

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND AUDIT

Minutes of the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit meeting held in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at City Hall, 1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Garth Frizzell, Chair; Mayor Lyn Hall <11:00 a.m. to 11:39 a.m.>; Councillor Frank Everitt; and Councillor Cori Ramsay

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Kathleen Soltis, City Manager; Mr. Kris Dalio, Director of Finance; Mr. Ian Wells, General Manager of Planning and Development; Mr. Michael Kellett, Senior Communications Officer; Ms. Tiina Schaeffer, Manager of Sustainable Community Development; Mr. Darin Johnson, Deputy Assessor, BC Assessment <11:20 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.>; Mr. Corey Naphtali, Engagement Partner, KPMG <11:00 a.m. to 11:58 a.m.>; Ms. Micaela Roque, Senior Manager, KPMG <11:00 a.m. to 11:58 a.m.>; Ms. Champa Maduranayagam, Transit Planner; Mr. Ryan Dennis, Manager of Sales and Revenue, BC Transit; Mr. Rob Ringma, Manager of Government Relations, BC Transit; and Ms. Leslie Kellett, Legislative Coordinator.

A. COMMENCEMENT

The Standing Committee on Finance and Audit meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Ramsay, seconded by Councillor Everitt, that the agenda for the February 25, 2019 Standing Committee on Finance and Audit meeting, be amended to move agenda item D.4: Variable Tax Rate Structure for 2019 before agenda item D.1: PowerPoint Presentation by BC Assessment: 2019 Assessment Roll, and that the agenda, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried Unanimously

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

C.1 Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held January 21, 2019

Moved by Councillor Everitt, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, that the minutes of the meeting held January 21, 2019 for the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit, BE ADOPTED.

Carried Unanimously

D. REPORTS

D.4 Report dated February 14, 2019 from Mr. Kris Dalio, Director of Finance, regarding Variable Tax Rate Structure for 2019.

Mr. Dalio provided an overview of the report and requested the Committee to consider and the three (3) tax rate options.

Discussion commenced regarding comparator municipalities and the proposed tax rate structure for the tax rate classes.

Moved by Mayor Hall, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, that the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit RECOMMENDS to Council that the City set the estimated Representative Home tax increase to 4.30%, set the Major Industrial Tax portion of the levy collected to \$14,500,000 and obtain the remaining revenue by increasing the Business, Utility, Light Industrial and Farm tax rates equally.

Carried Unanimously

Mr. Darin Johnson, Deputy Assessor, BC Assessment, entered the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 11:20 a.m.

D.1 PowerPoint Presentation by BC Assessment: 2019 Assessment Roll

Mr. Darin Johnson, Deputy Assessor, BC Assessment, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2019 Assessment Roll including information on the 2019 completed roll outcomes, non-market change and risk to roll.

Discussion commenced regarding the appeal process and the breakdown of amendments and appeals by class. Mr. Johnson responded to questions of the Committee and will provide additional details regarding the breakdown of appeals by class via email to Mr. Dalio for distribution to the Committee.

Moved by Councillor Everitt, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, that the presentation provided by BC Assessment, BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

Carried Unanimously

Mayor Hall exited the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 11:39 a.m.
Mr. Johnson exited the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 11:40 a.m.

D.2 PowerPoint Presentation by KPMG: City of Prince George Audit Plan

Mr. Corey Naphtali, Engagement Partner, and Ms. Micaela Roque, Senior Manager, KPMG, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the City of Prince George Audit Plan including information on the auditor's independence, the audit and audit approach and Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) developments.

Discussion commenced. Mr. Naphtali and Ms. Roque responded to questions of the Committee regarding cash transactions and potential risk to the City when dealing with such transactions.

Mr. Naphtali and Ms. Roque inquired if the City was interested in an independent audit of a sampling of expense reports, in addition to the contracted rate, to please advise KPMG of that interest.

Moved by Councillor Ramsay, seconded by Councillor Everitt, that the presentation provided by KPMG, BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

Carried Unanimously

Mr. Naphtali and Ms. Roque exited the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 11:58 a.m.

D.3 Report dated February 15, 2019 from Ian Wells, General Manager of Planning and Development, regarding Transit Fare Review Report.

Ms. Tiina Schaeffer, Manager of Sustainable Community Development, Ms. Champa Maduranayagam, Transit Planner, Mr. Ryan Dennis, Manager of Sales and Revenue, BC Transit; Mr. Rob Ringma, Manager of Government Relations, BC Transit, provided a presentation regarding the Transit Fare Review Report including information regarding modernization and future of fare collection, current fare structure and performance and proposed fare options.

Discussion commenced regarding the proposed fare options.

Moved by Councillor Everitt, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit RECOMMENDS to Council Option 2 of the report dated February 15, 2019 from the General Manager of Planning and Development regarding Transit Fare Review Report.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by Councillor Everitt, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit RECOMMENDS to Council approval of the Public Information Plan as identified in the attachment to the report dated February 15, 2019 from the General Manager of Planning and Development regarding Transit Fare Review Report.

Carried Unanimously

D.5 Standing Committee on Finance and Audit – Work Plan Year 2019

The Work Plan was reviewed with no amendments.

Moved by Councillor Everitt, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, that the 2019 Work Plan for the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit, as presented on the February 25, 2019 meeting agenda, BE APPROVED.

Carried Unanimously

E. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Everitt, seconded by Councillor Ramsay, that there being no further business, the meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit BE ADJOURNED.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.



Councillor Garth Frizzell, Chair



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