

DISTRICT OF SOOKE

Protective Services Committee
Meeting # 12 January 5, 2010
1:00 PM – Fire Training Room
2205 Otter Point Road

Committee Members Present:

Rod MacKenzie, Chair
Dave Court
Councillor Bennett
Bob Hudson

Staff:

Bill Hadikin, Head of Building/Bylaw Services, EOC Coordinator
Steve Sorensen, Fire Chief
Staff Sergeant Steve Wright
Tina Hansen, Acting Council Clerk

Action

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting began at 1:07 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda:**

The agenda was approved as circulated with the addition of New Business: **Medical Marijuana Licensing Requirements**

3. **Approval of Minutes:**

MOVED to approve the minutes of December 1, 2009 as amended on page 2.
CARRIED

Tina Hansen

4. **New Business: Medical Marijuana Licensing Requirements**

Fire Chief Sorensen brought forward concerns in regards to the recent incident at a licensed medical marijuana site. A discussion ensued as to Health Canada having no provisions to notify local authorities and provide information on these sites. The Committee discussed safety risks imposed on both occupants and the authorities and the difficulty in monitoring fire and safety standards on these sites due to lack of information. The Committee agreed that a letter should be sent to Health Canada with input from the RCMP, Fire Department, and Building and Bylaw Services and the following resolution was made:

MOVED to recommend to Council that a letter be sent to Health Canada as to concerns with respect to medical marijuana licensing requirements

To Council

AND THAT a copy of the letter be sent to Keith Martin, MP, John Horgan, MLA, Union of British Columbia Municipalities and other related agencies.

CARRIED

5. **Staff Reports:**

RCMP Services:

S/Sgt Steve Wright introduced himself and gave a brief history of his past employment. S/Sgt Wright informed the Committee that public safety, crime and youth and drugs are top priorities with the Sooke RCMP Detachment and that a Prolific Offender Program will be starting in the near future. The Committee discussed the importance of initiatives and positive reinforcement with youth and reaching out to the elderly.

S/Sgt Wright provided an update as to staffing with the Sooke RCMP Detachment informing the Committee that they will be short 3 members for the duration of the Olympics and down 2 more members after the Olympics. A discussion ensued as to challenges that face the community with growth and the requirements of RCMP staffing levels.

Fire Services:

Fire Chief Sorensen commented on how well all the authorities worked together during the recent medical marijuana incident. He felt it was a good training exercise for both RCMP and Fire Department.

Fire Chief Sorensen addressed the Committee on his Request for Recommendation report he will be bringing forward to Council with budgetary concerns over both the Emergency Social Service Program and Emergency Operations Centre. He informed the Committee that with the upcoming retirement of Mr. Hadikin, the Fire Department will be taking over both the ESS and EOC programs.

Mr. Hadikin stated that a budget for ESS does not exist at this time and is required in order to provide training for volunteers, and replace and replenish supplies from the equipment trailer which is in need of repair. Mr. Hadikin informed the Committee that there has been a reduction in funding from the Province and that there may be an opportunity to apply for a grant but funds would not be received until 2012.

The Committee discussed the Consultant's report for Metchosin Emergency Preparedness and the legal and financial implications of not being in compliance with the Provincial Emergency Program.

MOVED to provide the Chief Administrative Officer and Corporate Officer with a copy of the Consultant's Report for Metchosin Emergency Preparedness bringing to their attention the information on page 3 pertaining to non compliance of an Emergency Plan and the suggested block diagram on page 15. **Tina Hansen**

AND THAT Bylaw No. 137, *Emergency Program Bylaw, 2003* be reviewed by staff to ensure it meets the legal requirements with respect

to the current Emergency Plan.

CARRIED

The Committee continued discussions as to the budgets for both ESS and EOC and agreed by general consensus that a detailed report should be forwarded to the Finance Committee as soon as possible. The following resolution was made:

MOVED to recommend to the Finance Committee that funds be allocated for Emergency Social Services for the year 2010 and that Emergency Social Services become a budgetary line item in order to function on an annual basis. **Steve**

CARRIED

Fire Chief Sorensen addressed the Committee in regards to his report on the Fire Fighter Training budget. He reported that there has been a 15% increase in call volume over the last year with only a 2% increase in budget.

The Committee discussed the importance of providing training and ongoing education to fire fighters and compared training budgets of 4 other Fire Departments. Fire Chief Sorensen stated that there was a cost savings in using online courses and by having qualified staff for some of the training. The Committee agreed to support a request for an increase in the Fire Fighter Training budget.

MOVED that the Protective Services Committee supports the Fires Chief in his report to the Finance Committee to increase the Fire Fighter Training budget to \$750.00/member for the 2010 year and \$1000.00/member for 2011. **Steve**

AND TO support an increase in the Public Education budget to \$3300.00 for the year 2010.

CARRIED

Chief Sorensen reported that Sooke Fire Rescue will soon be in need of replacing its oldest fire apparatus in order to maintain the current fire protection grade from Fire Underwriters' Survey.

The Committee discussed the following options:

- No Replacement of fire truck
- Purchase of a used fire truck
- Purchase of a new fire truck suitable for Urban Areas

The Committee agreed to wait until Chief Sorensen received more information from Fire Underwriters Survey which he will bring back to the Committee at the next meeting.

7. **Schedule Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled on February 2, 2010.

8. **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 pm.

Certified Correct:

Rod Mackenzie
Chair

Bonnie Sprinkling,
Corporate Officer