and adoption to the Village of Fruitvale Sewer User Rates and Fees Bylaw 842, amendment bylaw # 899, 2019.

For: Morissette
Opposed: Fitzpatrick, Wenman, Kenny

2019-02-25-03

MOVED Wenman / SECONDED Fitzpatrick

THAT Council provide reconsideration and adoption to the Village of Fruitvale Stormwater Utility Rates and Fees Bylaw #901, 2019.

For: Morissette
Opposed: Fitzpatrick, Wenman, Kenny

DEFEATED

b). Village of Fruitvale Waste Control Bylaw 850 Solid Waste Fees & Charges Amendment Bylaw 900, 2019

2019-02-25-04

MOVED Wenman / SECONDED Kenny

THAT Council provide reconsideration and adoption to Waste Control Bylaw 850 Solid Waste Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 900, 2019.

For: Morissette
Opposed: Fitzpatrick, Wenman, Kenny

DEFEATED

c). AKLG discussion on collaborative purchasing power

2019-02-25-05

MOVED Wenman / SECONDED Fitzpatrick

THAT Council presents to AKBLG for Resolution: "THAT UBCM use its collective influence to negotiate a preferred corporate credit card rate with one of the major credit card companies for British Columbia Municipalities and Regional Districts."

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

2019-02-25-06

MOVED Fitzpatrick / SECONDED Kenny

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 4:45 pm.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer