



Discussion or Resolution #	Date	Resolution or Discussion
Discussion only	Feb 4, 2019	<p>Mayor Lockwood advised Council of the proposals put forward to the RDCK Parks &amp; Recreation Commission members concerning the Cottonwood Lake property. She noted that the price had come down by approximately half of what it was in December and that staff had actually been in discussions with the property owner for about a year. She also noted that a ‘Save Cottonwood Lake Society’ has been formed and has raised about \$51K so far and they are telling people that they will be able to get significant grants of up to \$500,000 - \$1 million as well. \$150K is the number being touted as the CBT’s contribution and there is a rumoured private donor as well. It is possible the purchase could be independently funded through these efforts.</p> <p>Council members have received over 60 emails and letters, most of which are a chain mail type letter, urging Salmo to support the acquisition of this land and Apex. They are full of false information. All but five are from non-Salmo residents, mostly in Nelson. Population wise this represents about 1% of residents in the affected RDCK areas. Two letters have been received from Salmo residents urging Council not to spend tax dollars on this purchase.</p> <p>Council reviewed the four maps showing Options A, B, C and D and their various purchase prices. There is no Option E – don’t purchase.</p> <p><b>Option A</b> - \$566,468.56 – Area around lake, don’t take on liability for areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, and 14.</p> <p><b>Option B</b> - \$566,468.56 – Area around A and the rest of the parcel which is partly logged, with more logging to happen. After logging RDCK gives tax credit for land, all liability for logged land is assumed by RDCK.</p> <p><b>Option C</b> - \$989,524.83 – Purchasing entire parcel but allowing current owner to still log sections 5 &amp; 7 before purchase.</p> <p><b>Option D</b> - \$1,363,001.50 – Buying the property as is, no more logging.</p> <p>After discussion, Council agreed there is no reason for Salmo to support the acquisition of this land for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None of the options present an actual number, just an estimated purchase cost, but no additional costs such as property evaluation, legal costs, etc., nor anything concerning the ongoing cost of managing, staffing and maintaining a much larger park than currently exists. Therefore, the actual costs are unknown and agreeing to purchase the land could be like signing a blank cheque.</li> <li>• Valuation estimates are not based on a factual report by a qualified assessor. One would have to be hired to come up with the valuation.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depending on the option selected, there could be liability to taxpayers if there are any future issues with the cleared land.</li> <li>• It is an unnecessary cost to Salmo tax payers. Other items are going up and this is a cost that Salmo has no need to assume. The money could be far better spent elsewhere, for example on paving.</li> <li>• If land was to be purchased, it would be more logical to buy the land in Ymir to protect their watershed, which is at risk.</li> <li>• Logging is a major industry in BC. The land will recover and the land immediately around the lake will not be logged anyway so the buffer will remain.</li> <li>• While it re-generates the cleared land will easily support wildlife like moose and bear, as there will be better grazing for moose and deer and bears can easily get to grubs under logs etc. and can still use the land as an artery during their migration period.</li> <li>• There is no danger to the Salmo aquifer as the Cottonwood water flows the opposite way.</li> <li>• The private society should purchase the property using donations and grants.</li> </ul> <p>Council agreed that the only viable option for Salmo is Option E – don't buy it.</p> <p>Mayor Lockwood will advise the Parks and Recreation Commission of this decision. All five affected areas (Salmo, Nelson, E, F and G) must unanimously agree for the purchase to be recommended to the RDCK Board.</p>
<p>Discussion</p> <p>R2-0212-19</p>	<p>Feb. 12, 2019</p>	<p>Mayor Lockwood advised Council of the latest proposals A, B, C and D put forward to the RDCK Parks &amp; Recreation Commission members concerning the Cottonwood Lake property. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Council did not agree with any of them.</p> <p>Moved and seconded, that Council of the Village of Salmo unanimously agrees that neither Option A, B, C or D as presented by the Director/Mayor Lockwood concerning the purchase of lands around Cottonwood Lake by the RDCK are acceptable to the Council. Council unanimously agrees that the land should not be purchased and that the RDCK should discontinue discussions with the property owner and instead allow private individuals or groups to purchase the land.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried.</p>
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Jun 11, 2019</p>	<p>Council discussed the Cottonwood Lake Land purchase proposed by the RDCK Parks commission. The Mayor advised that she had not signed the Letter of Consent, but had brought it back to the table for a discussion regarding a cap on future purchases.</p>

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<p><b>MOTION</b> ICR3-0611-19</p>		<p>Moved and seconded that Salmo Council is in agreement regarding signing the Letter of Consent for the purchase of the Cottonwood land once further discussion and agreement is reached at the Parks Commission to put in place an annual requisition limit and voting fairness.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>