



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

6:45 P.M.

Ladysmith Seniors Centre
630 2nd Avenue

Council Members Present:

Mayor Deena Beeston
Councillor Ray Gourlay
Councillor Amanda Jacobson

Councillor Tricia McKay
Councillor Duck Paterson
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Council Members Absent:

Councillor Marsh Stevens

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Erin Anderson
Chris Barfoot

Sue Bouma
Nick Pescod
Hayley Young

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Beeston called this Meeting of Council to order at 6:45 p.m., in order to retire immediately into Closed Session.

2. CLOSED SESSION

CS 2026-035

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:

- (c) labour relations or other employee relations.

Motion Carried

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

Mayor Beeston called this Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m.
Councillor McKay delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2026-036

That Council approve the agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council for March 3, 2026, as amended to include Item 8, "CVRD Update" and to renumber the agenda accordingly.

Motion Carried

5. RISE AND REPORT - Items from Closed Session

Council rose from Closed Session at 6:56 pm without report.

6. MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 17, 2026

CS 2026-037

That Council approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 17, 2026.

Motion Carried

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES

7.1 Public Art Committee - February 12, 2026

CS 2026-038

That Council receive the minutes of the Public Art Committee meeting held February 12, 2026.

Motion Carried

8. CVRD UPDATE

Mayor Beeston reported that the Hospital Financial Plan Bylaw was given first, second, and third readings, and that the new hospital will be named Quw'utsun Valley Hospital/Quw'utsun Hulitun-ew't-hw. She further reported that the Mañana development application received first and second readings and a public hearing will be scheduled in the near future. She also noted that the CVRD is requesting provincial oversight regarding fibreglass pollution in the Cowichan estuary.

9. REPORTS

9.1 2026 Community Banner Selection

CS 2026-039

That Council:

1. Approve the recommendations of the Public Art Committee for the 2026 Community Public Banner Program to produce banners based on the following submissions:
 - a. Bright Future (Day), Side 1 – Natasha Bartlett
 - b. Bright Future (Night), Side 2 – Natasha Bartlett
2. Direct staff to proceed with ordering and installing the approved banners.

Motion Carried

10. BYLAWS

10.1 Bylaws for Adoption

10.1.1 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw

CS 2026-040

That Council adopt "Financial Plan Bylaw 2026, No. 2233".

Motion Carried

10.2 Bylaw Status Sheet

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11.1 Ratification of Electronic Vote Held February 21, 2026

CS 2026-041

That Council ratify its February 21, 2026 electronic endorsement of the following recommendation:

"That Council authorize establishments within the Town of Ladysmith to commence liquor service at 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 22, 2026, pursuant to the Provincial directive permitting extended service hours for the Olympic men's gold medal hockey game."

Motion Carried

12. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the public.

13. ADJOURNMENT

CS 2026-042

That this Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Motion Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor (D. Beeston)

Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)