



**Council Member Motion
Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 23, 2020**

Date: April 21, 2020

From: Mayor Helps

Subject: 2020 Financial Plan Review – COVID-19

Background:

On April 9, 2020, Council gave consideration to the 2020 Financial Plan as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, passing a multi-part motion that prescribed adjustments to the Financial Plan. In addition to the specified adjustments, part of the motion included :

“That Council review and consider amendments to the 2020 budget in July 2020 with specific attention to the tables on pages 7 and 9 of this report”

The full motion is attached as Appendix A.

Council also approved changing the tax due date from July to August. In keeping with that direction it is more practical to review and consider the adjustments after the tax due date at the beginning of August as opposed to before it.

Recommendation

That Council amend the April 9, 2020 Financial Plan motion item (g) to:

That Council review and consider amendments to the 2020 budget at the August 6, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting with specific attention to the tables on pages 7 and 9 of this report”

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Helps".

Mayor Lisa Helps

List of Attachments

Appendix A: April 9, 2020 Financial Plan Motion

2020 Financial Plan – Potential Adjustments – April 9, 2020

Motion:

1. That Council direct staff to:
 - a. Defer the capital projects listed in the table on page 7 of this report;
 - b. Delay the initiatives listed in the table on page 9 of this report;
 - c. Reallocate \$11.64 million in unrestricted property tax funding from the deferred capital projects to offset actual and potential revenue shortfalls in the operating budget;
 - d. Create a larger operating budget contingency using the funding allocated to the delayed initiatives;
 - e. Extend the payment due date for utility bills to 90 days from 45 days and bring forward bylaw amendments to authorize that change;
 - f. Extend the payment due date for property taxes to August 1, 2020 to align with the date the City is required to pay the property taxes levied on behalf of the Capital Regional District, the Capital Regional Hospital District, BC Assessment, and the Municipal Finance Authority; and bring forward amendments to the Alternative Tax Scheme Bylaw to align with the August due date;
 - g. That Council review and consider amendments to the 2020 budget in July 2020 with specific attention to the tables on pages 7 and 9 of this report;
 - h. Reduce the transfer from property taxes by \$4.68 million to be proportionally allocated between the Heavy Equipment, City Equipment and Building and Infrastructure reserves to reduce the property tax increase to zero per cent for 2020; and
 - i. Amend the Alternate Tax Scheme Bylaw and adjust the penalties to 2 per cent per month for August, September, October, November and December for 2020.
2. That the Mayor on behalf of Council advocate to the Province of BC to:
 - a. Increase amounts for Homeowner Grants, and create a new category of grant applicable to persons who have lost income due to the pandemic;
 - b. Reinstate the financial hardship Deferment Program and extend the program to commercial properties; and
 - c. Amend legislation to align payment due dates for taxes collected on behalf of other agencies with municipal Alternative Tax Scheme Bylaws.