



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

5:32 P.M.

Ladysmith Seniors Centre
630 2nd Avenue

Council Members Present:

Mayor Deena Beeston
Councillor Ray Gourlay
Councillor Amanda Jacobson

Councillor Tricia McKay
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Council Members Absent:

Councillor Duck Paterson

Councillor Marsh Stevens

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Chris Barfoot
Iain Bourhill

Sue Bouma
Hayley Young

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Beeston called this Meeting of Council to order at 5:32 p.m., in order to retire immediately into Closed Session.

2. CLOSED SESSION

CS 2026-217

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 Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; 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 Beeston called this Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and delivered the land acknowledgement.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2026-218

That Council approve the agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council for October 6, 2026, as amended to:

1. Add the 2026 Quarter 2 Detachment Report as supporting documentation for Item 7.2, "Ladysmith RCMP", along with a recommendation to receive the report; and
2. Revise the recommendation for Item 13.1, "Invitation to Discuss the Cowichan Valley Trail", to include the CVRD as a recipient of the proposed invitation.

Motion Carried

5. RISE AND REPORT - Items from Closed Session

Council rose from Closed Session at 6:56 p.m. with report on the following:

CE 2026-058

That Council:

1. Approve the five-year lease renewal agreement with the Ladysmith Seniors Centre Society for the property located at 630 2nd Avenue as presented, effective August 1, 2026 and authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute the lease renewal;
2. Direct staff to give notice of the Town's intent to enter into a lease agreement with the Ladysmith Seniors Centre Society as per the *Community Charter*; and
3. Rise and report on Recommendation No. 1 and 2 immediately.

6. MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held September 22, 2026

CS 2026-219

That Council approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held September 22, 2026.

Motion Carried

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Gifts to Outgoing Council

Mayor Beeston presented gifts to outgoing Councillors Amanda Jacobson and Tricia McKay in recognition of their service to the Town of Ladysmith. The Mayor thanked them for their commitment to the community and their contributions during their time on Council.

7.2 Ladysmith RCMP

Staff Sergeant Trevor Busch, Ladysmith RCMP, provided an update on detachment operations and highlighted key information from the 2026 Quarter 2 Detachment Report for the period July 2 to September 30, 2026.

CS 2026-220

That Council receive the RCMP report for the months July, August and September 2026.

Motion Carried

8. DELEGATIONS

8.1 Ladysmith Resources Centre Association (LRCA)

Councillor Gourlay declared a conflict of interest regarding Item 8.1 due to his employment with the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association (LRCA) and departed the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Nancy McIntyre, Executive Director of the LRCA, spoke to Council regarding the organization's request to withdraw \$75,000 from funds held in trust by the Town under the lease agreement for the premises at 630 2nd Avenue. She provided background information on the request and outlined the proposed steps to address the matter.

CS 2026-221

RECONSIDERATION

That Council reconsider Resolution CS 2026-213 from the September 22, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council, regarding the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association's request to withdraw funds held in trust by the Town.

Motion Carried

CS 2026-222

That Council approve the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association's request to withdraw \$75,000 from funds held in trust by the Town in accordance with the current lease agreement between the Town of Ladysmith and the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association for the premises at 630 2nd Avenue.

Motion Carried

Councillor Gourlay returned to the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

9. COMMITTEE MINUTES

9.1 Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee - September 16, 2026

CS 2026-223

That Council receive the minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee meeting held September 16, 2026.

Motion Carried

10. CVRD UPDATE

The Mayor advised that recent CVRD Board business consisted primarily of routine administrative and housekeeping matters and that there were no significant updates of particular relevance to the Town of Ladysmith.

11. REPORTS

11.1 Local Community Accessibility Grant

CS 2026-224

That Council:

1. Direct staff to submit an application to the Local Community Accessibility Grant Program for up to \$9,000; and

2. Request a letter of support from the Accessibility Advisory Committee for the proposed grant application, as outlined in the staff report dated October 6, 2026.

Motion Carried

12. BYLAWS

12.1 Bylaws for Adoption

12.1.1 “Animal Responsibility Bylaw 2026, No. 2238”

CS 2026-225

That Council adopt “Animal Responsibility Bylaw 2026, No. 2238”.

Motion Carried

12.1.2 “2027 Permissive Tax Exemptions Bylaw 2026, No. 2246”

Councillor Gourlay declared a conflict of interest regarding Item 12.1.2. due to his employment with the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association (LRCA) and departed the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

CS 2026-226

That Council adopt “2027 Permissive Tax Exemptions Bylaw 2026, No. 2246”.

Motion Carried

Councillor Gourlay returned to the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

12.2 Bylaw Status Sheet

13. NEW BUSINESS

13.1 Invitation to Discuss the Cowichan Valley Trail

CS 2026-227

That Council direct staff to write a letter for the Mayor’s signature inviting the Stz’uminus First Nation, Island Corridor Foundation, CVRD, and the Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce to explore opportunities to extend the Cowichan Valley Trail and related trail connections from Transfer Beach south to Saltair and north to Oyster Bay.

Motion Carried

14. QUESTION PERIOD

A member of the public expressed appreciation to Councillors Amanda Jacobson and Tricia McKay as they concluded their terms on Council, and thanked all members of Council for their commitment and service to the Town of Ladysmith during the Council term.

15. ADJOURNMENT

CS 2026-228

That this Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor (D. Beeston)

Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)