



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

7:00 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 Marsh Stevens *(Via Zoom.
Vacated the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)*
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Chris Barfoot
Sue Bouma

Nick Pescod
Hayley Young

1. OPEN MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Beeston called this Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m.
Councillor Gourlay delivered the land acknowledgement.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2026-100

That Council approve the agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council for May 19, 2026.

Motion Carried

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held May 5, 2026

CS 2026-101

That Council approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held May 5, 2026.

Motion Carried

4. PROCLAMATIONS

4.1 National AccessAbility Week - May 31 to June 6, 2026

Mayor Beeston proclaimed May 31 to June 6, 2026 as “National AccessAbility Week” in the Town of Ladysmith.

5. COMMITTEE MINUTES

5.1 Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee - April 15, 2026

CS 2026-102

That Council receive the minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee meeting held April 15, 2026.

Motion Carried

5.2 Committee of the Whole - May 12, 2026

CS 2026-103

That Council:

1. Receive the Trail Feasibility Study, provided as Attachment A to the May 12, 2026 report to the Committee of the Whole; and
2. Direct staff to:
 - a. Proceed with the Economic Impact Assessment described in the May 12, 2026 staff report; and
 - b. Seek landowner and First Nations consent for the proposed trail network.

Motion Carried

CS 2026-104

That Council amend the Themed Lighting Policy 01 0320 B, as follows:

1. Expand the scope of the policy to include proclamations; and
2. Adopt the redlined amendments as outlined in Attachment A to the May 12, 2026 Committee of the Whole report from the Corporate Services Department.

Motion Carried

CS 2026-105

That Council:

1. Approve the implementation of the “Mobile Food Vendor – Temporary Park Permit” and associated fee structure, as outlined in the staff report dated May 12, 2026, from the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department;

2. Direct staff to amend the “Town of Ladysmith Parks Usage Bylaw, 2017, No. 1933” to include the corresponding fee schedule and language attached to this report; and
3. Direct staff to implement the “Commercial Interest Information Form” attached to this report, to streamline the review process for all mobile vending park requests.

Motion Carried

CS 2026-106

That Council direct staff to proceed with a phasing plan and cost estimates for the 6th Avenue Improvements and include Phase 1 construction in the 2027 budget for Council’s consideration.

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Councillor Stevens.

6. REPORTS

6.1 PRC Facility Project Update

CS 2026-107

That Council direct staff to amend the 2026-2030 Financial Plan to:

1. Allocate from the COVID reserves \$15,000 to the City Hall Heat Recovery Ventilation (HRV) project to enable completion of the remaining work;
2. Allocate \$7,000 from the Climate Action Reserve to the Gateway Signage Lighting Improvements project to address additional infrastructure and installation costs; and
3. Allocate \$33,000 for the Lot 108 – Phase 2 project, with \$25,000 from the Climate Action Reserve and \$8,000 from the Municipal Insurance Association Risk Management Grant to address climate mitigation features and add walkway railings.

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Councillor Stevens.

7. BYLAWS

7.1 Bylaw Status Sheet

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 2026 Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Siting Policy

CS 2026-108

That Council receive the correspondence dated April 30, 2026 from the Cowichan Valley Regional District regarding the 2026 Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Siting Policy.

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Councillor Paterson.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Notice of Motion

CS 2026-109

That Council authorize the rising and reporting of all instances in which a member of Council has been sanctioned since 1995, including: the date of the sanction, the substance of the sanction, the actions taken by Council, and any dissenting votes, to be included in the Rise and Report - and that the Council Procedure Policy be amended to require that all future instances of sanctioning of a Member of Council be risen and reported.

Motion Defeated

OPPOSED: Councillors Gourlay, McKay, Paterson and Virtanen.

10. QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Stevens vacated the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

A member of the public asked whether the \$7,000 allocated to the Gateway Signage Lighting Improvements project might be more suitably allocated to installing an accessibility push-button for the downtown public washrooms, in light of the municipality's recognition of National AccessAbility Week.

Another member of the public addressed Council regarding a matter not listed on the agenda. The Mayor advised that the matter did not fall within the scope of Question Period.

11. ADJOURNMENT

CS 2026-110

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

Motion Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor (D. Beeston)

Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)