



EMERGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mar 9, 2016 - 5:00 p.m.
City Hall Meeting Room 1
Minutes

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr	- Chair
David Lowe	- St John Ambulance
Hennisea Hoy	- Community Member
Vickie Truvey	- Community Member
Richard Desaulniers	- Royal Westminster Regiment
Steve Reed	- BCEHS Representative
Naomi Perks	- Community Member
Lisa Zetes-Zanatta	- Fraser Health Representative
Randy Stuber	- Community Member

VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:

Vacant	- Salvation Army
Sony Johal	- Community Member
Marie Tran	- School Board Representative
Matt Brito	- School Board Representative

STAFF:

Cory Hansen	- Committee Secretary
John Hatch, Deputy Fire Chief	- New Westminster Fire & Rescue Services
Lauren Blake	- Legislative Services

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Received the Minutes of January 6, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the notes of the Emergency Advisory Committee meeting held on January 6, 2016 be received and adopted

CARRIED.

All members of Commission voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Provincial Tax Refund for Emergency Preparedness Kits

Cory Hansen, Committee Secretary brought the motion regarding tax exemption for emergency kits that was passed at January's meeting back to the committee for review. The committee reviewed and discussed the motion and the following points were made:

- Locally people can self-care better and resources are not as taxed and more urgent situations can be attended to.
- Identify specified kits that will be tax exempt, these kits can be certified for tax exemption policy.
- Councillor Puchmayr discussed that we can bring this forward as a UBCM resolution and take this to the floor to get this passed. We will still need to communicate with the MLAs & the MPs.
- A definition of what an emergency kit should include would need to be established for this exemption.

The committee agreed to revise and amend the motion from January 6th, 2016 as the following:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the LMLGA, FCM, UBCM support a resolution that would ask the government to make emergency preparedness kits exempt from all provincial and federal taxes.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Committee Orientation & Oath – Lauren Blake (Legislative Services)

Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk from Legislative Services read the oath and reviewed the code of conduct with the committee

5.2 Update from previous meeting - Products for social media communication in an emergency – Cory Hansen (Fire & Rescue Services)

The Emergency Planning Assistant advised that currently the City is using Hoot Suite to monitor all avenues of social media and the various City websites that need updating in an emergency. The city is also looking at a new layout and configuration for the City's website. In an emergency and or weather event there will be the option to colour code alert bars on the front page of the new website that could provide vital information in an event or emergency. The new website launch is still under design and review but will be released later this year.

5.3 Emergency Preparedness Week Update – Cory Hansen (Fire & Rescue Services)

The Emergency Planning Assistant advised that the target audience for this year's Emergency Preparedness Week is seniors in New Westminister. We have targeted buildings that New Westminister Fire & Rescue attend on a regular basis. A select number of these buildings have been called to see if they would like an emergency preparedness and fire safety presentation during the first week of May. We are currently waiting for responses from these buildings as many need to check with their Strata Councils.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1. New Westminister Emergency Management Office

The Emergency Planning Assistant discussed the testing of a level two Emergency Operations Centre activation that occurred on Feb 24, 2016. On March 23, 2016 there will be an EOC Level three activated and equipment tested to ensure proper connectivity and proper equipment setup. The committee discussed the EOC setup during the windstorm and how it operated. The Emergency Planning Assistant advised that there is a large functional exercise being held called Cascadia Rising being held the week of June 6, 2016. The scenario is a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake, magnitude 9.0. Ground shaking to last up to five minutes. Tsunami wave height 20 to 80 feet with multiple waves. The main focus is on EOC to EOC coordination and communication.

6.2 New Westminister Fire & Rescue Services

John Hatch, Deputy Fire Chief advised New Westminister Fire & Rescue Service has several projects underway. Currently working with New West Police, other emergency agencies and the Translink Management Team for the Pattullo Bridge deck replacement or rehabilitation project, which impacts emergency services as lanes will be reduced from four to two lanes and varying times and at various times will be shut down. Currently an emergency response team is putting a plan together for in case of an emergency.

Ministry of transportation has contacted the JIBC for the creation of a table top exercise on Dangerous Goods. Ministry of Transport has asked New Westminister Fire & Rescue Services to participate in the table top exercise with Southern Rail. The Deputy Chief advised that in June and July there will be 4 dates for joint training for a dangerous goods release.

6.3 Fraser Health Service

Lisa Zetes-Zanatta from Fraser Health advised that there is an agreement from Saskatchewan and over that any unknown Hemorrhagic Fever or Ebola disease virus will be treated at Surrey Memorial Hospital. Currently staffs are working on transfer protocols outside of BC and the Western Provinces. The probability is low, but the unit is being put in a state of readiness. There is a proposal to use this site for training site for all staff across the province. This can also be used for any unknown pathogen.

6.4 New Westminster Police Services

Representative was not present

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 17:54 p.m. Next meeting June 8, 2016 Location City Hall Meeting Room 2

**COUNCILLOR
CHUCK PUCHMAYR
CHAIR**

**CORY MCLAREN
COMMITTEE SECRETARY**