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**REPORT TO PORT RENFREW UTILITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2009**

**SUBJECT PORT RENFREW STREET LIGHTING UTILITY – ADDITIONAL HEADS INSTALLED
IN SNUGGERY COVE AREA**

PURPOSE

To present to the Port Renfrew Utility Service Committee (PRUSC), information, alternatives and a recommendation regarding the five additional street lights installed in Snuggery Cove without consent of the PRUSC.

BACKGROUND

At the committee meeting of 25 January 2007, a request by the fire chief to have three street lights installed at several Parkinson Road fire hydrant locations in Snuggery Cove was discussed. Staff were requested to investigate what measures were necessary to undertake the works and report back to the committee.

In a follow up report of 14 March 2008, staff reported that BC Hydro had been contacted and have identified a potential of four to five locations where street lights could be erected in the Snuggery Cove area. The report also stated that by adding the street lights to the area, an expansion of the Port Renfrew street lighting area would be required through a petition of the residents in the Snuggery Cove service area. The PRUSC agreed that a petition be prepared and a public meeting be held. Staff prepared a newsletter and a petition to conduct a public meeting to expand the Port Renfrew street lighting area and hold it in conjunction with the reopening of the newly renovated community center.

To date, there has been no public meeting, or any petition put forward as BC Hydro has installed five street lights based on the initial inquiry, without a formal request by the Capital Regional District (CRD). Reviewing invoices received by CRD Finance, there has been no apparent increase in costs associated with any additional lights being installed since January 2008.

On 25 May 2009, CRD staff counted 24 street lights in the service area and five additional lights in the Snuggery Cove area. Of the service area lights, nine are 100 watt fixtures, 14 are 150 watt fixtures and one is a 200 watt fixture. The five lights in the Snuggery Cove area are all 150 watt fixtures. The total number of lights confirmed is twenty-nine (29).

BC Hydro invoices the CRD based on the wattage of each light head and charges each on a monthly basis. BC Hydro's Schedule 1701, sets a per fixture rate of \$11.86 for each 100 watt sodium light and \$14.14 for each 150 watt sodium light. BC Hydro has informed staff that Port Renfrew has a total of 21 lights; 6 x100 watt and 15 x150 watt fixtures. The 21 invoiced lights calculate to a monthly expected total of \$297.42 (GST included). Invoicing records show monthly invoices of \$293.29. This amount has not significantly changed since 2000. If any of the eight additional lights were being invoiced, a noticeable increase in the invoiced amounts would have been questioned. Monthly invoices reflect periodic rate adjustments but do not reflect any single marked increase. The five additional Snuggery Cove lights (150 watt) would add another \$74.24 to the monthly charge. The additional three lights in Beach Camp would add an additional \$61/month. The total amount would be approximately \$380.20. Ministry of

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Transportation (MOT) personnel were contacted and confirmed that the street light installations were not requested by them, nor through any development related requests.

Monthly invoiced amounts are listed following, showing annual increase/decrease from previous year.

YEAR	INVOICED AMOUNT	INCREASE + DECREASE -	COMMENTS
2000	\$267.15		
2001	\$276.87	+ \$9.72	
2002	\$270.13	- \$6.74	
2003	\$268.38	- \$1.75	
2004	\$265.32	- \$3.06	
2005	\$265.32	\$0	
2006	\$274.94	+ \$12.68	prior to the request for additional lights
2007	\$277.72	+ \$2.78	
2008	\$291.54	+ \$13.82	would not equate to 5 additional lights
2009	\$293.29	+ \$1.75	

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Port Renfrew Utility Services Committee receive this report for information and authorize staff to petition the Snuggery Cove residents to extend the Port Renfrew street lighting service area.
2. That the Port Renfrew Utility Services Committee receive this report for information, and authorize staff to inform BC Hydro that street lighting services are not required in the Snuggery Cove area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There have been no noticeable invoice increases (other than BC Hydro initiated rate changes to all users) to the monthly billing to reflect any additional lights. It was discovered however, that a deficit in the 2008 operating budget of \$1,074 has been carried forward to the 2009 budget and will need to be addressed through an increase to the parcel tax by approximately \$13/parcel for the 2010 budget year. That figure does not take into account any anticipated rate increase to the BC Hydro charge rate, or the recognition of the additional eight lights currently not being charged by BC Hydro. The committee may wish to increase the rates within the service area, and seek public approval to expand the area to include Snuggery Cove to help cover any potential increase in utility costs for the future. If BC Hydro does initiate higher invoices, by realizing the additional eight lights, then the existing Port Renfrew street lighting service area will have to absorb all costs unless an extension to the service area is obtained through a petition. Two possible scenarios are offered as follows, shown on Attachment 1:

Scenario 1: Snuggery Cove included; cost of 29 lights recovered

Scenario 2: Snuggery Cove excluded; cost of 24 lights recovered

Should a petition to expand the service area fail, BC Hydro will be directed to remove the five street lights outside the service area.

SUMMARY

BC Hydro's has installed five street lights in the Snuggery Cove area with no written authority or consultation with either MOT or the community, and currently invoices the CRD for 21 of the 24 street

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lights in the Beach Camp service area. Should BC Hydro begin invoicing for the additional eight light heads, the PRUSC will need to decide whether to have the lights remain by extending the service area into Snuggery Cove through a petition or ask BC Hydro to remove the five new lights from outside the service area. Should the petition fail, BC Hydro would be directed to remove the five additional street lights outside the service area.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Port Renfrew Utility Services Committee receive this report for information and authorize staff to petition the Snuggery Cove residents to extend the Port Renfrew street lighting service area.



Gary Plevin, ASCT
Engineering Technician 5

GP:ls
Attachments: 1

Attachment 1

SCENARIO 1	SCENARIO 2
Port Renfrew Street Lighting Service Area Extended to Snuggery Cove. Cost recovery of 29 lights at estimated annual cost of \$5,192	Port Renfrew Street Lighting Service Area not Extended to Snuggery Cove. Cost recovery of 24 lights at estimated annual cost of \$4,301
Cost shared 50% Parcel Tax and 50% User Fee: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• parcel tax folios would increase by 43 folios from 84 to 127 parcel tax folios = \$21.52 cost per parcel per year• SFE's would increase (assume 43 for this calculation) from 90.6 to 133.6 = \$19.43 per SFE	Cost shared 50% Parcel Tax and 50% User Fee: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• parcel tax folios remain at 84 = \$26.94 cost per parcel per year• SFE's remain at 90.6 = \$23.74 per SFE
Total Estimated Cost Recovery \$40.95 annually	Total estimated cost recovery \$50.68 annually