

December 11, 2023

Community Grant Presentations

Council adopted the Community Grants Policy 3.16 which requires all organizations approved for Fee-For Service Agreements to provide an in-person presentation to Council at the end of each year of the Agreement, highlighting accomplishments, goals and objectives, benefits provided to the community and a financial statement outlining how the District's funding was utilized.

The following organizations provided presentations to Mayor and Council highlighting 2022 projects and a "year in review":

Mackenzie Golf & Country Club
Mackenzie Autumn Lodge Society
Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce

Mackenzie Public Library Budget Presentation

Camille Ginnever, Chair of the Library Board of Directors, provided a presentation on the proposed 2024 Library budget.

Letter of Support – Hero Dirt Trail Ventures

Council received a letter from Hero Dirt Trail Ventures requesting a letter of support towards their grant application to the South Peace Mackenzie Trust to support their 'Ridgeline Shuttles' project. Hero Dirt Trail Ventures intends to offer a scheduled service three days a week, with extra days on long weekends starting in the summer of 2024. Council approved the request.

Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Membership Dues

Council moved to pay membership dues to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for 2024-2025 in the amount of \$984.09.

Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions UBCM Follow Up Letter

Council received a letter from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, following up from the Union of BC Municipalities Conference in September. Topics raised during the meeting with the Minister included the challenges northern rural communities face in providing adequate mental health support to residents, and particularly children and youth, and the desire for a Foundry Centre within your community. In addition, the Minister offered to connect Council with School District No. 57. Council passed a motion to invite the new chair of School District 57 to meet with Mayor and Council.

Discounted Gym Memberships

Council defeated a motion to provide discounted gym memberships to School District 57 staff, Northern Health employees including nurses and doctors, and MCFD Social workers.

Insurance – Contract Instructors

Council passed a motion to provide liability insurance for contract instructors who deliver our fitness and non-contact sports programming; to form a Recreation Instructors Group through the Municipal Insurance Association's Associate Member Program; and to authorize the Director and Manager of Recreation to enter into Service Provider Agreements (SPA) with recreation instructors for the provision of liability insurance through the District's liability insurance held with the Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia.

2024 Janitorial Contract – Municipal Hall, Public Works, Fire Hall

Council awarded the one-year Janitorial Services contract for City Hall, Public Works and Firehall #1, to Skyblue Services Corp. for up to \$3835.95 per month plus GST, with an optional one-year extension, by mutual agreement, at the same monthly rate.

Resolution of Support – NDIT and SPMT Grants – New Shop Local

Council passed a motion to support the District's application to Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) new Shop Local grant program for up to \$10,000 in funding towards a new Shop Local program, and passed a motion to support the District's application to South Peace Mackenzie Trust (SPMT) grant program for an additional \$10,000 in funding.

Resolution of Support – BCAAP and SPMT Grants – Airport Master Plan

Council made resolutions to approve the application to the BC Air Access Program (BCAAP) and South Peace Mackenzie Trust for grant funds for an airport master plan.

Declaring a Climate Emergency

Council received a report on the implications of declaring a Climate Emergency. After receiving the report, Council passed the following motion:

"Therefore, be it resolved, that the District of Mackenzie officially declares a climate emergency for the purposes of identifying and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, our ecosystems, and our community from global warming."

Business Walks 2023 Results

Council received a report on the 2023 Annual Business Walk results.

Council Remuneration and Expenses

Council received a report on Remuneration and Expenses for Mayor and Council in other communities. Council passed a motion to bring forward amendments to the Council Remuneration Bylaw so that annual remuneration is increased by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Council also passed a motion that staff bring back a report regarding the feasibility of allowing all of Council to attend the NCLGA, UBCM, and LGLA conferences.

New Business

Council passed a motion for staff to investigate ways other local governments support recruitment efforts for teachers and health professionals to the North.

Bylaw No. 1509 Financial Plan Amendment

Council adopted Bylaw No. 1509, 2023 Financial Plan Amendment. This amendment includes approved grant funding, new capital projects, and revised operating and capital expenditures.

Coming Events

Light up the Community Contest

Vote between Dec. 7-17, 2023

Link to Contestants: <https://www.letschatmackenzie.ca/light-up-the-community-contest>

2024 Budget Feedback Survey

Survey closes January 5, 2024

Link to Survey: <https://www.letschatmackenzie.ca/2024-budget-feedback>

Dive-In Movie Nights (in the Pool)

December 17th – How the Grinch Stole Christmas

December 24th – Elf

Time: 11:00 am

Drop-in fees apply

Winter Wonderland Public Skate

10:00 am – 4:00 pm December 23rd and 24th

Lights, trees, holiday music, and more!

Drop in fees apply