

MINUTES
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
Tuesday, April 27, 2021 9:00 am
Via GoToMeeting

Present: Reeve Brian Hammond, Deputy Reeve Rick Lemire, Councillors Terry Yagos, Quentin Stevick and Bev Everts.

Staff: CAO Troy MacCulloch, Director of Development and Community Services Roland Milligan, Director of Finance Meghan Dobie and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Brian Hammond called the meeting to order, the time being 9:00 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor Quentin Stevick

Moved that the agenda for April 27, 2021 be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Atrum Coal Ltd.

Andrew Caruso, CEO, and Tony Mauro with Atrum Coal Ltd. attended the meeting at this time to introduce themselves and update Council on their company as it is seeking to develop the proposed Elan metallurgical coal project.

Andrew Caruso and Tony Mauro left the meeting at this time, the time being 10:05 am.

3. AVAIL LLP.

Darrin Adamson with AVAIL LLP attended the meeting at this time to present to Council the completed audit of the financial statements of the MD of Pincher Creek No. 9 for the year ended December 31, 2020. The audit included consideration of internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial statements to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. During the course of the audit for the year ended December 31, 2020, AVAIL LLP identified no significant matters which may be of interest to the Council.

The completed audit will be referred to the afternoon Council meeting for approval.

Darrin Adamson left the meeting at this time, the time being 10:58 am.

4. Coal Mining Concerns

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Cornell Van Ryk attended the meeting at this time to discuss with Council his concerns on the proposed coal mining operations in the Crowsnest Pass directly to the Riversdale presenters that were at the April 13, 2021 Council meeting.

Cornell stated that the Riversdale presentation was very well done but his concerns are that it only provided one side of the debate and the proposed mine is not as innocuous as they would have us believe. Riversdale stated that they may be able to remove almost all of the selenium from the water they treat but the problem is that they won't capture all the water they impact. Untreated water will be released to the watershed.

Cornell will continue to voice his concerns to Riversdale directly but there are two things he suggest Council acts on:

1. Engage an independent 3rd party consultant to design a water quality monitoring program for the intake at the Regional Water Treatment Facility. There should be a 4 baseline study taken at all flow conditions and seasons to get a clear understanding of the current quality and then a monitoring program in place for when the mine begins operation. Relying on the potential polluter or on Alberta Environment for this monitoring would not be wise, in his opinion.
2. Engage an independent 3rd party consultant to design a coal dust monitoring program for the MD. He believe we should have any required equipment and a monitoring program in place on day one of mine operation. Riversdale should be expected to pay for the consultants hired, any monitoring equipment and any costs associated with the ongoing monitoring. From an environmental perspective, what is proposed in the Crowsnest Pass is not good news for the MD of Pincher Creek. One only has to look at what is going on in the Elk Valley to grow very concerned and the Crowsnest situation has the potential to be a lot worse. We are dealing with multiple corporations, historical contamination and corporations that do not have the technical or financial resources of a Teck. The potential jobs and economic activity generated by these mines is a good thing, but these are relatively short term and not worth the long term impact of these projects.

Cornell Van Ryk left the meeting at this time, the time being 11:35 am.

5. Fire Response Bylaw (proposed Bylaw 1323-21)

Meghan Dobie, Director of Finance, presented to Council proposed Bylaw 1323-21, being the Fire Response Bylaw. At present, Bylaw 1201-10 is the current Fire Response Bylaw and is in need of updating to make changes as per Council's direction.

The Bylaw will be brought forward at the afternoon Council session to allow for further discussion and direction.

6. Closed Session

Councillor Rick Lemire

Moved that Council move in to closed session to discuss the following, the time being 11:55 am:

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- a) Beaver Mines Project Update – FOIP Section 17
- b) Waste Transfer Site Update – FOIP Section 17
- c) 2020 Year End Discussion – Restricted vs Unrestricted – FOIP Section 19

Councillor Rick Lemire

Moved that Council open the Council meeting to the public, the time being 12:21 pm.

4. Adjournment

Councillor Terry Yagos

Moved that the Committee Meeting adjourn, the time being 12:21 pm

Carried