



TOWN OF LADYSMITH
MINUTES OF A REGULAR SESSION OF
THE GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013
5:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Gord Horth (Chair)
Councillor Bill Drysdale
Mayor Rob Hutchins
Councillor Glenda Patterson

Councillor Steve Arnett (entered later)
Councillor Jillian Dashwood
Councillor Duck Paterson

STAFF PRESENT:

Ruth Malli
Erin Anderson
John Manson
Joanna Winter

Felicity Adams
Sandy Bowden
Clayton Postings

CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Horth called the Government Services Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL

- GS 2013-40** It was moved, seconded and carried that the agenda for the Government Services Committee meeting of April 15, 2013 be adopted with the following additions:
- 7.1 Homelessness Issue
 - 7.2 Town capital initiatives.

MINUTES

- GS 2013-41** It was moved, seconded and carried that the minutes of the Government Services Committee meeting held March 18, 2013 be adopted as circulated.

Councillor Arnett entered the meeting (5:35 p.m.)

DELEGATIONS

Cara Light, Ruth Dougan – Hayes, Stewart, Little (Town Auditors)
Draft Financial Statements for the Town of Ladysmith for the year ended December 31, 2012

C. Light reviewed the Auditor's Report for the fiscal year 2012 financial statements with Council. She noted that there are no matters of concern to bring to the attention of the Committee as a result of the audit.

The Director of Financial Services reviewed the draft financial statements for 2012 with Council.

Council thanked Ms. Light and Ms. Dougan for their presentation.

REPORTS

City Manager's Report

The City Manager responded to questions about her report and provided additional information to Council on a proposed update to the waterfront area plan and the new electric vehicle charging station on First Avenue.

Proposed TELUS Monopole at 11 Roberts Street (BC2627)

GS 2013-42 It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend that Council:

- a) concur with the proposed installation of a 14.9 metre tall telecommunications facility at the TELUS central office located at 11 Roberts Street, at siting option C (monopole located on the east side and partially screened by the TELUS building and the equipment contained in the existing garage), provided that the facility is pre-designed such that its height could be increased to accommodate multiple carriers in the future.
- b) ratify the Government Services Committee recommendation [a) above] at tonight's Regular Council meeting.

Memorial Initiatives for Jaedynn Amann-Hicks

GS 2013-43 It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend to Council that:

- a) a memorial tree be planted at Forrest Field in memory of Jaedynn Amann-Hicks;
- b) letters be sent to the federal and British Columbia governments requesting that "Jaedynn's Law" banning the use of free-standing soccer nets in public soccer fields across Canada be enacted as soon as possible;
- c) a comprehensive Playing Fields Policy be drafted which includes regulations pertaining to soccer nets located on Town-owned playing fields; and
- d) that School District No. 68 be requested to comply with the regulations contained in the Playing Fields Policy pertaining to the sue of soccer nets on School District property.

Building Inspector's Report – March 2013

GS 2013-44 It was moved, seconded and carried that the Building Inspector's Report for March 2013 be received.

Trolley Report – March 2013

GS 2013-45 It was moved, seconded and carried that the Trolley Report for March 2013 be received.

Fire Chief's Report – March 2013

GS 2013-46 It was moved, seconded and carried that the Fire Chief's Report for

March 2013 be received.

- GS 2013-47** **Coastal Animal Control Services – March Pound Report**
It was moved, seconded and carried that the Coastal Animal Control Services Pound Report for March 2013 be received.

Discussion ensued regarding whether an alternative method for animal control might be considered.

- GS 2013-48** **Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce Visitor Centre Report**
It was moved, seconded and carried that the report from the Ladysmith Visitor Centre for March 2013 be received.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Norm and Linda Watts**
Hens in Backyards
GS 2013-49 It was moved, seconded and carried that the Committee recommend that Council consider including bylaw amendments to permit hens in backyards in its 2014 work plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Homelessness Issue
Councillor Dashwood discussed a recent meeting concerning homelessness in Ladysmith.

Capital Projects
Councillor Arnett recommended that consideration be given to determining the amount that could be borrowed for capital projects including a new City Hall to be co-located with the Ladysmith branch of the Vancouver Island Regional Library, a new Fire Hall, Forrest Field and road and sidewalk improvements.

Staff were requested to report back to the Committee regarding an acceptable level of debt for Ladysmith, and comparisons with levels of debt in other communities, given the importance of these capital initiatives.

ADJOURNMENT

- GS 2013-50** It was moved, seconded and carried that this meeting of the Government Services Committee be adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair (Councillor G. Horth)

Corporate Officer (S. Bowden)