



Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of the Village of Chase
held in the Council Chamber of the Village Office at 826 Okanagan Avenue
on Tuesday, September 15, 2015

PRESENT:

Mayor: R. Berrigan

Councillors: N. Egely
D. Lepsoe
A. Maki
S. Scott

In Attendance: J. Heinrich, Chief Administrative Officer
L. Pedersen, Director of Financial Services

Public Gallery: 4

FINAL

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Berrigan called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Egely
Seconded by Councillor Scott

“That the September 15, 2015 Village of Chase Special Council meeting agenda be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED
#2015/09/15S_001

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Permissive Tax Exemption Policy Discussion

Administration provided the following comments for consideration:

- In past, the Village of Chase has granted full tax exemptions for all properties that have been considered and are eligible;
- Current Council has indicated their wish to develop a policy that sets guidelines for permissive tax exemptions that provides desirable services by charitable and philanthropic organizations to the community, while balancing the requirement for other property tax payers to 'subsidize' the taxes for those who are exempted;
- Other communities have considered policy in relation to tax exemptions, some restricting exemptions to existing eligible organizations;
- Council needs to consider the purpose of such a policy, and decide what types of exemptions should be granted and to what levels.

Discussion:

- Council could consider an across-the-board percentage exemption;
- Council consider each applicant and their ability to pay in relation to the contributions they make to the community;
- Another approach is to apply a 'cap' on percentage exemption with the flexibility for variations in relation to each applicant;
- Council could set an amount of funds in 2016 that it wishes to see paid by those groups who have been exempted in the past, and then allocate tax exemptions to all groups accordingly.

Moved by Mayor Berrigan

Seconded by Councillor Egely

“That the matter of a permissive tax exemption policy be referred to Administration to prepare analysis and examples of options for exemption limits as follows:

- **An equal percentage for everyone;**
- **A cap on a percentage with the flexibility to adjust each group’s percentage based on need and ability to pay;**
- **Set the amount of money that Council believes should be paid overall by the subject organizations and apply an equal percentage exemption to all organizations that will generate that amount of funds for 2016.”**

**CARRIED
#2015/09/15S_002**

3.2 2016 Budget Process Discussion

The Director of Financial Services explained that he has prepared a proposed schedule for 2016 budget preparations that include Administration’s timing for preparation as well as setting a first meeting with Council to review the overall draft budget.

Discussion:

- It is important to ensure that all departments meet with Council individually to review their respective budgets
- The first meeting could be consideration of Administration’s budget, and then two other meetings need to be scheduled to ensure Public Works and the Fire Department budgets are discussed individually

Moved by Councillor Lepsoe

Seconded by Councillor Egely

“THAT the proposed schedule for 2016 budget preparation be approved; AND

THAT the first public meeting of budget review with Council and Administration be set for Friday, November 27, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.; AND

THAT the Special (Budget) Council meeting on Friday November 27, 2015 be held as an ‘open forum’ meeting to allow those in attendance at the meeting to participate in Council’s discussion and ask questions during the meeting.”

**CARRIED
#2015/09/15S_003**

4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Maki

Seconded by Councillor Egely

“That the September 15, 2015 Special Meeting of Council be adjourned.”

**CARRIED
#2015/09/15S_004**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.


R. Berrigan, Mayor


J. Heinrich, Chief Administrative Officer