



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 7, 2023
7:00 P.M.
Ladysmith Seniors Centre
630 2nd Avenue

Council Members Present:

Mayor Aaron Stone
Councillor Ray Gourlay
Councillor Amanda Jacobson
Councillor Tricia McKay

Councillor Duck Paterson
Councillor Marsh Stevens
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Erin Anderson
Chris Barfoot
Jake Belobaba
Shawn Baker

Andrew Wilson
Mike Gregory
Sue Bouma
Andrea Hainrich

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stone called this Meeting of Council to order at 6:30 p.m., in order to retire immediately into Closed Session.

2. CLOSED SESSION

CS 2023-248

By unanimous consent Council retired into Closed session at 6:31 p.m., in accordance with section 90(1) of the *Community Charter*, in order to consider items related to the following:

- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public; and
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations.

Motion Carried

3. OPEN MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (7:00 P.M.)

Mayor Stone called this Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m., recognizing with gratitude that it was taking place on the unceded territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2023-249

That Council approve the agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council for November 7, 2023, as amended to include the following changes related to Item 8.1., "Liquor Special Event Area Endorsement – Bayview Brewing (204 Dogwood Drive)":

- Add submissions received after publication of the agenda; and
- Remove report recommendation No. 1, as the applicant has advised they intend to withdraw their application.

Motion Carried

5. RISE AND REPORT- Items from Closed Session

Items from the Closed Meeting of Council held July 4, 2023

CE 2023-044

That Council:

1. Authorize the abandonment of lease 1407751 pursuant to section 45 of the Land Act, with an effective date no later than December 31, 2023;
2. Authorize the Mayor and Corporate officer to enter an agreement between the Town and Stz'uminus First Nation whereby:
 - a) The Stz'uminus First Nation will continue operating a marina on District Lot 2016 following the Town's abandonment of the lease;
 - b) Stz'uminus will not evict the Ladysmith Maritime Society prior to December 31, 2023 should the Town abandon lease 1407751 prior to that date.

6. MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held October 16, 2023

CS 2023-250

That Council approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held October 16, 2023.

Motion Carried

6.2 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 17, 2023

CS 2023-251

That Council approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 17, 2023.

Motion Carried

7. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

7.1 Deputy Mayor

Mayor Stone made the following appointments for Deputy Mayor:
November 2023 to May 7, 2024: Councillor Stevens
May 8, 2024 to November 5, 2024: Councillor McKay

7.2 Parcel Tax Review Panel

CS 2023-252

That Council appoint Councillors Gourlay, Stevens and Paterson to the 2024 Parcel Tax Review Panel.

Motion Carried

7.3 Cowichan Valley Regional District Director

CS 2023-253

That Council appoint Mayor Stone as the Town of Ladysmith Director on the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board for the 2023/24 term.

Motion Carried

7.4 Cowichan Valley Regional District Alternate Director

CS 2023-254

That Council appoint Councillor Stevens as the Town of Ladysmith Alternate Director on the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board for the 2023/24 term.

Motion Carried

7.5 Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Director

CS 2023-255

That Council appoint Councillor Virtanen as Director to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board for the 2024 term.

Motion Carried

7.6 Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Alternate

CS 2023-256

That Council appoint Councillor McKay as the Alternate Director to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board for the 2024 term.

Motion Carried

7.7 Standing and Community Committee Representatives

Mayor Stone made the following appointments to Council Advisory Commissions and Committees:

Committee of the Whole

November 2023 to April 2024

Chair: Councillor Stevens

May 2024 to October 2024

Chair: Councillor McKay

All Members of Council are Members of CoW.

Waterfront Implementation Committee

Council Liaison: Mayor Stone

Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Community Planning Advisory Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Alternate: Councillor Jacobson

Protective Services Committee

Chair: Councillor McKay

Council Liaison: Councillor Jacobson

Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Paterson

Alternate: Councillor Virtanen

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Jacobson

Alternate: Councillor Gourlay

Arts & Heritage Hub Design Steering Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

Alternate: Councillor Paterson

Liquid Waste Management Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Gourlay

Council Liaison: Councillor Paterson

Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Public Art Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

Alternate: Councillor Stevens

Stocking Lake Advisory Committee

Chair: Councillor Stevens

Council Liaison: Councillor Gourlay

Celebrations Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Virtanen

Alternate: Councillor Paterson

Ladysmith Festival of Lights

Council Liaison: Councillor Gourlay

Alternate: Councillor Virtanen

Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce

Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

Alternate: Councillor Paterson

Ladysmith Downtown Business Association

Council Liaison: Councillor Gourlay

Alternate: Councillor Paterson

Social Planning Cowichan

Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Alternate: Councillor McKay

Ladysmith Community Justice Program

Council Liaison: Councillor Gourlay

Poverty Reduction Task Group

Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

**Board of Education of School District 68 Long Range Facilities
Planning Advisory Committee**

Council Liaison: Councillor Virtanen

Our Cowichan Community Health Network

Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

8. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

8.1 Liquor Special Event Area Endorsement – Bayview Brewing (204 Dogwood Drive)

CS 2023-257

That Council direct staff to prepare a Special Events Bylaw.

Motion Carried

9. 2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN DISCUSSIONS - WATER & SEWER - OPERATING & CAPITAL

9.1 Presentation and Council Discussion

Staff gave a presentation that reviewed the details of the water and sewer budget and responded to Council's questions. Staff also noted, in response to an email from the public received prior to the meeting, that storm water surveys are ongoing.

9.2 Public Input & Questions

A member of the public enquired about the cost of the water connection fees for the Artist Studio, and the plan for those fees should the project not proceed. He also enquired about the water and sewer rates paid to the Town by the Diamond Improvement District and the Stz'uminus First Nation.

9.3 Water and Sewer 2024 Budgets

CS 2023-258

That Council:

1. Direct staff to amend the "Sewer Rates Bylaw 1966, No. 422, Amendment Bylaw 1999, No.1360" to include a 3% increase to the rates;

2. Confirm the 2024 sewer parcel tax bylaw at \$360 per parcel;
3. Direct staff to amend the “Waterworks Regulation Bylaw 1999, No.1298” to include a 5% increase to the rates; and
4. Confirm the 2024 water parcel tax bylaw at \$459 per parcel.

Motion Carried

10. REPORTS

Sue Bouma, Deputy Corporate Officer left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

10.1 Appointment of Corporate Officer

CS 2023-259

That Council appoint Sue Bouma as Corporate Officer, effective Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

Motion Carried

Sue Bouma rejoined the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

11. BYLAWS

11.1 Bylaw Status Sheet

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Nanaimo Regional Hospital District Healthcare Priority Projects

CS 2023-260

That the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write a letter of support directed to Health Minister Dix for the Nanaimo Regional Hospital District priority capital projects including the new patient tower and cardiac catheterization lab to be located at the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, as outlined in their correspondence dated October 25, 2023.

Motion Carried

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Members of the public enquired about the decision to abandon the DL 2016 water lot lease, as well as the use of closed meetings in the decision-making process.

14. ADJOURNMENT

CS 2023-261

That this Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Motion Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor (A. Stone)

Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)