



## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

6:02 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

Chris Geiger  
Sue Bouma  
Andrea Hainrich

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stone called this Meeting of Council to order at 6:02 p.m., in order to retire immediately into Closed Session.

## 2. CLOSED SESSION

### CS 2024-046

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:

- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality; and
- (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.

*Motion Carried*

**3. OPEN MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (7:00 p.m.)**

Mayor Stone called this Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:01 p.m., recognizing with gratitude that it was taking place on the unceded territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation.

**4. AGENDA APPROVAL**

**CS 2024-047**

That Council approve the agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council for March 19, 2024.

*Motion Carried*

**5. RISE AND REPORT- Items from Closed Session**

Council rose from Closed Session at 6:54 p.m. without report.

**6. MINUTES**

**6.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held March 5, 2024**

**CS 2024-048**

That Council approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held March 5, 2024.

*Motion Carried*

**7. PROCLAMATIONS**

**7.1 International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness**

Mayor Stone proclaimed March 26, 2024 as International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness Day.

**8. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**8.1 Poverty Reduction Task Group - January 23, 2024**

**CS 2024-049**

That Council receive the minutes of the Poverty Reduction Task Group meeting held January 23, 2024.

*Motion Carried*

## 8.2 Committee of the Whole - March 12, 2024

### CS 2024-050

That Council waive the Grant in Aid Policy prior to approving the Committee of the Whole Grant in Aid recommendations.

*Motion Carried*

### CS 2024-051

That Council:

1. Approve the allocated amounts of the 2024 Grant in Aid requests as follows:

Art Council of Ladysmith and District (Arts on Avenue)	9,250
Cowichan Family Caregivers Support Society	2,750
Ladysmith and District Historical Society	2,000
Ladysmith and District Marine Rescue Society	3,250
Ladysmith Celebrations Society	10,000
Ladysmith Downtown Business Association	5,000
Ladysmith Family and Friends Society	2,500
Ladysmith Festival of Lights	2,500
Ladysmith Little Theater	2,800
Old English Car Club Central Island Branch	750
Big Brothers Big Sisters Central Vancouver Island	2,250
Crisis Intervention and Public Information Society of Greater Victoria - New Applicant	-
Ladysmith Pride Society - New Applicant	10,000

2. Refer the late Grant in Aid application for waiving of fees from the Ladysmith Lion's Club to the Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture.

3. Approve allocating the \$1500 from the returned 2023 FJCC bursary to fund the Ladysmith Senior Improv Team Grant in Aid request.
4. Write a letter to Island Health requesting a meeting to discuss the possibility of turning the area around the Urgent Care Centre into community gardens.
5. Repeal "Town of Ladysmith Downtown Development Cost Charges Reduction Bylaw, 2011, No. 1781".
6. Direct staff, in consultation with all unionized and non-unionized employees, to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy for the Town, and that regular and recurring training for staff and Council be a product of that policy.

*Motion Carried*

Councillor Paterson declared a conflict of interest with the following Grant in Aid recommendation due to his involvement with the Ladysmith Show and Shine organization, and vacated the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

**CS 2024-052**

That Council approve the allocated amount of \$3000 as the 2024 Grant in Aid for the Ladysmith Show and Shine organization.

*Motion Carried*

OPPOSED: Councillor Jacobson

Councillor Paterson returned to the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

## **9. PRESENTATION**

### **9.1 Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing**

Staff reviewed recent legislation and legislation amendments that will affect housing and residential development in local governments and discussed the tight deadlines related to their implementation. Staff responded to Council's questions.

**CS 2024-053**

That Council direct staff to "opt in" to the provincial data sharing program for short-term rentals.

*Motion Carried*

OPPOSED: Councillor Jacobson

**CS 2024-054**

That Council direct staff to bring forward for Council consideration:

- a) zoning amendments consistent with provincial SSMUH requirements to allow duplexes in restricted zones on all lots between 280-4050m<sup>2</sup> in size;
- b) zoning amendments consistent with provincial SSMUH requirements to allow one single- family dwelling, one secondary suite and one coach house in restricted zones on lots smaller than 280m<sup>2</sup>;
- c) OCP amendments to align development permit requirements to be consistent with new SSMUH requirements;
- d) amendments to relevant bylaws to increase fines for illegal nightly rentals, and make existing STR rules clearer and aligned with provincial terminology;
- e) an Amenity Cost Charge Bylaw;
- f) amendments to the Town's DCC bylaw to allow for a DCC charge for a new Fire Hall and shared provincial highway projects;
- g) amendments to the applicable bylaws to delegate the approval of "minor" DVPs to staff; and
- h) amendments to the applicable bylaws to increase range of staff-issuable DPs, including DPs for residential developments of four units or less.

*Motion Carried*

**10. REPORTS****10.1 Proposed Amendments to Corporate Flag Protocol Policy No. 01-0340-A****CS 2024-055**

That Council amend the Corporate Flag Protocol Policy No. 01-0340-A to include new wording that states that the Every Child Matters Flag will be flown annually, from September 1-30, under the Stz'uminus Flag at City Hall.

*Motion Carried*

**11. BYLAWS****11.1 Bylaw Status Sheet**

**12. QUESTION PERIOD**

A member of the public commented on the new housing legislation and questioned the incentive for someone to build on their own property with the new Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing requirements. He expressed concern regarding parking issues and asked how DCC and ACC charges would be evaluated.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**CS 2024-056**

That this Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

*Motion Carried*

CERTIFIED CORRECT

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Mayor (A. Stone)

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Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)