

## Become a Volunteer Firefighter

Do you have what it takes to be a firefighter?  
If you think you do, the Parksville Fire Department needs you.



The Parksville Volunteer Fire Department is seeking enthusiastic men and women to become volunteer firefighters. The Department will begin a new recruit group this spring and is now accepting applications for volunteer firefighters.

You need to live in the Parksville fire protection area (ideally within City boundaries), be reasonably fit, available for weekly fire practices, have a good driving record and between the ages of 19 and 60 for regular members. Paid on call firefighters respond to emergencies 365 days a year. You will be trained, you will be challenged and your life will change.

### Information Session – February 19

To learn more about being a firefighter, please consider attending an information session on February 19 from 6-8 pm at the Fire Hall, 160 Jensen Avenue West. This is a chance to drop by the fire hall to ask questions and hear firsthand from officers and members.

Deadline for submission of applications is March 6 at 4 pm. More details as well as application forms are available from the Fire Hall and also the department's website [\[pvfd.ca\]](http://pvfd.ca).

*Is firefighting in your future?*



Pride • Courage • Passion • Teamwork

### Budget Deliberations

Public input is an important part of the financial planning process and Council is interested in receiving your comments. The first budget meeting held on February 4 may now be viewed from the City's website.

The next budget deliberation meeting is set for February 23; here's how you can contribute to the budget discussion:

- ◆ Send comments by email to [info@parksville.ca](mailto:info@parksville.ca) by February 18.
- ◆ Comment through the City's Facebook page and on Twitter ([#pvbudget2015](https://twitter.com/pvbudget2015)) by February 18.
- ◆ Attend the second budget meeting on February 23 at 6 pm in the Forum and comment in person.

Budget information, the draft 2015-2019 Provisional Financial Plan and other documents may be viewed on the website [\[Quicklinks/Reports/Financial Plans\]](#).

### Preauthorized Withdrawal Service (PAWS)

The City recently changed the format of the program which allows taxpayers to contribute a fixed monthly payment towards their taxes and/or utilities based on an estimate of future invoice amounts. Referred to as PAWS, the program is used to prepay future tax and/or utility charges and is available to taxpayers when taxes are not being paid through a bank or mortgage company and when there is no outstanding balance.

For existing participants making pre-payments to utility accounts, the program now takes payments in April so utility account pre-payments will be spread over 11 months of the year with no payment in June which makes the utility program the same as the property tax payment months. Participants making utility pre-payments will be advised on the next utility notice of their new payment amount to take effect April 15.

### Water Main Flushing - February 16 to March 27

The City will implement its annual water main flushing program from February 16 to March 27, an important part of our ongoing maintenance program to ensure the integrity of the water supply system. Flushing will take place mainly between 7 am and 3:30 pm, Monday to Friday.

During these times, residents can expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in water pressure and should keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your refrigerator, check for discolouration of water before doing laundry and should water be discoloured, run an outside tap (after 3:30 pm) until the water runs clear. Please direct questions to 250 248-5412.

### 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 applicants. Deadline is 4 pm, February 27. Information on this program, the policy, application and instructions may be obtained at City Hall or from the website [\[Mayor and Council/Grant-in-Aid Applications\]](#).

### Residential Family Water Rates

Large families with five or more immediate family members consisting of parents and dependent children less than 18 years of age may qualify for modified water rates. Application deadline is February 27 at 4 pm. Information and application forms may be obtained from City Hall and from the City's website [\[Residents/Utility Billing\]](#).

## Things To Know

### Openings for Committee Members

The City is now seeking members for the Advisory Design Panel and the Advisory Planning Commission with an application deadline of February 27. Information about these committees and the application process is available on the City's website.

### Coffee with Council

Thursday afternoons from 2-4 pm provide an opportunity for residents to join Mayor Lefebvre or another member of Council for a coffee and an informal chat. It's a relaxed, comfortable forum for residents to meet members of Council and to ask questions, discuss issues and offer suggestions; a chance to say what's on your mind. Please check the City's calendar to ensure there are no cancellations.

### Brant Wildlife Festival

The festival which celebrates nature and the return of the Black Brant geese runs from February 28 to April 26. The 25th anniversary of the Brant Wildlife Festival opens with a gala fundraiser on February 28 at the Parksville Community and Conference Centre and prior to the concert, the public is invited to a free community event in the PCCC lobby from 4 pm with complimentary refreshments, a silent auction and activities.

Event information is available at [Facebook.com/BrantWildlifeFestival](#).



## City Dates

February 12	Coffee with Council
February 16	Council Meeting
February 19	Coffee with Council
February 19	PVFD Recruitment Session
February 23	Budget Meeting
February 26	Coffee with Council
March 2	Council Meeting
March 5	Coffee with Council
March 12	Coffee with Council
March 16	Council Meeting

The public is encouraged to attend Council meetings held on the first and third Mondays of the month and may observe advisory committee meetings. Refer to the website for agendas and meeting highlights and minutes.

## How To Reach Council

### MAYOR

Marc Lefebvre ..... 250 954-4661

### COUNCILLORS

Mary Beil..... 250 927-4097  
 Al Greir ..... 250 248-1285  
 Kirk Oates ..... 250 802-2059  
 Teresa Patterson ..... 250 954-9488  
 Sue Powell..... 250 954-3070  
 Leanne Salter..... 250 248-8097

[citycouncil@parksville.ca](mailto:citycouncil@parksville.ca)

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 P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3

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It's Your City is published in the PQB News on the second Tuesday of the month with a copy on the City's website. We are committed to improving communications with our residents and you can help by providing your comments and suggestions to 250 954-3073 or [communications@parksville.ca](mailto:communications@parksville.ca).

