

It's Your City!

parksville.ca



FEBRUARY 16, 2022

Recruiting Now!

Do you have what it takes to be a volunteer paid on-call firefighter?

Parksville Fire is recruiting positive, energetic and community minded women and men to join their team of paid on-call firefighters. Classes begin in the spring and applications are accepted until March 4. You need to live within our fire protection area (ideally within City), be reasonably fit, available for weekly fire practices, have a good driving record and between 19 and 60 for regular members. Details at parksvillefirerescue.ca. Call 250 248-3242, weekdays, 8 am to 4 pm, to chat with an officer or arrange a tour.



So Parksville, Let's Talk Budget!

Public input is an important part of the financial planning process and we are seeking input prior to Council budget deliberation meetings. Your comments will help determine the City's 2022-2026 financial plan. Have your say by completing an online survey to assist Council to understand how you would prioritize funds to be spent.



The survey may be accessed from our website until February 28 with paper copies available at City Hall.

Public budget meetings are scheduled for March 2 at 1 pm, March 23 at 6 pm and March 30 at 6 pm. Please refer to Let's Talk Parksville for the many ways to be involved in our

letstalkparksville.ca/lets-talk-budget-2022

Committee of the Whole – Multiplex Project

Today at 1 pm in the Forum, Council will meet as Committee of the Whole to discuss the next steps for the proposed Parksville Aquatic and Recreation Centre project. This meeting will provide a less formal opportunity for Council to consider and discuss options for the project and will be webstreamed from our website, live and archived. Project updates will be posted to Let's Talk Parksville.

Regional Growth Strategy Review

The Regional District of Nanaimo is updating the Regional Growth Strategy in partnership with its member municipalities and electoral areas. The current RGS, Shaping Our Future, was adopted in 2011 to establish a collective vision for sustainable, complete communities.



Community input is being sought on topics of growth, land use, active transportation, housing and climate adaptation and mitigation planning. Engagement is underway and includes a survey open to all RDN residents February 23 to March 25. Join the conversation [getinvolved.rdn.ca/RGSreview]

Spring Grant-in-Aid Applications

Subject to the provisions of the City's grant-in-aid applications policy, the City may provide financial assistance to community groups and organizations for events that benefit our citizens and visitors. Community non-profit organizations in the arts, cultural, recreational, or social services fields are eligible. Deadline 4 pm, March 1. Information on the program, application, and instructions at City Hall or the website [Mayor and Council/Grant-in-Aid Applications].

Watermain Flushing

Our annual watermain flushing program runs through April. An important part of our ongoing maintenance program, flushing ensures the integrity of the water supply system. Flushing occurs mainly between 7 am and 3:30 pm, weekdays. Residents can expect some discoloration of water and intermittent drops in pressure; keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your fridge. Check for discoloration of water before doing laundry and if discoloured, run outside tap (after 3:30 pm) until clear. Please direct questions to ops@parksville.ca.

Understanding 2022 Property Assessment

If you recently received a property assessment notice from BC Assessment you may have questions about how this impacts your 2022 Parksville property taxes. Property tax rates are approved by Council after the adoption of the five-year financial plan in May. The change in your property taxes each year is influenced by two factors:

- Total property tax rate change percentage
- Change in your assessed value compared to the average change for the City of Parksville as a whole.

The average increase for single-family residential properties within the City is 34% for 2022. Therefore, if your assessment increased higher than the average, you could expect taxes will likely increase. Contact the City to discuss property tax pre-payment options including online banking or Pre-Authorized Withdrawal Service (PAWS).

Memorial and Hirst Upgrade Project

Construction on Memorial Avenue and Hirst Avenue West is on schedule. Crews are focused on completion of underground utilities on Memorial and sidewalks on Hirst will be coming soon once irrigation and third-party utilities (BC Hydro, Telus, Shaw, FortisBC) are complete. We do appreciate your patience during construction disruptions. Please continue to follow traffic control personnel and signage to maintain the safety of workers, contractors and citizens.

Annual Beach Closures to Dogs

To limit disturbance of migrating Black Brant geese, our beaches are subject to seasonal "no dog" restrictions. This applies to both on-leash and off-leash within the Parksville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area. Rathrevor Beach is closed February 15 to April 30 and Parksville Bay Beach from March 1 to April 30.

THINGS TO KNOW

Residential family water rates - large families with five or more immediate family members consisting of parents and dependent children less than 18 years may qualify for modified water rates. Application deadline February 23. Info and application forms from City Hall and the website [Residents/Utility Billing].

Business licences were due January 31 and may be mailed or paid at City Hall. Bylaw 1550 requires all businesses obtain a valid licence if carrying on business in the City. [Business/Licences].

Dog licences also due January 31 may be purchased from City Hall and the BC SPCA. The cost to renew is now \$25 for spayed/neutered and \$35 for not spayed/neutered.

It's Your City Enews - monthly newsletter delivered to your inbox. Sign up from website.

In-person Attendance at Council Meetings

Aligned with PHO restrictions, the maximum number to be accommodated in the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre for a Council meeting is forty with ten spaces allocated to Council and staff. For everyone's safety, please avoid attending in-person, unless fully vaccinated and stay home if not feeling well. Masks are always mandatory while in the building.

City Dates

February 16	Committee of the Whole
February 21	Family Day
February 23	Council Meeting
March 2	Budget Meeting
March 7	Council Meeting
March 21	Council Meeting
March 23	Budget Meeting
March 30	Budget Meeting
April 11	Council Meeting
April 15 & 18	Easter holidays
April 20	Council Meeting

How to Reach Council

MAYOR		council@parksville.ca
Ed Mayne	250 954-4661	100 Jensen Avenue East PO Box 1390
COUNCILLORS		Parksville V9P 2H3
Mark Chandler	250 951-6651	
Adam Fras	250 228-3727	
Al Greir	250 248-1285	parksville.ca .
Doug O'Brien	250 954-2327	Comments welcome.
Teresa Patterson	250 954-9488	250 954-3073
Marilyn Wilson	250 954-3060	info@parksville.ca

