



Sointula Virtual Community Meeting

October 28, 7:00 PM

Sointula Volunteer Fire
Department Funding
Presentation/Discussion

Please scroll through the slide presentation and/or to view the video recording of the community meeting on YouTube, please click this link:

<https://youtu.be/zWQpYj4I-SM>

Welcome!

- This presentation is an experiment for the Regional District in consulting with our communities.
- We are using Zoom to maintain the safety of social distancing as well as hopefully making the meeting easier to attend
- The focus of tonight's discussion will be funding needs for the Sointula Volunteer Fire Department.
- If this event is successful, we will consider holding additional events to get feedback from the community on other issues

Agenda

- Introduction of the Presenters
- Housekeeping Rules
- Background to Sointula Fire Protection Service
- Protection Service Area
- Review of current and future priorities for the fire department
- Review of future major capital expenditures
- Proposal for increasing tax requisition
- Process of getting the assent of electors
- Wrap up questions

Presenters

- Tom Trimmer
 - Sointula Fire Chief since 2007
 - Fire Department member +35 years
- Glen Watson
 - Sointula Deputy Fire Chief
 - Fire Department member 21 Years
- Patrick Donaghy
 - Regional District Operations Manager
 - Hyde Creek Fire Department member 25 years

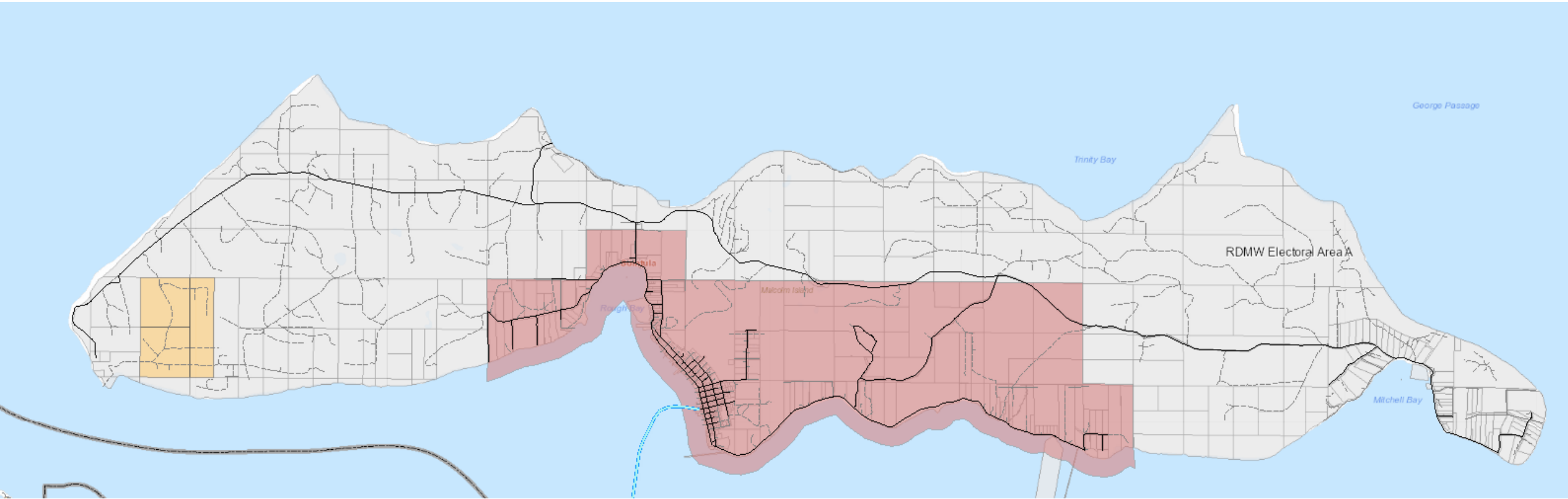
Housekeeping Rules

- Your video and microphones will be turned off to conserve band width.
- If you have a question or comment, use the chat function to type your message and send it to the organizer.
- Questions will be answered through out the presentation so don't holdback in asking.
- Abusive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- The Zoom session will be recorded and posted on the Regional District website.
- Questions after the presentation can be sent to info@rdmw.bc.ca and will be answered at promptly as possible.

Background to Sointula Fire Protection Service

- Origins of the fire department go back to 1960s or earlier
- Fire Protection Service established as a Regional Local Service in 1989
- Last approved increase in funding in 2004 for \$41,000
- 2006, current pumper truck enters service.
- 2015, 2nd Edition of the British Columbia Fire Service Minimum Training Standard released.
- 2016, Regional District of Mount Waddington declares that the Sointula Fire Protection Service Level is that of Exterior Operations.

Protection Service Area



Review of current and future priorities for the fire department

- Annual Operation Costs Needed to Meet Fire Commissioner Playbook Training Guidelines and WorkSafe BC Requirements

• Electricity	\$ 1,600
• Insurance	\$ 2,000
• Tool Maintenance	\$ 5,000
• Truck Maintenance	\$ 4,500
• Minor Tool Repair	\$ 2,000
• Basic Building Maintenance	\$ 2,000
• Telephone	\$ 650
• Training	\$15,000
• Turn Out Gear	\$ 7,000
• Minor Equipment Purchases	\$10,000
• Miscellaneous	\$ 2,000
• <u>Administration</u>	<u>\$ 3,500</u>
	\$55,250

Major Capital Purchases in the Next 5 Years

- Structural Fire Hoses \$10,000
 - Second Hand Self Contained Breathing Apparatus \$20,000
 - Outstanding Items on Fire Hall List of Improvements \$15,000
- \$45,000

Major Capital Purchases in the Past 5 Years

- Breathing Air Compressor \$ 40,000
 - High Pressure Self Contained Breathing Apparatus \$ 70,000
- \$110,000

Review of Future Major Capital Expenditures

- Current pumper was purchased in 2006
- Fire Underwriters Survey requires truck to be replaced after 20 years but can provide an extension to 25 years
- Sointula truck in excellent shape and is tested annually to demonstrate meeting performance standards
- Capital Plan calls for its replacement in 2031 at an expected cost of \$590,000

Recommended Capital Funding Plan for Truck Replacement

Save \$30,000 each year but ramping up by \$5,000 increments.																			
Beg Balance		\$ 38,565	\$ 44,436	\$ 55,525	\$ 71,936	\$ 93,774	\$ 121,150	\$ 154,173	\$ 188,621	\$ 224,543	\$ 261,986	\$ 301,003	\$ 341,644	\$ 383,963	\$ 428,017	\$ 473,860	\$ 521,552	\$ 571,154	\$ 622,727
Annual Contribution		\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,750	\$ 31,519	\$ 32,307	\$ 33,114	\$ 33,942	\$ 34,791	\$ 35,661	\$ 36,552	\$ 37,466	\$ 38,403	\$ 39,363	\$ 40,347
Ending Balance		\$ 43,565	\$ 54,436	\$ 70,525	\$ 91,936	\$ 118,774	\$ 151,150	\$ 184,923	\$ 220,140	\$ 256,849	\$ 295,101	\$ 334,945	\$ 376,435	\$ 419,624	\$ 464,569	\$ 511,326	\$ 559,955	\$ 610,517	\$ 663,074
Interest	2%	\$ 871	\$ 1,089	\$ 1,411	\$ 1,839	\$ 2,375	\$ 3,023	\$ 3,698	\$ 4,403	\$ 5,137	\$ 5,902	\$ 6,699	\$ 7,529	\$ 8,392	\$ 9,291	\$ 10,227	\$ 11,199	\$ 12,210	\$ 13,261
Ending Balance with Interest		\$ 44,436	\$ 55,525	\$ 71,936	\$ 93,774	\$ 121,150	\$ 154,173	\$ 188,621	\$ 224,543	\$ 261,986	\$ 301,003	\$ 341,644	\$ 383,963	\$ 428,017	\$ 473,860	\$ 521,552	\$ 571,154	\$ 622,727	\$ 676,335
													\$ 590,000						
Beg Balance													-\$ 206,037	-\$ 176,397	-\$ 145,146	-\$ 112,223	-\$ 77,562	-\$ 41,099	-\$ 2,764
Annual Contribution													\$ 33,942	\$ 34,791	\$ 35,661	\$ 36,552	\$ 37,466	\$ 38,403	\$ 39,363
Ending Balance													-\$ 172,094	-\$ 141,606	-\$ 109,485	-\$ 75,670	-\$ 40,096	-\$ 2,696	\$ 36,599
Interest	2%												-\$ 4,302	-\$ 3,540	-\$ 2,737	-\$ 1,892	-\$ 1,002	-\$ 67	\$ 915
Ending Balance with Interest													-\$ 176,397	-\$ 145,146	-\$ 112,223	-\$ 77,562	-\$ 41,099	-\$ 2,764	\$ 37,514

Proposal for Increasing Tax Requisition

In 2020, the tax requisition for the Sointula Fire Protection Service was \$43,050

- \$65,000 per annum in 2021 or an amount equal to the amount that may be raised by a property value tax of \$0.553 per one thousand (\$1,000.) dollars which, when applied to the net taxable value of land and improvements within the local service area.
- \$73,000 per annum in 2022
- \$81,500 per annum in 2023
- \$90,000 per annum in 2024
- \$98,500 per annum in 2025

For years subsequent to 2025, the maximum amount that may be requisitioned is the previous year's requisition increased by the previous year's BC Consumers Price Index."

Mill Rate for Fire Protection

2020 Comparative Mill Rates

Community	Requisition	Mill Rate	Assessed 2020 Property Value for Service Area
Sointula	\$ 41,000	\$ 36.62	\$117,546,470
Coal Harbour	\$ 36,100	\$121.12	\$ 24,686,090
Hyde Creek	\$120,983	\$ 97.27	\$111,230,640
Woss	\$ 43,925	\$203.30	\$ 21,691,600

Estimated Future Mill Rates

Year	Requisition	Estimated Mill Rate (Based on 2020 Assessed Property Value)
2021	\$65,000	\$0.553
2022	\$73,000	\$0.621
2023	\$81,500	\$0.693
2024	\$90,000	\$0.766
2025	\$98,500	\$0.838

Property Tax = (Assessed Property Value) / 1,000 * Mill Rate

Fire Protection and Property Insurance

- Currently Sointula is likely rated DPG 4 (in a fire hall protected area) which generally corresponds to classification of “Semi-Protected”
- DPG3A (in a hydrant protected area) which generally corresponds to classification of “Protected” by insurance companies
- Should the community not meet the standards for membership and equipment set by the FUS, it risks being rated as DPG 5 which generally translates to Unprotected.
- The impacts to Sointula households are how these ratings affect house insurance.
- The following table showing house insurance costs is based on responses from the Insurance Center (IC) in Port Hardy and Coastal Community Insurance Services (CCIS) in Port McNeill in 2011

Rating	IC per \$100K	CCIS per \$100K	CCIS per \$200K
Protected	\$352	\$337	\$618
Semi-Protected	\$544 (+2.5% as of June 2011)	\$544	\$1048
Unprotected	\$1005 (+2.5% as of June 2011)	\$1459	\$2650

Process of getting the assent of electors

Wrap up questions

- Three means of showing electors consent
 - Referendum
 - Hold an election majority of vote determines outcome
 - Cost of referendum estimated \$7,000
 - Counter Petition
 - Eligible electors have one month to cast a vote against the proposal being considered
 - If 10% of electors vote against, proposal fails and a referendum is needed to seek approval
 - Cost of counter petition estimated \$1,000
 - Petition for Service
 - Needs 50% of eligible electors and 50% of assessed property value
 - Best used for very small communities, Sointula too big.

Wrap up questions?

