

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE** Meeting
Monday, April 24, 2006 at 7:55 pm
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

PRESENT: Councillor John Garrison, Chair
Mayor Jack Mar
Councillors: Bryson, King and Mason
Gary C. Nason, Administrator
Trish Flanders, Municipal Clerk
Hope V. Burns, Director of Planning & Building Services
Ron French, Fire Chief

ABSENT: Councillors: Graham and Thompson

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

525.06 MOVED BY MAYOR MAR
 NO SECONDER
 That the Agenda for the Community & Protective Services Committee Meeting held on April 24, 2006 be approved as circulated.
 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Capital Regional District (CRD) Hazmat Program

Fire Chief Ron French introduced Fire Chief Dave Ward of the District of Saanich, who gave a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation on the CRD's proposed Hazmat Program, during which time the following points were noted in his presentation:

- the purpose is to provide municipal councils with information on a proposal to establish a Hazmat service in the 2006 budget year;
- in 2004 the CRD Finance Committee received a recommendation to establish a Hazmat capability, which would be staffed from CRD fire departments and would require a large pool of Hazmat trained members;
- there are three hazmat options to consider:
 - Option 1 – Develop In-House Capability (most expensive to implement)
 - Option 2 – Contract with DND (could be a component of a program but not the full Hazmat program)
 - Option 3 – Contract with another agency (City of Surrey has Hazmat Team and would support for an annual retainer; the CRD Committee supports further evaluation of this option)
- under Option 3, a contract would be between the CRD and the City of Surrey and Surrey would provide personnel only; equipment would be purchased and stored by the CRD; a core of trained personnel from area fire departments would provide initial response to incidents in the CRD; Surrey would invoice the CRD for response and/or training exercises for local technicians; Option 3 is supported by the Greater Victoria Fire Chiefs Association;
- there are three Hazmat Response Levels:
 - Levels One and Two – small incident, handled by CRD trained personnel, limited danger to public;
 - Level Three – large incident, perhaps involving tank car or propane truck, influence area is wide, higher level of training and expertise required to mitigate public safety
- local governments need to be part of the hazardous goods response unit, as there are hazardous goods being frequently transported throughout the CRD, and Victoria is the only capital city in Canada without a hazardous materials response capability
- Hazmat trained members would be selected from the three different regions in the CRD – 6 from the core area, 3 from the Peninsula and 3 from West Shore
- estimated Hazmat service costs: \$310,000 for 2006 and \$343,500 for 2007-2009

Fire Chief Dave Ward responded to several questions from members of the Committee.

Ms. Elizabeth Chambers, 901 Verdier Avenue, questioned if the proposed Hazmat Program contains an educational component of communicating with the local business community, and further questioned if private businesses would carry sufficient insurance coverage for hazmat incidents.

Fire Chief Ron French advised that businesses dealing with hazardous materials are required to provide specialized hazmat training to their personnel. He further advised that the proposed Hazmat Program does not provide for educating the business community.

Mr. Kurt Grillowitzer, 1086 Llanfair Crescent, commented on the hazardous materials that are utilized in crystal meth labs, and was advised by Fire Chief Dave Ward that meth labs and related materials have been identified in the Hazmat Program.

526.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
 NO SECONDER
 That It Be Recommended To Council:

That the informational presentation on the CRD Hazmat Program be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion, the Community & Protective Services Committee Meeting held on April 24, 2006 adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Recorded By: Trish Flanders
 Municipal Clerk