

## January 23, 2023

### **CivicInfo BC 2023 Membership Dues**

Council approved the payment of the 2023 CivicInfo BC annual membership dues in the amount of \$263.55. CivicInfo BC provides information services such as statistics, job posting services, professional development opportunities and much more to local government employees, elected officials, and members of the public.

### **International Purple Day – March 26<sup>th</sup>**

In support of Epilepsy Awareness, Council proclaimed March 26<sup>th</sup> as International Purple Day.

### **Deconstruction and Demolition of Existing Fire Hall**

Council asked staff to bring forward a report about the demolition plans for the existing fire hall. Due to the age and materials used in original construction, deconstruction, or recycling, method is not possible. However, plans are in place to repurpose and recycle what can be. Some items in the existing building that have been updated such as heaters, exhaust system and the air conditioning unit are slated to go to the Public Works division. Furniture not already going to the new Hall will be taken to cold storage for public auction and the doors will be used for firefighter training. After all these items are removed, metals, wiring and light fixtures will be separated and sold as scrap. Exterior paving, landscaping, and building demolition are planned to take place starting May 1<sup>st</sup> with substantial completion by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Development Variance Permit #3090-20-23-01**

Council authorized the first steps of approval of a Development Variance Permit at 609 Babine Drive. The applicant is requesting to vary the height of an accessory building from 4.8m to 5.75m to accommodate the building of a new garage (accessory building). Next steps will be to complete an agency referral, notify neighbouring properties and a report for final approval will be brought back for Council's consideration.

### **Referral for Application for a Non-Farm Use**

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is requested comment from the District on an application from a property owner in the Gagnon Subdivision for non-farm use in the Agricultural Land Registry. The property is located outside the District of Mackenzie boundary. Council had no objections to the proposed project.

## Policy 1.26 Taxi Saver Program

Council approved Policy 1.26 Taxi Saver Program. The Taxi Saver Program provides a 50% subsidy towards the cost of taxi rides. To see if you are eligible, please visit the District of Mackenzie website or call the Municipal Office at 250-997-3221.

## Board of Variance Establishment

Council received an updated Board of Variance Bylaw for consideration. As an alternative to applying for a variance permit, a person may apply to the Board of Variance if they feel compliance with the Zoning Bylaw would cause them undue hardship. The Board of Variance review applications that focus primarily on matters such as building siting, dimensions, and size. Council gave Board of Variance Bylaw No. 1494, 2023 first three readings, and if adopted at the next regular meeting, a call for applications to sit on the Board of Variance will be advertised to the community.

## Official Community Plan – Public Watershed Definition

District of Mackenzie staff provided Council with an update on the Official Community Plan Amendment. Since the last meeting the District hosted a public hearing to hear the concerns of the public as well as shared the feedback from the agency referrals. Following the update, Council adopted Bylaw No. 1489 Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw. Full details and reports about the amendment can be found on [Lets Chat Mackenzie](#).

## Community Budget Meeting

A Community Budget Meeting will be held Monday January 30th at the Recreation Centre at 6:00 pm. The Chief Financial Officer will start the meeting with a presentation followed by the opportunity for the public to provide feedback, ask questions, and share your perspective. Your participation is valuable, and we look forward to hearing from you! Also at this meeting the District will be advertising how they engage with the public and will look for comments on the best way to give news and information.