

Council Highlights – January 8, 2024

Regular Council Meeting

Bylaw 24/2023 – 365 Railway Street Land Use Amendment

Council gave Second and Third Reading to Bylaw 24/2023 ~ 365 Railway Street Land Use Amendment. The purpose of the Land Use Bylaw Amendment would re-designate this property to Direct Control (DC-02) District, based on the General Commercial (C-G) District and allow for the continued use of a Greenhouse and Garden Centre as a Permitted Use within the DC-02 District. Carried unanimously.

Bylaw 01/2024 – Southbow Landing Land Use Amendment

Council gave First Reading to Bylaw 01/2024 and set the Public Hearing for January 22, 2024 at 5:30pm. The land use amendment is intended to facilitate medium and high-density residential development and is in alignment with the Southbow Landing Neighbourhood Plan.

The Southbow Landing land use amendment application proposes to change approximately 12.31 acres of land from Urban Holdings District (U-H) to Residential Medium Density District (R-MD) and approximately 15.18 acres from Urban Holdings (U-H) to Residential High-Density District (R-HD).

Carried unanimously.

Committee Appointments

Annual recruitment for Council committees was completed with appointments by Council as follows:

Cochrane Library Board:

- Christina Caouette
- Charles Love
- Hank Pilotte

Cochrane Planning Commission:

- Georg Paffrath

Family and Community Support Services Advisory Board:

- Theresa Bolton
- Diana Lowe

Parks and Recreation Committee:

- Vanessa Bilan
- Annie Guimond
- Mark Hoskin
- Doug Marter
- Kerry Moynihan
- Lindsay Wilson

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Subdivision and Development Appeal Board:

- Mark Cardwell
- Hayley Gavin
- Ashley Marshall

Carried unanimously.

Cochrane Library Safety & Use Bylaw and Terms of Reference Updates

The Cochrane Public Library has recently completed a thorough review and update of its Safety & Use Bylaws and Terms of Reference, marking the first revision since 2019. Recognizing the importance of good governance and ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for all patrons, these documents have been carefully revised to align with current community needs and regulatory standards following the Government of Alberta's Public Library Services Branch requirements.

Updating the Safety & Use Bylaws reduces barriers for patrons and ensures equitable access to the library for all Cochrane residents.

The updates to the Safety & Use Bylaws include:

- Easier access for youth cardholders (13-17) to get a library card.
- Removal of card fees and overdue fines.
- Clarifying parent/guardian responsibility for materials borrowed by cardholders under 18.
- Clarification around Library Meeting Room rentals and usage (most rooms have been converted into office space or no longer exist.)
- Additions to the Code of Conduct (no panhandling, cursing, solicitation, or contravention of health and safety guidelines.)
- Alignment with The Regional Automation Consortium (TRAC) operational guidelines surrounding how anyone living in a Marigold member municipality can access services.
- Removal of replacement card fee (cards are free through Marigold.)
- Adjusted loan periods for certain collections (i.e. longer loans for movies.)
- Correcting a number of errors, such as the max renewal limit (it has always been a maximum of 2 renewals) and the life cycle for notice of overdue services.
- Including non-traditional collections, i.e. videogames and equipment.
- Clarification for Lost and Damaged Items procedure.
- Updated Marigold Map.

Council accepted the report as information.

Carried unanimously.

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Notice of Motion

Councillor Fedeyko presented a Notice of Motion that Council direct Administration to investigate the process for establishing a 3rd party Whistleblower Program and Policy and identify next steps for implementation with a draft policy to be brought back to Council for consideration by June 30, 2024. Carried unanimously.

In Camera

Three In-Camera items were presented to Council pertaining to Personnel - Union Negotiations, Growth Discussion and Glen Vista Peak. Council returned to the Regular Meeting and made the following resolutions.

Personnel – Union Negotiations –Exception under Section 24(1)(d), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ~ Advice from Officials that Council ratify the Teamsters Collective Agreement for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026 between the Town of Cochrane and the Teamsters Local 987.

Carried unanimously.

For Growth Discussion that the In Camera meeting discussion and documents remain confidential pursuant to Sections 24 (1)(g) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act; and Council directed Administration to proceed with Option 1 as presented during the In Camera session.

Carried unanimously.

For Glenvista Peak – Exception under Section 24(1)(g), Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Advice from Officials that, barring a future application being brought forward for Council's consideration, Council direct Administration to take no further action specific to use or ownership of the Glen Vista Peak lands legally described as Plan 2502G, Block A (901 1A Highway).

Carried unanimously.