



## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

6:00 P.M.

Ladysmith Seniors Centre  
630 2nd Avenue

### **Council Members Present:**

Mayor Deena Beeston

Councillor Ray Gourlay

Councillor Tricia McKay

Councillor Duck Paterson

Councillor Marsh Stevens

*(via Zoom – joined at 6:03 p.m.)*

Councillor Jeff Virtanen

### **Council Members Absent:**

Councillor Amanda Jacobson

### **Staff Present:**

Allison McCarrick *(via Zoom)*

Erin Anderson

Chris Barfoot

Jake Belobaba

Trish McConnell

Sue Bouma

Nick Pescod

Hayley Young

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Beeston called this Regular Meeting of Council to order at 6:00 p.m. and delivered the land acknowledgement.

### **2. AGENDA APPROVAL**

#### **CS 2026-068**

That Council approve the agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council for April 21, 2026.

*Motion Carried*

### **3. MINUTES**

#### **3.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held April 7, 2026**

##### **CS 2026-069**

That Council approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held April 7, 2026.

*Motion Carried*

### **4. DELEGATIONS**

#### **4.1 MNP, Auditors for the Town**

Cory Vanderhorst, MNP, provided Council with an overview of the 2025 Audit Findings. He stated that this is an unqualified or clean audit, and responded to questions from Council.

Councillor Stevens joined the meeting at 6:03 p.m. via Zoom.

##### **CS 2026-070**

That Council accept the 2025 Audit Findings report and the draft 2025 Financial Statements as presented by MNP, auditors for the Town of Ladysmith.

*Motion Carried*

### **5. PRESENTATION**

#### **5.1 Ladysmith RCMP Reports and Annual Planning**

Staff Sergeant Trevor Busch, Ladysmith RCMP, appeared before Council to provide an overview of year-end reporting and the proposed Detachment Annual Performance Plan and responded to Council's questions.

##### **CS 2026-071**

That Council receive the following Ladysmith RCMP reports:

- 2026 Community Consultation Results;
- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report for the months January, February and March of 2026; and
- Annual Detachment Report for April 2025 to March 2026.

*Motion Carried*

**CS 2026-072**

That Council approve the Ladysmith RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan for 2026-2027.

*Motion Carried*

**6. PROCLAMATIONS**

**6.1 Environmental Sensitivity/ Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Day**

Mayor Beeston proclaimed Tuesday, May 12, 2026 as "Environmental Sensitivity/Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Day" in the Town of Ladysmith.

**7. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS**

**7.1 Development Permit Application – 303 Chemainus Road**

**CS 2026-073**

That Council issue Development Permit 3060-23-04 for 303 Chemainus Road (Lot A District Lot 43 Oyster District and District Lot 2122 Cowichan District Plan EPP127840, PID: 032-313-535) to authorize a multi-family development on the subject property.

*Motion Carried*

**8. REPORTS**

**8.1 CVRD Referral - Bylaw No. 4705**

**CS 2026-074**

That Council direct staff to advise the CVRD that the Town of Ladysmith has no concerns with Bylaw No. 4705.

*Motion Carried*

**8.2 Employee Recognition Program**

**CS 2026-075**

That Council:

1. Amend the Employee, Volunteer Firefighter, RCMP Recognition Program Policy 07 2550 A to:

- a. Remove references to "volunteer firefighters" and replace with "paid-on-call firefighters";
- b. Remove RCMP personnel from eligibility;

- c. Replace the reference to “in good standing” with “continuous and active” to clarify that recognition is based on years of active service; and
2. Replace the requirement for a unanimous vote with a majority vote.

**CS 2026-076**  
AMENDMENT

That Council amend Resolution CS 2026-075 by adding subsection 1(d) as follows:

- d. Increase the gift amount from \$25 per year of service to \$40 per year of service.

*Amendment Carried*

**CS 2026-075, as amended, reads:**

That Council:

1. Amend the Employee, Volunteer Firefighter, RCMP Recognition Program Policy 07 2550 A to:
  - a. Remove references to “volunteer firefighters” and replace with “paid-on-call firefighters”;
  - b. Remove RCMP personnel from eligibility;
  - c. Replace the reference to “in good standing” with “continuous and active” to clarify that recognition is based on years of active service; and
  - d. Increase the gift amount from \$25 per year of service to \$40 per year of service”; and
2. Replace the requirement for a unanimous vote with a majority vote.

*Main Motion, as Amended, Carried.*

**9. BYLAWS**

**9.1 Bylaws for Introduction**

**9.1.1 2026 Property Tax Bylaws**

**CS 2026-077**

That Council give first, second and third readings to:

- “Property Tax Rates Bylaw 2026, No. 2235”;
- “Sewer Parcel Tax Bylaw 2026, No. 2236”; and
- “Water Parcel Tax Bylaw 2026, No. 2237”.

*Motion Carried*

**9.1.2 “Town of Ladysmith Streets and Traffic Bylaw 1998, No. 1309, Amendment Bylaw 2026, No. 2212”.**

**CS 2026-078**

That Council give first, second and third readings to "Town of Ladysmith Streets and Traffic Bylaw 1998, No. 1309, Amendment Bylaw 2026, No. 2212".

*Motion Carried*

**9.2 Bylaws for Adoption**

**9.2.1 “Community Centre and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw 2024, No. 2178, Amendment Bylaw 2026, No. 2234”.**

**CS 2026-079**

That Council adopt “Community Centre and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw 2024, No. 2178, Amendment Bylaw 2026, No. 2234”.

*Motion Carried*

**9.3 Bylaw Status Sheet**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**10.1 LDHS Request for Museum Artifact Storage**

**CS 2026-080**

That Council consider the Ladysmith & District Historical Society's request for museum artifact storage, as presented in the correspondence dated April 14, 2026.

*Motion Carried*

OPPOSED: Councillor Stevens.

**CS 2026-081**

That Council authorize the Ladysmith & District Historical Society to temporarily store the identified items in the lower floor of the western portion of the Machine Shop for a one-year term, with the option to extend the term upon mutual agreement of both parties

*Motion Carried*

OPPOSED: Councillor Stevens.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**11.1 Ladysmith Intermediate School Field Use**

**CS 2026-082**

That Council direct staff to discuss with School District 68 the Town's potential use of the Ladysmith Intermediate School field for a community garden and dog park once the school is decommissioned.

*Motion Defeated*

OPPOSED: Councillors Gourlay, McKay, Stevens and Virtanen.

**11.2 Cleanup of Ladysmith Harbour – DL 651**

**CS 2026-083**

That Council direct staff to prepare and submit a letter to the Provincial and Federal Governments requesting timely intervention and cleanup within Ladysmith Harbour, with specific attention to DL 651 ("Dog Patch"), including the removal of both floating and submerged derelict vessels.

*Motion Defeated*

OPPOSED: Councillors Gourlay, McKay and Stevens.

**12. QUESTION PERIOD**

A member of the public thanked Council for their support of the Ladysmith & District Historical Society's request.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**CS 2026-084**

That this Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

*Motion Carried*

CERTIFIED CORRECT

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Mayor (D. Beeston)

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Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)