



MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

5:00 P.M.

This meeting was held electronically

Council Members Present:

Mayor Aaron Stone
Councillor Duck Paterson
Councillor Amanda Jacobson
Councillor Rob Johnson

Councillor Tricia McKay
Councillor Marsh Stevens
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Staff Present:

Guillermo Ferrero
Erin Anderson
Chris Barfoot
Jake Belobaba
Geoff Goodall

Donna Smith
Joanna Winter
Mike Gregory
Ian Paydli
Sue Bouma

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stone called this Special Meeting of Council to order at 5:00 p.m., in order to retire immediately into Closed Session.

2. CLOSED SESSION

CS 2020-118

That, in accordance with section 90(1) of the *Community Charter*, Council retire into closed session in order to consider items related to the following:

- Personal information about an identifiable individual - Section 90(1)(a)
- Human resources matter - Section 90(1)(c)
- Security of the property of the municipality - Section 90(1)(d)
- Acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land - Section 90(1)(e)
- Advice that is subject to solicitor client privilege - Section 90(1)(i)

Motion Carried

3. SPECIAL OPEN MEETING (7:00 p.m.)

Council and staff showed their appreciation for the front line workers in Ladysmith by cheering and showing hearts.

Mayor Stone called this Special Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m., recognizing that it was taking place in various locations throughout Coast Salish territory. He then took a moment to express Council's condolences to the people of Nova Scotia as they deal with the aftermath of the largest mass shooting in Canada's history. Mayor Stone read the names of the victims known to date and expressed the Town's heartfelt sympathy for their families. Council and staff honoured the victims and their families with a moment of silence.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2020-119

That Council approve the agenda for this Special Meeting of Council for April 21, 2020 as amended to include the following items:

- Item 10.1., "Ladysmith Secondary School 2020 Graduating Class"
- Item 10.2., "Peerless Road Recycling Centre"

Motion Carried

5. MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held April 7, 2020

CS 2020-120

That Council approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held April 7, 2020.

Motion Carried

6. REPORTS

6.1 Distribution of 2020 Property Taxes – COVID 19 Considerations

The Director of Financial Services made a presentation to Council regarding options for distributing the 2020 Property Taxes in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. She responded to Council's questions.

CS 2020-121

That Council direct staff to:

1. Prepare the 2020 Financial Plan and Tax Rates Bylaws based on Option #2, of allocating the net budget percentage increase after non-

market change equally over the classes and maximizing the Class 2 rate, as outlined in the report from the Director of Financial Services dated April 21, 2020; and

2. Prepare the 2020 Property Tax Rates Bylaw with the due date of July 2, 2020 and a penalty date of October 1, 2020.

Motion Carried

CS 2020-122

That Council set the 2020 municipal tax levy at net 1.92 per cent and direct staff to prepare the 2020-2024 Financial Plan Bylaw and applicable bylaws.

Motion Carried

7. OPERATIONAL UPDATES - VERBAL UPDATES FROM SENIOR MANAGERS

Senior Managers provided Council with updates for their respective departments, outlining the many ways staff have been able to work within the COVID-19 pandemic work restrictions.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Holland Creek Strata Plan

CS 2020-123

That Council, in response to the request dated February 24, 2020 from the Holland Creek Strata Plan EPS2569, direct staff to amend the applicable Town of Ladysmith bylaws so that property owners in the strata will be billed individually for garbage, water and sewer; and that Holland Creek Strata Plan EPS2569 be advised of Council's decision.

Motion Carried

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Ladysmith Secondary School 2020 Graduating Class

CS 2020-124

That Council direct staff to prepare a report outlining options to honour publicly the Ladysmith Secondary School 2020 graduates.

Motion Carried

9.2 Peerless Road Recycling Centre

CS 2020-125

That the Mayor write a letter to the Cowichan Valley Regional District requesting that the Peerless Road Recycling Centre immediately move to its summer schedule.

Motion Carried

10. QUESTION PERIOD

A member of the public enquired whether the Town would express condolences to the people of Nova Scotia in light of the recent mass shooting, the Town's plans to reopen the Dogwood Dip parking lot to the Holland Creek trail, the potential needs assessment of senior citizens regarding the COVID-19 virus, and the endorsement of a letter by Al Siebring, Mayor of the Municipality of North Cowichan, requesting a public health order to restrict long weekend ferry use to essential travel only.

11. RECESS

CS 2020-126

That Council recess at 8:16 p.m. for a five minute break before reconvening the Closed Session.

Motion Carried

12. RISE AND REPORT- Items from Closed Session

Council rose with report at 8:38 p.m on the following items:

- Resolution CE 2020-047
That Council appoint Erin Anderson as Acting Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), effective May 15, 2020, until a permanent CAO has been selected by Council.
- Resolution CE 2020-048
That Council direct staff to issue a Request for Proposals for CAO recruitment services.
OPPOSED: Councillor Paterson

- Resolution CE 2020-050
That Council direct staff to continue to work with the Ladysmith Downtown Business Association and Ladysmith Citizens on Patrol to identify ways the Town can support nightly patrols in the Downtown.
- Resolution CE 2020-051
That Council direct staff to bring forward for Council's consideration, in an open meeting:
 - a. an application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities site remediation/ risk management study program to obtain funding for a detailed site investigation of the uplands and a request for authorization to use a consultant, if required, to prepare the grant application;
 - b. authorization to seek the services of a qualified environmental engineering firm to complete a detailed site investigation of the uplands;
 - c. an amendment to the financial plan to include \$400,000 to cover the cost of a detailed site investigation over the course of 2020-2021.
- Resolution CE 2020-054
That Council approve for distribution the news release advising that in response to the direction of the Provincial Government, the Town of Ladysmith is reviewing the feasibility of a downtown site to help stop the spread of COVID-19 by supporting our community's homeless to self-isolate during the pandemic.

13. ADJOURNMENT
CS 2020-127

That this Special Meeting of Council adjourn at 8:39 p.m.

Motion Carried

Mayor (A. Stone)

Corporate Officer (D. Smith)