

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Monday June 14, 2021



5TH AVENUE SITE PROJECT UPDATE

At the March 8 Council meeting, Administration was directed to prepare a report on the status of the downtown Fifth Avenue Town-owned land, including a recommended set of actions to keep the project moving forward to be brought back by June 14, 2021. Administration is nearing the completion of the Fifth Avenue Site Development Strategy that was outlined in as a 2021 Capital Improvement Project in the 2021-2023 Budget approved by Council last fall. As this Development Strategy will provide critical direction related to the future development of this site, Administration confirmed that further information will be brought forward at the July 19 Committee of the Whole.

SALT & SAND SHED REPLACEMENT

The existing sand and salt shed located in the operations yard on Griffin Road was manufactured and constructed in 2003 to provide weather protection for sand and salt stockpiles required for road maintenance throughout the winter. As part of the 2021 budget approval process, Council approved a capital expenditure of \$130,000 to refurbish the existing structure.

As a result of the information provided through the RFP, it was determined that refurbishing the facility is not a viable option. Because this facility is critical to the Towns winter street maintenance program, and as the result of safety concerns related to the information provided in the RFP response, Administration recommended replacing the facility rather than refurbish it. The cost of replacing the facility exceeds the current approved budget.

Council approved the use of \$85,000 from capital reserves to replace the salt and sand storage shed located at the Operations Yard and supported waiving the associated building permit fees.

GRANT SUPPORTED LED LIGHTING PROJECT: SLSFSC

Council approved \$42,703 through the Operational Reserve Fund to be used to support the Recreation Energy Conservation (REC) program grant to fund the REC Program Simplified LED lighting project at the Spray Lake Sawmill Family Sports Centre (SLSFSC). This investment will result in a grant of \$76,124 through the REC program.

SALE OF SURPLUS PUBLIC UTILITY LOT

Council authorized Administration to dispose of Lot 3PUL, Block 9, Plan 1311688, (45B Willows Close) for no less than market value. This property was designated as a public utility lot for the purpose of snow storage at the time the neighbourhood was developed. Through internal review, it was determined that the parcel is not required for any municipal purpose, now or into the future. Funds from the sale will be designated to a land sale reserve.

2022-2024 BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

As part of the 2022 - 2024 budget process, a survey was conducted to gather feedback from the public on service levels and funding sources. The results will be used to help guide the budget preparation. Further public consultation will take place in the fall once the draft budget is complete, as an opportunity to check in with the community.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council directed Administration to prepare a report on how the Town of Cochrane can formalize the commitment to the principles of the Truth and Reconciliation to live in ongoing harmony and partnership between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the region. The report will include suggested dedicated resources needed to complete the recommended steps for the upcoming year. The initial report will be presented to Council by the September 13, 2021 meeting.

INFORMATION REQUEST: CLOSURE OF THE PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

Council brought forward a request for information and a presentation to Council regarding the recent closure of the Primary Care Network (PCN). A representative from the PCN has been invited to provide an update at the June 28 Council meeting. Administration is actively pursuing additional information to properly inform our organization and Council and identify how we can support the best outcomes for our community.

SLSFSC OWNERSHIP & OPERATING AGREEMENTS

Council directed Administration to provide notice as required to terminate existing agreements related to the ownership and operation of the Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre and Cochrane Arena, with an interest of collaboratively pursuing a renewed operating and ownership model.

Council Highlights is a summary of actions and decisions; it is not an official record of the meeting. Council meeting minutes are presented at the next scheduled Council meeting and become official once approved. For the full archive of agendas and minutes, please go to www.cochrane.ca/Agendas

Council Highlights is prepared by Town of Cochrane Legislative Services.
Questions or comments: 403-851-2500 or legislative@cochrane.ca

