

## Council-in-Committee Minutes

Council Chamber City Hall 14245 - 56 Avenue Surrey, B.C. **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013** Time: 5:12 p.m.

## Present:

Chairperson - Councillor Martin Councillor Hepner Councillor Hunt Councillor Steele Councillor Villeneuve Mayor Watts <u>Absent:</u> Councillor Gill Councillor Hayne Councillor Rasode Staff Present: City Clerk City Manager City Solicitor General Manager, Engineering General Manager, Finance & Technology General Manager, Human Resources General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture General Manager, Planning & Development

## A. DELEGATIONS

1. John Sprung, Chairman, Fraser Valley Heritage Rail Society (FUHRS) File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to provide a brief presentation on the FVHRS 2013 Inaugural Heritage Rail Season. The Delegation made the following comments:

- Just over a year ago our base of operation was moved from Sullivan Station to the new Cloverdale car barn. The relocation included cars 1225 and 1304 along with the contents of the Sullivan car barn and office.
- 1225 has been reconnected and made into a train again and the construction of the generator cart, with the assistance of Cummings Western Canada of Surrey, has also been completed.
- The track connection of the car barn and the yard to the original main line has been completed and the official opening of the car barn was held October 20, 2012.
- The very first run of 1225 occurred on February 14, 2013.
- With the support of the community, we were able to build a replica of the Cloverdale station on the original site.
- Appreciation is extended to the City of Surrey staff for the additional help provided in the construction.
- Volunteer ranks have increased with the addition of over 100 new volunteers joining us at the new station.
- The station was completed in early 2013 and has become the main location for the "Interurban Again" operations in Cloverdale.
- Many groups, companies and others donated goods and services for construction of the replica of Cloverdale Station.
- Over the operating season, starting on June 23, 5,175 passengers have been welcomed aboard 1225.

- Special passengers have included:
  - Vic Charman, motor man on the cars during the original operations in Greater Vancouver;
  - Neil Fawcett, was the 4,000 passenger on September 14, 2013; and
  - October 13, 2013, the last day of operations, on her 4th birthday, Miss Bridy Kay Myer of Victoria.
- Many riders have commented on the re-enactors on-site and how they enjoyed their time at the station and on-board the interurban. The re-enactors do bring the history of Surrey alive.
- Car barn tours were very popular. Between trains or on the open house days a large number of people requested tours of the shops viewing restoration work in progress and the various historical displays in the car barn. Expansion of the tours is planned for next year.
- The rolling stock has been expanded with the addition of a 5TM track mobile which is able to move any of the cars along the track if the cars are unable to move under their own power.
- A new speeder has been added for track inspections, right-of-way cleaning and possibly with reintroduction of limited speeder rides at the request of many of the passengers.
- Moving from late 1900 century technology into the 21st by using social media to connect with the community. Now have a Facebook page and Twitter feed to provide notices to schedule changes and planned events. Also, updating the web presence to provide instant communication with our passengers and the rest of the community.
- The Associated Tourist Railroads and Railway Museums (ATRRM) in North America awarded the Society the 2013 Significant Achievement Award for work on 1225, the Cloverdale Station replica and the start of the operation.
- The platform was enhanced with the donation of hanging baskets from Kwantlen Polytechnic University Horticultural Program and in September a class assignment was undertaken of the new landscape plan for the station and surrounding area.
- Work has begun on the site to have the landscape in place for opening in 2014.
- It is anticipated that 2 more years will be required to fully restore 1304 and return it to the Fraser Valley line.
- Next week the Society will meet with City staff and SRY Rail Link, our partners for the Heritage Rail Demonstration Project (HRDP), to review the recently completed season and to plan for 2014.
- Upcoming plans:
  - improve access to the main line to allow access each weekend and not be hampered by the increasing train movements on the Cloverdale spur;
  - schedule will be from early May to mid-October 2014 with the same route being Cloverdale to Sullivan Station return;
  - o continue restoration work on 1304; and

- new rolling stock will arrive such as BCER 961 (BC Electric Railway freight motor 961), which has been donated by the Edmonton Radial Railway Association.
- Looking further ahead:
  - 2015 will see:
    - the same route used to Sullivan return;
    - 1304 work will continue;
    - build a new generator car for 1304;
    - increase passenger capacity to approximately 10,000;
  - 2016 will see:
    - 1304 will be ready with 2 trains in operation, passenger capacity will double to approximately 20,000; and
    - look to expand to Newton.
  - o 2017 will look to expanding out to the Kennedy area; and
  - o 2018 or later expand down to the Scott Road terminus.
- The City of Surrey's continued support and encouragement is appreciated.

The following comments were made by Council:

- Councillor Steele congratulated the Society on the work done.
- Councillor Hunt stated that with the potential of increased traffic in the future, and there is a concern with crossing Highway #10 as it is a very slow crossing and the traffic backs up. Is there some way for the crossing of #10 to be sped up considering there are gates at the intersection? The delegation responded that the Society is required by the BC Safety Council and Transport Canada to put "boots on the ground" to ensure that the roadway is clear and that traffic has stopped, however, the society is going to explore how to speed up the crossing.
- The delegation confirmed the Society operates under very different rules from the freight rules SRY operates under. As per the *Railway* Act, different rules apply as the Society does not operate as a passenger train and are treated more like a work train on that line than a full speed passenger service or freight train.
- Councillor Hepner stated that it was no surprise to her that the tours of the shop itself were a success. The delegation responded that the Society does plan to make more tours available and will be working with Surrey Archives on the heritage component.
- The Mayor acknowledged the Society, the volunteer hours, their efforts and all the work done.
- In terms of the education of new volunteers, the delegation responded that this year volunteers range from high school graduate to individuals around our age. Interest is spreading and there are over 300 members of the Society who keep an active eye on what is being done.

• In terms of a financial plan being presented to Council, the delegation responded the Society is working with the current budget and will be speaking with staff about upcoming projects but at the moment there are no new requests coming forward.

## 2. Patricia Bell, Senior Community Energy Planner, Community Energy Association

File: 0290-20; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to congratulate the City of Surrey for receiving the Climate & Energy Action Award for Corporate Operations. The delegation made the following comments:

- Representing the Community Energy Association, the Province of BC, UBCM, FortisBC and BC Hydro this evening in extending congratulations on receipt of the Award.
- The Honourable Steve Thompson, Minister of Forest, Lands and Natural Operations, was very pleased to present the award to Councillor Hayne at the 2013 UBCM Convention.
- The Community Energy Association is a non-profit, has been in place since 1995 and is organized by the Province and UBCM to assist BC local governments with energy planning and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- The mission is to build capacity and accelerate action collaboratively with BC local government, such as recognizing leaders through the Climate & Energy Action Awards.
- From the compelling applications received this year, Surrey's City Centre District and Energy System was selected by the judging panel in the corporate operations category for several reasons:
  - 1. this innovative geo-exchange district heating system will reduce energy consumption for the new City Hall and library by approximately 60% and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by almost 12,000 tons per year;
  - 2. in the last 2 years, a number of key milestones have been met including creating a new City owned district energy utility, a district energy connection bylaw and a related financial assistance policy for developers who are early adopters; and
  - 3. development of this district energy is a key part of the urbanization of Surrey City Centre a visionary retrofit program which requires ongoing leadership and commitment.
- The City Centre District Energy System provides an inspiring example, for other local governments in BC and across Canada.
- The Association looks forward to hearing more about achievements around energy planning in Surrey and will be showcasing this initiative on the Association's website and through a range of services provided to BC local governments.
- The Association welcomes the City of Surrey as Community Energy Association's newest Municipal Member.

- **B.** ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL
- C. CORPORATE REPORTS
- D. DELEGATION REQUESTS
- E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS
- F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS
- G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Mayor Watts Seconded by Councillor Hepner That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

<u>Carried</u>

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Martin, Chairperson