



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 12, 2024
5:31 P.M.
Ladysmith Seniors Centre
630 2nd Avenue

Council Members Present:

Councillor Marsh Stevens, Chair
Councillor Amanda Jacobson
Mayor Aaron Stone

Councillor Ray Gourlay
Councillor Duck Paterson
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Council Members Absent:

Councillor Tricia McKay

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Erin Anderson
Chris Barfoot
Jake Belobaba
Ryan Bouma

Chris Geiger
Trish McConnell
Sue Bouma
Andrea Hainrich

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Stevens, Chair, called this Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:31 p.m., and acknowledged with gratitude that it was being held on the unceded territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

CW 2024-011

That the agenda for this March 12, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as amended to include under item 5.1 – “Grant in Aid Requests”, the Ladysmith Pride Society budget estimate.

Motion Carried

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 16, 2024

CW 2024-012

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 16, 2024 be approved.

Motion Carried

4. RCMP FAREWELL AND WELCOME

Staff Sergeant Tim Desaulniers introduced Corporal Tracy Dubnyk, who will be taking over as the Acting Ladysmith Detachment Commander. Corporal Dubnyk spoke about her history with Ladysmith and with the RCMP and advised that she will be acting in the role until it is filled with a permanent replacement.

Chair Stevens thanked S./Sgt. Desaulniers for his service to the community and welcomed Sergeant Dubnyk to the role.

5. REPORTS

5.1 2024 Grant in Aid Requests

The Committee agreed to consider separately the Grant in Aid request for the Ladysmith Show and Shine organization due to Councillor Paterson's involvement with the organization. They then discussed the grant-in-aid requests for 2024 and made tentative allocations to the various organizations prior to finalizing their decisions.

CW 2024-013

That the Committee recommend that Council 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

Motion Carried

Councillor Paterson declared a conflict of interest, due to his involvement with the Ladysmith Show and Shine organization, and vacated the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

CW 2024-014

That the Committee recommend 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 6:19 p.m.

CW 2024-015

That the Committee recommend that Council refer the late Grant in Aid application for waiving of fees from the Ladysmith Lion's Club to the Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture.

Motion Carried

5.1.1 New Business - Ladysmith Senior Improv Team - Grant in Aid Application

CW 2024-016

That the Committee recommend that Council approve allocating the \$1500 from the returned 2023 FJCC bursary to fund the Ladysmith Senior Improv Team Grant in Aid request.

Motion Carried

CW 2024-017

That the Committee refer the Grant in Aid policy to a future Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Mayor Stone and Councillor Gourlay

5.2 Permissive Tax Exemption Policy Discussion

CW 2024-018

That the Committee recommend that Council amend the Permissive Tax Exemption Policy to specify that affordable housing permissive tax exemptions would only apply to the percentage of units below market value.

Motion Defeated

OPPOSED: Mayor Stone, Chair Stevens, and Councillors Jacobson and Virtanen.

By unanimous consent the Committee recessed at 7:26 p.m. for a short break. The meeting reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

5.3 Pavement Priorities 2024

CW 2024-019

That the Committee receive the staff report dated March 12, 2024 from the Director of Infrastructure Services, regarding 2024 paving priorities.

Motion Carried

5.4 Protective Services Department Report

CW 2024-020

That the Committee receive the report dated March 12, 2024 from the Manager of Protective Services regarding the activities of the Protective Services Department.

Motion Carried

6. COUNCIL SUBMISSIONS

6.1 Community Gardens at the Urgent Care Centre

Councillor Paterson discussed the current community gardens at the Little League Field, and the potential to expand to the Urgent Care Centre based on the need in the community.

CW 2024-021

That the Committee recommend that Council 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.

Motion Carried

6.2 Discussion on Bylaw 1781

CW 2024-022

That the Committee recommend that Council repeal "Town of Ladysmith Downtown Development Cost Charges Reduction Bylaw, 2011, No. 1781".

Motion Carried

6.3 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy

CW 2024-023

That the Committee recommend that Council 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

7. ADJOURNMENT

CW 2024-024

That this Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Motion Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair (Councillor M. Stevens)

Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)