



City of Prince Rupert

MINUTES

For the **SPECIAL REGULAR MEETING** of Council held on April 7th, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 424 - 3rd Avenue West, Prince Rupert, B.C.

PRESENT: Mayor L. Brain
Councillor B. Mirau
Councillor B. Cunningham
Councillor W. Niesh
Councillor G. Randhawa
Councillor N. Kinney
Councillor J. Thorkelson

STAFF: R. Long, City Manager
C. Bomben, Chief Financial Officer
R. Mandryk, Corporate Administrator
V. Stewart, Communications Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Kinney that the Agenda for the Special Regular Council Meeting of April 7th, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a) Report from the Chief Financial Officer – Re: 2016 Budget Final.

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Niesh THAT the mill rate increase will be zero (0%) percent; AND that staff are directed to incorporate this into the 2016 Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 3389, 2016 and related 2016 Property Tax Bylaw No. 3390, 2016; AND that both Bylaws be presented to Council for consideration on April 11th, 2016; and

THAT Council now notifies the community that the City will need to implement asset management and that staff create an asset management policy that will begin to take effect beginning the next taxation year; and

THAT Council approve the recommendation to fund the remaining \$96,000 as requested by the Prince Rupert Library in their Community Enhancement Grant application for 2016.

Councillor Thorkelson – OPPOSED
CARRIED

Councillor Thorkelson asked why the staff was recommending a tax increase of 2% for future infrastructure expenditure when our infrastructure deficit is so extensive that we could spend that 2% in 2016, instead of retaining it for a future expenditure while our infrastructure continues to deteriorate.

Councillor Thorkelson was opposed to no tax increase and supported the staff recommendation of a 2% tax increase for infrastructure use in 2016. She also questioned why, with some City employees receiving a wage increase this year, with MSP going up and with increases in hydro and other costs, and especially with the increase in the provincial cost of living of 1.7% that we are not increasing taxes to keep up with the cost of living. She warned that if we fall back this year in needed expenditures, we may have to have larger percentage increases in the future.

MOVED by Councillor Thorkelson, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, THAT a more rigorous budgeting workshop take place next year and the budgeting process begin earlier in the year with a more detailed budget with what we are expending per department.

CARRIED

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Niesh that the meeting be adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

CARRIED

Confirmed:

These meeting Minutes were adopted by Council. To view signed original, visit City Hall Administration or contact via phone 250-627-0934 or email Cityhall@princerupert.ca

MAYOR

Certified Correct:

CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR