

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON  
-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES-**

**Minutes** for the **Committee of the Whole** of Council of the Village of Pemberton held Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in Council Chamber, 7400 Prospect Street. This is Meeting No. 185.

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**ATTENDING:** Mayor Mike Richman  
Councilor Ryan Zant  
Councilor Amica Antonelli  
Councilor Leah Noble  
Councilor Ted Craddock

**STAFF:** Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer  
Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services  
Lisa Pedrini, Senior Planner  
Gwendolyn Kennedy, Legislative Assistant

**PUBLIC:** 0

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

At 1:01 p.m. Mayor Richman called the January 22, 2019 Committee of Whole meeting to order.

In honour of the Lil'wat7ul, the Village of Pemberton acknowledges that we are meeting within the unceded territory of the Lil'wat Nation.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved/Seconded  
**THAT** the agenda be approved as circulated.  
**CARRIED**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**a) Committee of the Whole Meeting No. 184, Tuesday, December 10, 2018**

Moved/Seconded  
**THAT** the minutes of Committee of the Whole Meeting No. 184, held Tuesday, December 10, 2018, be adopted as circulated.  
**CARRIED**

#### **4. CANNABIS RETAIL LICENCE APPLICATION PROCESS – DISCUSSION**

Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services, presented an overview of the application process for a Cannabis Retail Store Licence as set out by the Province of BC and facilitated through the Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch. Ms. Fraser noted, in follow-up to a resolution passed at Committee of the Whole Meeting No. 179, held July 24, 2018, directing Staff to monitor other municipalities to determine if any are considering applying for a cannabis retail store licence, that Staff have found no indication of this.

Mayor Richman invited questions and discussion regarding the possibility of the Village applying for a cannabis retail store licence. It was noted that a cannabis retail business could generate significant revenue that would permit the Village to pursue projects that are currently not affordable and relieve pressure to raise taxes. Concerns raised included:

- High upfront costs including application fees, Staff time, store lease;
- Stigma attached to recreational cannabis use;
- Competition with local businesses could be perceived as unfair;
- Perception that it would be unfair for the Village to appropriate one of the two available licences for itself as there are currently at least two applicants for a provincial licence;
- Potential legal challenges if the Village were to hold consideration of further licence referrals in favour of its own application.

Moved/Seconded

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that that a legal opinion be obtained regarding the possible legal repercussions of the Village reserving one of the two cannabis retail store licences for its own use as at least two applicants have submitted applications to the Province and paid the non-refundable Provincial licence application fees.

**MOTION FAILED**

#### **5. DRAFT UPDATED BUSINESS LICENCE BYLAW**

Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services, presented a draft business licence bylaw for review and noted that, while the draft bylaw includes some minor housekeeping changes from Business Licence Bylaw No. 842, 2018, the intention of the new bylaw is to add provision for licensing of cannabis retail and cannabis production businesses. Ms. Fraser directed attention to the comparison of cannabis-related business licence fees charged by other local governments as a starting point for discussion.

Discussion focused on the justification for setting fees higher than for other business types, and noted that, as these are new business types and actual costs are still

unknown, the fees should be set high enough to ensure cost recovery, with the intention of reviewing fees once costs can be determined.

Moved/Seconded

**THAT** the draft bylaw be referred back to Staff to amend Schedule A to set the following annual business licence fees:

- Cannabis production businesses, standard: \$5,000
- Cannabis production business, micro: \$2,500
- Cannabis retail: \$5,000

**AND THAT** the bylaw be brought forward for First, Second and Third Readings at the next Regular Council Meeting scheduled for February 5, 2018.

**CARRIED**

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/Seconded

**THAT** the Committee of Whole be adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Mike Richman  
Mayor

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Sheena Fraser  
Corporate Officer