DISTRICT OF SQUAMISH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole held Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers, Municipal Hall, 37955 Second Avenue, Squamish, BC

In Attendance: Mayor Greg Gardner
   Councillor Patricia Heintzman
   Councillor Rob Kirkham
   Councillor Paul Lalli
   Councillor Corinne Lonsdale
   Councillor Doug Race
   Councillor Bryan Raiser (9:13 am)

Also in Attendance: Kevin Ramsay, Chief Administrative Officer
   Robin Arthurs, Director of Administrative Services
   Charlene Pawluk, Confidential Secretary
   Marcia Collier, Director of Finance (Acting)

Mayo Gardner called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

   It was moved by Councillor Race, seconded by Councillor Lalli,
   THAT the Committee adopt the April 13, 2010 Committee of the Whole Agenda.

   CARRIED

2. **STAFF REPORTS**

   A. **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

   Items to be discussed during budget meeting:
   - Riverstones Project contribution
   - Adjustments to contingency funds - discuss adding $50,000 to contingency fund
   - Discussion regarding adding $30,000 to Economic Development fund and $20,000 to Legal Fees budget
   - Further debt reduction to SSC or reduce taxes with surplus
   - Tax rate allocation among classes
   - Option to leave budget as is with surplus

   Councillor Raiser arrived at 9:13 am

   **Riverstones Offsite Servicing:**
   $500,000 project to be funded through DCC's and borrowing. Option to utilize funds from Affordable Housing reserve fund was discussed. There is $120,000 in the fund.

   It was moved by Councillor Lonsdale, seconded by Councillor Lalli,
   **RECOMMENDATION:** THAT $100,000 be allocated from the Affordable Housing Reserve fund to offset borrowing for the Riverstones offsite servicing project.

   CARRIED

   It was moved by Councillor Lonsdale, seconded by Councillor Kirkham,
   **RECOMMENDATION:** THAT $100,000 from surplus be reallocated in the budget as follows: increase Contingency fund by $50,000,
increase legal budget by $20,000, and increase the Economic Development budget by $30,000.

CARRIED

(i) Statutory and Non Statutory Reserves
(ii) 2010 List of Budget Changes
(iii) 2010 Tax Completed Roll – Average Tax Bill Base

Allocation of Property Taxes among Classes:
M. Collier, Acting Director of Finance explained and described increases and decreases in assessments for each of the property tax classes. The mill rate has been increased by 3.6% in all tax classes. Ms. Collier explained that Utility and Port classes are set by the Province and non-discretionary. The Committee discussed reducing the light industry mill rate (Class 5) to match the business mill rate. Council requested additional information and comparisons with other communities for Light Industry class and Major Industry class.

Council compared Industry and Light Industry classes in other communities in the outlining Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley to Squamish rates.

It was moved by Councillor Lalli, seconded by Councillor Lonsdale, RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council reduce the Industry tax rate to match the Light Industry tax rate to make Squamish more attractive and competitive to industrial investors.

CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Kirkham, seconded by Councillor Lonsdale, RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council adjust the Light Industry rate to match the Business Class rate (10).

AMENDMENT
It was moved by Councillor Lonsdale, seconded by Councillor Lalli, TO amend the amount of the reduction to 14.9 (2009 rate).

OPPOSED: Mayor Gardner, Councillor Kirkham

CARRIED

OM MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED
RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council adjust the Light Industry rate to 14.9.

CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Lalli, seconded by Councillor Kirkham, RECOMMENDATION: THAT the $38000 difference resulting from reducing the Light Industry rate be recovered from the distributed surplus to maintain tax increases at the percentages demonstrated prior to adjustments.

CARRIED
(iv) 2010 Financial Plan
(v) 2010 Capital Plan

SSC BUDGET FOR 2010

B. Kusch attended to explain the Squamish Sustainability Corporation budget, reinstatement of reduction, hotel tax is included as a revenue in the SSC budget, the additional number is $43,760.

Councillor Heintzman left the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

$35,000 net increase in budget

SSC is budgeting for a $40,000 surplus.

Councillor Heintzman returned at 11:11 a.m.

B. Kusch advised that the requested budget increase for SSC is $31,426 to meet Tourism Squamish’s request for $60,000. The Committee discussed reducing the surplus of $40,000 by 1/3 to $25,000.

It was moved by Councillor Race, seconded by Councillor Rasier, To increase the Squamish Sustainability Corporation budget by $31,426.

OPPOSED: Councillors Lalli, Heintzman, Kirkham, Lonsdale and Mayor Gardner

MOTION FAILED

It was moved by Councillor Lalli, seconded by Councillor Heintzman, RECOMMENDATION: To increase the Squamish Sustainability Corporation budget by $16,500.

OPPOSED: Councillors Kirkham and Lonsdale

CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor Lonsdale, seconded by Councillor Kirkham RECOMMENDATION: THAT the Economic Development budget be decreased by $15,000.

CARRIED

Council recessed for 10 minutes at 11:25 a.m.

Council resumed at 11:34 a.m. with all of Council in attendance as well as K. Ramsay, R. Arthurs, C. Pawluk, M. Collier, B. Kusch

3. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

(i) 2010 Visitor Centre Budget Revision Proposal

Sameer Kajani, President, Denise Imbeau and Darren McCartney, Squamish Chamber of Commerce attended to present the 2010 Visitor Centre budget revision proposal. Partnering with other organizations such as Tourism Squamish was discussed. Visitor Information Centre in budget – page 59 – Tourist Services Contract - $112,000. $19,000 of the request goes towards triple net charge that SSC benefits from. D. McCartney presented on income statements. Strategies to reduce costs include reduction in hours to 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during September and
October, reducing advertising costs, and postponing replacing computers. Formalizing combining efforts with Tourism Squamish and discussed. Proposed budget of $112,000 to be reduced to $84,000 resulting in 2010 savings of approximately $16,000 and $28,000 annualized.

Fee for Service contract does not include Chamber paying anything to SSC. They pay a rental figure out of their own pocket. Chamber of Commerce occupies an office and two desks. The third desk is occupied only occasionally and could be returned for SSC use.

It was moved by Councillor Lonsdale,
Seconded by Councillor Kirkham,
RECOMMENDATION: THAT Line 1767 Tourist Services Contract payment to the Chamber of Commerce be reduced by $16,000.
CARRIED

4. MOTION TO CLOSE
It was moved by Councillor Lalli,
seconded by Councillor Kirkham,
THAT the meeting be closed for the purpose of considering:

- the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party; and

- the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.
CARRIED

Meeting closed to the public at 12:01 p.m.
Meeting reopened to the public at 2:35 p.m. with all of Council in attendance, including K. Ramsay, R. Arthurs, C. Chalmers, N. Plumb

5. TERMINATION
It was moved by Councillor Raiser,
seconded by Councillor Lalli,
THAT the meeting be terminated.
CARRIED

Meeting terminated at 2:36 p.m.

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Greg Gardner, Mayor
CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Robin Arthurs, Director Administrative Services