

October 10, 2023

Mark Robillard - Kimta Transportation Society

Mark Robillard of the Kimta Transportation Society provided an update to Mayor and Council on operations since the bus was received in 2021. Mr. Robillard noted that the group was looking for provincial funding to be increased and hoped Mayor and Council could do something to lobby the government. Council voted in favour of writing a letter to Minister Flemming requesting provincial funding for passenger and transportation services in northern and rural communities be increased.

Mackenzie Community Arts Council - Letters of Support

Council received a request from Mackenzie Community Arts Council, requesting letters of support towards their grant applications to Heritage Canada's Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage program, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation's Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program – Forest Impact Transition, NDIT's Northern Healthy Communities Capital Program, and BC Arts Council's Arts Infrastructure program.

Grant funding from Heritage Canada would be used to support Rockin' the Ridgeline 2024. Grant funding from the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, Innovation, NDIT, and BC Arts Council would be used for Caribou Place: A Home for the Arts. This project will renovate and revitalize their new space at 9 Laurier Drive. Council approved the requests.

October – Foster Family Month

Council received a letter from the Ministry of Children and Family Development announcing that this October will mark the 33rd Foster Family Month in British Columbia. Minister Mitzi Dean expressed his gratitude to caregivers who willingly stepped up to provide a safe and nurturing home for children and youth in their care. Council expressed unanimous agreement on the significance of foster families and their selfless dedication to the welfare of children, youth, and families. In recognition and support of Foster Family Month, the District has decided to actively promote the cause. The District will be sharing information on its website and social media platforms about how interested individuals can become foster parents and contribute to this vital initiative.

Dog Park

Council received a letter from a resident regarding the creation of a secondary fenced dog park in Mackenzie for off-leash dogs to play. A number of residents have expressed interest in being part of the creation of the park and were looking for next steps to make this happen. Council discussed an opportunity to discuss an additional dog park during budget discussions. Staff will reach out to the residents to discuss the next steps and potential for involvement during the process.

MackChu Brewing Ltd. – LCRB Application

MackChu Brewing Ltd. has applied to the Liquor Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) for a permit that would allow the sale and service of liquor for on-site consumption at 320 Mackenzie Blvd., Bay #4. As part of the site and community assessment stage of the application process the District Building Inspection,

Business Licensing, and Fire Department staff completed an inspection of the facility for safety compliance. After inspection it was noted that the equipment will require final certifications prior to an official business license being awarded and operations commencing. To address this, LCRB representative Christina Beehler provided a brief update and status of the application. In response to this information, Council approved their support in principle for the application. However, this support is contingent upon the applicant meeting all District business licensing and fire safety requirements before the commencement of operations.

Bylaws

Council gave the first three readings to Tax Exemption Bylaws No. 1505, 1506 and 1507, 2023. The bylaws allow the exemption of whole or partial taxes for land and improvements owned by athletic or service clubs, charitable or philanthropic organizations and places of public worship.

Coming Events

Business Walks – October 18th 2023.

GoByBike Week – October 16th-29th 2023.