



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

6:30 P.M.

**Ladysmith Seniors Centre
630 2nd Avenue**

Council Members Present:

Councillor Amanda Jacobson, Chair
Mayor Deena Beeston
Councillor Ray Gourlay
Councillor Tricia McKay

Councillor Duck Paterson
Councillor Marsh Stevens
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Erin Anderson
Tim Tanton
Chris Geiger

Sue Bouma
Nick Pescod
Hayley Young

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Jacobson, Chair, called this Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and delivered the land acknowledgement.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

CW 2026-010

That the agenda for this March 10, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved.

Motion Carried

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 27, 2026

CW 2026-011

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held January 27, 2026 be approved.

Motion Carried

4. REPORTS

4.1 Protective Services Annual Report - 2025

CW 2026-012

That the Committee receive the report dated March 10, 2026 from the Manager of Protective Services regarding the 2025 activities of the Protective Services Department.

Motion Carried

4.2 2023-2026 Strategic Priorities Update

CW 2026-013

That the Committee receive the 2023-2026 Strategic Priorities Update dated March 10, 2026.

Motion Carried

4.3 Stuart Place Walkway

CW 2026-014

That the Committee recommend that Council direct staff to re-open Stuart Walkway for public use.

Motion Carried

4.4 Proclamations and Themed Lighting Policy

CW 2026-015

That the Committee recommend that Council direct staff to prepare amendments to Themed Lighting Policy 01-0320-B to:

1. Include provisions for processing proclamation requests; and
2. Specify that both themed lighting and proclamation requests will only be accepted from local chapters or organizations with representation within Ladysmith, or those with provincial or national significance.

Motion Carried

4.5 Use of On-Demand Surety Bonds

CW 2026-016

That the Committee recommend that Council approve a pilot program for On-Demand Surety Bonds as an accepted form of security deposit as presented in the March 10, 2026 staff report to the Committee.

Motion Carried

4.6 Council Remuneration Review

CW 2026-017

That the Committee recommend that Council direct staff to conduct a review of Council remuneration including benefits coverage, based on comparable communities and report its recommendations to Council prior to September 30, 2026.

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Councillor Stevens.

5. COUNCIL SUBMISSIONS

5.1 Outdoor Cat Enforcement

CW 2026-018

That the Committee recommend that Council direct staff to explore adding cat control to the Animal Control bylaw and bring forward a report and draft bylaw amendments to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Councillor Stevens.

5.2 “Town of Ladysmith Revitalization Tax Exemption – Economic Revitalization Bylaw 2012, No 1807”.

CW 2026-019

That the Committee recommend that Council direct staff, in their future review of the Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaws & DCC Reduction Bylaws, to bring forward a report that includes the advantages, disadvantages, as well as potential options related to "Town of Ladysmith Revitalization Tax Exemption – Economic Revitalization Bylaw 2012, No. 1807".

Motion Carried

OPPOSED: Councillor Virtanen.

5.3 Council Code of Conduct

Council acknowledged the submission and took no action.

6. ADJOURNMENT

CW 2026-020

That this Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Motion Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair (Councillor A. Jacobson)

Deputy Corporate Officer
(H. Young)

Subject to adoption