

TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday February 3, 2021

Present: Mayor R. Arnott
Councillors A. Bissinger, K. Grant, S. McGowan,
P. McKenna, N. Minions, M. Swift
(all electronically except K. Grant and N. Minions)

Absent: Nil

Staff Present: J. Wall, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer
C. Freundlich, Director of Finance (in part, electronically)
M. Kamenz, Director of Development Services (electronically)
G. Schreiner, Fire Chief (electronically)
T. Hagmeier, Recreation Director (in part, electronically)
S. Ashfield, Director of Operations (electronically)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

There were 0 members of the public in attendance.

Pursuant to Ministerial Order, the meeting was conducted by electronic means with some or all members of Council participating electronically. Further, in accordance with Ministerial Order, the public was not permitted to be in attendance. The meeting was also live-streamed on the Town's YouTube pages.

Mayor Arnott congratulated Mr. Stocky Edwards, Freeman of the Town, and his wife Toni on their 70th wedding anniversary. He also acknowledged that the Town of Comox is on traditional First Nation land.

1. INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF LATE ITEMS:

a. Amendment of Agenda

Amendment of Agenda

That a resolution to exclude the public be added to the end of the February 2, 2021 Regular Council agenda.

(2021.008) -- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

a. Adoption of the Agenda

Adoption of the Agenda

That the Agenda be adopted as amended to include a resolution to exclude the public and remove item 3a.

(2021.009) -- CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS:

a. Sergeant Bill Webb, Ret. (Courtenay Legion): Matching Funding Grant for Homeless Veterans Study

Homeless Veterans Study

Mr. Webb advised that they are looking for support from all four local governments in the Comox Valley that will, ultimately, allow them to provide supportive housing for homeless veterans.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

a. Regular Council Meeting Minutes

RCM Minutes

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday January 13, 2020, be Adopted.

(2021.010) – CARRIED

b. Public Hearing Meeting Minutes

Public Hearing Minutes

That the Minutes of the Public Hearing, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday January 20, 2021, be Adopted.

(2021.011) – CARRIED

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS:

a. Strategic Planning Committee Minutes

**Strategic Planning
Committee Minutes**

That the Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday January 20, 2021, be Received.

(2021.012) – CARRIED

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) Grant Application – FCM Municipal Asset Management Program (MAMP)

**FCM Municipal Asset
Management Program**

That Council direct staff to apply for a grant opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program for Sanitary Sewer Condition Assessment Program for additional Sanitary Sewer Condition Assessment;

That Council commit to undertaking Sanitary Sewer Condition Assessments as proposed in the application to FCM, should the application be approved;

And further that Council commit towards \$10,000 of the Sanitary Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) operating budget toward the costs of this initiative.

(2021.013) – CARRIED

- (2) Grant Application – Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, COVID 19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream

**Investing in Canada
Infrastructure Program**

THAT Council formally authorizes Staff to proceed with an application for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, COVID 19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream for Comox Avenue Sidewalk Extension (south side) between Rodello Street and Ellis Street;

And further, that the Town of Comox will fund from its general reserves any costs for the project which are ineligible for reimbursement.

(2021.014) – CARRIED

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (3) Northeast Comox Storm Water Management Plan Implementation - Post Public Consultation

Northeast Comox Storm Water Management Plan

THAT the Town prepare Northeast Comox Storm Water Management Plan implementation bylaws for Council consideration based on Option 3 as outlined in the staff report PR 21-1 dated January 20, 2021 and;

THAT Administration consider technical submissions which may alter the requirements such as slope that may be suited considering the needs contained within option 3.

(2021.015) -- CARRIED

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. *That the Consent Agenda items as follows be received:*

- (1) January 8, 2021 Email from Doug Allin, Mark Dunlop & Rick Benson of Softball BC regarding COVID relief funding;*
- (2) January 8, 2021 Email from Suzanne Bon regarding Beckton road traffic problems;*
- (3) January 12, 2021 Email from Gayle Cousins regarding Buena Vista Avenue traffic concerns;*
- (4) January 12, 2021 Letter from Mrs. William Ryan regarding the protection of Town Parks and Trails;*
- (5) January 14, 2021 Email from Peter Hamilton of Liferforce Foundation regarding the Comox Valley Sewage Commission pollution plans;*
- (6) January 21, 2021 Email from Norma Hutchings regarding police appreciation decals;*
- (7) January 22, 2021 Email from Steve Hill regarding Smoke from wood-burning fireplaces being a health hazard;*
- (8) January 27, 2021 Email from Lauren Lan regarding SD 19-1, Guthrie and Lazo; and*
- (9) Comox Valley Regional District Board meeting minutes held on January 12 & 26, 2021.*

(2021.016) -- CARRIED

2. *That item (3), January 12, 2021 Email from Gayle Cousins regarding Buena Vista Avenue traffic concerns, be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2021.017) -- CARRIED

b. Buena Vista Avenue Traffic Concerns

Buena Vista Avenue Traffic Concerns

Councillor Bissinger presented a Notice of Motion as follows:

"That staff provide options and engage the local residents on measures to address their traffic concerns related to Buena Vista Avenue."

c. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

3. *That item (2), January 8, 2021 Email from Suzanne Bon regarding Beckton Road traffic problems, be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2021.018) -- CARRIED

c. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

4. *That item (5), January 14, 2021 Email from Peter Hamilton of Lifeforce Foundation regarding the Comox Valley Sewage Commission pollution plans, be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*
(2021.019) – CARRIED

5. *That item (6), January 21, 2021 Email from Norma Hutchings regarding police appreciation decals, be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*
(2021.020) – CARRIED

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Strategic Planning and Action Items Report - February 3, 2021

Strategic Planning and Action Items

- That the Strategic Planning and Action Items Report for February 3, 2021 be received and filed for information.*
(2021.021) – CARRIED

8. SPECIAL REPORTS: NIL

9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS:

a. Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1939

1564 Birch Avenue

1. *That Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1939 be given Third Reading*
(2021.022) – CARRIED

2. *That Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1939 be Adopted*
(2021.023) – CARRIED

3. *That Development Variance Permit DVP 19-6 be issued.*
(2021.024) – CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Capital and Special Projects 2021

Capital and Special Projects 2021

1. *THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'A' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;*

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in 'Schedule 'A' for immediate spending authority.

That the main motion be amended to add the words "green in" before the words "Schedule 'A'".

(2021.025) – CARRIED

a. Capital and Special Projects 2021

**Capital and Special Projects
2021**

2. *Main Motion as amended:*

THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'A' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in green in Schedule 'A' for immediate spending authority.

(2021.026) – CARRIED

3. *THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'B' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;*

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in 'Schedule 'B' for immediate spending authority

That the main motion be amended to add the words "green in" before the words "Schedule 'B'".

(2021.027) – CARRIED

4. *Main Motion as amended:*

THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'B' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in green in Schedule 'B' for immediate spending authority.

(2021.028) – CARRIED

5. *THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'C' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan.*

That the main motion be amended to include the text, "; and, THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in green in Schedule 'C' for immediate spending authority."

(2021.029) – CARRIED

6. *Main Motion as amended:*

THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'C' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in green in Schedule 'C' for immediate spending authority.

(2021.030) – CARRIED

a. Capital and Special Projects 2021

**Capital and Special Projects
2021**

7. *THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'D' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;*

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in 'Schedule 'D' for immediate spending authority.

That the main motion be amended to add the words "green in" before the words "Schedule 'D'".

(2021.031) – CARRIED

8. *Main Motion as amended:*

THAT Council include the capital and special projects, as included in 'Schedule 'D' of the Chief Administrative Officer's February 3, 2021 Report to Mayor and Council, in their 2021-2025 draft Financial Plan and;

THAT Council pre-approves the items identified in green in Schedule 'D' for immediate spending authority.

(2021.032) – CARRIED

b. CleanBC Organic Infrastructure and Collection Program - Grant Application

**CleanBC Organic
Infrastructure and Collection**

That a grant application be submitted to the Clean BC Organic Infrastructure and Collection Program to support the upgrade and expansion of the Town's curbside organics collection program; and further,

That Council supports the project and commits its one-third share of the eligible costs of \$198,459 as well as ineligible costs and overages related to the project, to be funded from the Capital Works Reserve Fund.

(2021.033) – CARRIED

c. Implementation of the Contaminated Sites Regime

Contaminated Sites Regime

1. *That Comox Planning Procedures Amendment Bylaw 1966 be given First, Second and Third Readings.*

(2021.034) – CARRIED

2. *That Comox Building Amendment Bylaw 1967 be given First, Second, and Third Readings.*

(2021.035) – CARRIED

d. Rezoning Application RZ 20-1 468 & 490 Anderton Road

468 / 490 Anderton Road

1. *That Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1944 be given First and Second Reading;*

(2021.036) – CARRIED

2. *That Comox Phased Development Agreement Authorization Bylaw 1953: 468 Anderton Road be given First and Second Reading; and,*

(2021.037) – CARRIED

d. Rezoning Application RZ 20-1 468 & 490 Anderton Road

468 / 490 Anderton Road

3. *That a Virtual Public Hearing in respect of Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1944 and Comox Phased Development Agreement Authorization Bylaw 1953: 468 Anderton Road be scheduled for March 3, 6:00 pm, via Zoom video conferencing, and the Town publish the requisite notices as required by the Local Government Act.*

(2021.038) – CARRIED

11. NOTICES OF MOTION:

a. Councillor McGowan (Notice of Motion from January 13, 2021 Meeting): Adoption of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

Adopt UNDRIP

WHEREAS, the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Reconciliation (UNDRIP) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007;

Whereas, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission listed in 2015 as the first principle for reconciliation that the UNDRIP "is the framework for reconciliation at all levels and across all sectors of Canadian Society" and UNDRIP was officially adopted by the Government of Canada in 2016;

Whereas the Government of British Columbia passed the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act unanimously in November 2019;

Whereas the Town of Comox is home to many Indigenous members, including but not limited to K'omoks and Métis populations;

And whereas, the Town of Comox has identified "building on K'omoks First Nations Relationship" as a strategic priority;

Be it resolved that the Town of Comox adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as its framework for indigenous reconciliation.

(2021.039) – CARRIED

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Jessie Ketler (CVRD) - Request for Approval (Regional Transportation Planning Memorandum of Understanding)

Regional Transportation MOU

That the October 8, 2020 letter from Jesse Ketler, Chair of the Comox Valley Regional District Board, regarding a Regional Transportation Planning Memorandum of Understanding, be received and filed for information.

(2021.040) – CARRIED

13. LATE ITEMS: NIL

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

a. Councillor McKenna

Councillor McKenna advised that he attended:
- a Community Justice Centre meeting,
- the Comox Valley Community Foundation awards,
- the Vancouver Island Regional Library board meeting,
- the Chamber of Commerce virtual gala, and
- a Coalition to End Homelessness meeting.

b. Councillor McGowan

Councillor McGowan advised that she attended:

- the Comox Youth Council Climate Action AGM,
- a Food Policy Council sub-Committee meeting, and
- an FCM Climate course.

c. Councillor Swift

Councillor Swift advised that she attended:

- the regional district recreation commission, board and sewer commission meetings,
- a Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association meeting, and
- a regional 911 meeting.

d. Councillor Bissinger

Councillor Bissinger advised that she had a discussion with a community member regarding Buena Vista Avenue and attended the regional solid waste management board meeting.

e. Councillor Minions

Councillor Minions advised that she:

- attended the regional solid waste management and hospital board meetings,
- attended a webinar on recycling waste management, and
- set up a Comox team for the Coldest Night of the Year event.

f. Councillor Grant

Councillor Grant advised that he attended:

- a regional district budget and sports commission meeting,
- the regional hospital board meeting,
- a regional district economic development service review meeting, and
- a sewer meeting with K'omoks First Nation.

Councillor Grant also advised that he toured the new water treatment plant.

g. Mayor Arnott

Mayor Arnott advised that he:

- attended a lunch meeting with the Mayor of Cumberland and Town CAO,
- attended a regional district in-camera meeting regarding economic development,
- participated in a couple of provincial health conference calls, and
- had a discussion with some members of the Comox BIA.

17. RESOLUTION TO GO IN-CAMERA:

a. Exclude the Public

Exclude the Public

That the Public be Excluded from the In-Camera session of Council on Wednesday February 3, 2021 pursuant to the following sub-sections of section 90 of the Community Charter:

(1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality; and

(1)(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.

(2021.041) – CARRIED

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 7:26 P.M.

THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:13 P.M.

18. RISE AND REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA: NIL

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct pursuant to Section 97(1)(b) of the Community Charter.



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER