



City of Prince Rupert

2016 BUDGET

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MEETING

AT THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

March 14th, 2016

MINUTES OF MEETING

1. Opening comments from the Mayor.

The Mayor welcomed everyone and explained the instructions in regard to voting procedures and that voting would take place at the end of the meeting.

The Mayor read the Statement of the Chair, and then introduced the City of Prince Rupert Chief Financial Officer.

2. Presentation from the Chief Financial Officer.

The Chief Financial Officer presented the 2016 Budget, (snapshot) from the February 22, 2016 presentation in the Regular Meeting of Council.

An explanatory video was presented which explained how property taxes are calculated.

The Chief Financial Officer concluded her report by explaining the effect of Provincial Tax Caps during the period 2004 – 2015.

3. Opening of Public Comment Period.

The Mayor requested the public to come forward with any questions or comments.

Joe Zelwietro, Chief Librarian, gave thanks to Mayor & Council in regard to the additional funding that was found for library operations.

Larry Golden requested financial information and was directed to the copies at the front of the stage for the public.

Gina Garon indicated she is in favour of putting money aside for asset management. Has an issue with sidewalks being worked on in the winter. Has no issue when the work is done responsibly. She wants to know more about what is being proposed for work being done around the City for 2016.

The Chief Financial Officer suggested we could have a public works update to the community at a future council meeting.

The Mayor suggested that the sidewalk improvement is being done within a five year plan, starting with renewal of 3rd Avenue as the sidewalks are uneven.

Larry Golden inquired as to how the RCMP building requirements and the sewage treatment system were being managed.

The Chief Financial Officer suggested that the City is actively working with the Province of BC to improve the Prince Rupert RCMP building. The sewage treatment system is a legislated requirement that the City is currently working through.

Debra Fernandez, echoed the ‘thank you’ from Joe Zelwietro in regard to the additional funding for the Library.

The Mayor called three times for an additional speaker.

4. Reiteration of the Instructional Comments on the Voting Process.

The Mayor moved to the Electoral voting process.

A demonstration of the voting system was provided.

The First Question Asked:

The City has an extremely large infrastructure deficit. Do you agree the City needs to make asset renewal a priority in this and future budgets?

A = 28 – Yes

B = 5 – No

The Second Question Asked:

Do you agree with the City’s recommendation in the 2016 budget to set aside funds into asset renewal reserves?

A = 32 – Yes

B = 6 – No

The Mayor spoke of the fact that the budget in place is really just getting the status quo looked after.

The Mayor invited further members of the audience to come to the microphone. Having no further members of the public come forward, the Mayor invited everyone to next week’s public meeting in Chambers at City Hall to make comments or suggestions with regard to the budget.

The Mayor adjourned the public engagement consultation meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Confirmed:

MAYOR

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

Certified Correct:

CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR