

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

Present: Mayor R. Arnott
Councillors A. Bissinger, K. Grant, S. McGowan,
N. Minions, M. Swift

Absent: Nil

Staff Present: J. Wall, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer
M. Kamenz, Director of Development Services
G. Schreiner, Fire Chief (electronically)

Call to Order:

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

There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

Mayor Arnott acknowledged that the Town of Comox is standing on the Unceded traditional territory of the K'omoks First Nation.

1. INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF LATE ITEMS: NIL

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

a. Adoption of the Agenda

Adoption of Agenda

That the November 3, 2021 Regular Council Meeting agenda be adopted.

(2021.445) -- CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS:

a. Lindsay McGinn, Sharon Karsten, Sam Franey, Barb Whyte and Evan Jolicoeur: Walk with Me & Community Substance Use Strategy Committee

Substance Use Strategy

Ms. McGinn provided an update for Council on the work of the Substance Use Strategy Committee. She advised that they have been working on the development of a substance use strategy and a Phase 1 Report, which makes connections with individuals in the community to identify areas that they need to work. She advised that they are working with the Walk with Me Project, which is completing cultural mapping of the toxic drug crisis. Ms. Karsten advised that the Walk with Me Project is uncovering the human dimensions of the drug poisoning crisis. They advised that they have come together to work on the Phase 2 Report and at this point are inviting participation in the Walk as well as looking for staff support and funding.

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 October 20, 2021, be Approved.

(2021.446) -- CARRIED

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS: NIL

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

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

1. *October 25, 2021 email from Rick Smith regarding the unsafe intersection of Robb Avenue and Anderton Road.*
2. *October 27, 2021 letter from Steven Cowan of The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada suggesting that Comox apply to the Governor General for a formal Coat of Arms.*
3. *October 28, 2021 email from Natalie Fisher suggesting that cities do more to help the public reduce their use of plastic.*

(2021.447) -- CARRIED

2. *That the October 27, 2021 letter from Steven Cowan of The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada, suggesting that Comox apply to the Governor General for a formal Coat of Arms, be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2021.448) -- CARRIED

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Strategic Priorities and Action Items Report - November 3, 2021

Strategic Priorities and Action Items

That the Strategic Priorities and Action Items Report for November 3, 2021 be received and filed for information.

(2021.449) -- CARRIED

b. Rezoning Application: RZ 21-5: Home Occupation Text Amendment (Individual Fitness Training) Adoption Report

Individual Fitness Training Home Occupation

1. *That Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1986 be given Third Reading.*

(2021.450) -- CARRIED

2. *That Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1986 be Adopted.*

(2021.451) -- CARRIED

c. Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society: Request for a walking pathway along the extent of Brooklyn Creek within Town (October 20, 2021 Delegation)

Brooklyn Creek Walking Path

That the topic of a walking path along the extent of Brooklyn Creek within the Town be added to Council's next Strategic Planning Committee agenda.

(2021.452) -- CARRIED

8. SPECIAL REPORTS: NIL

9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS: NIL

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Council Appointments, Acting Mayor Roster, Signing Authorities and Meeting Schedule

Council Appointments

1. *That the following appointments be made to community organizations for 2022:*
 - (a) *Comox Archives & Museum Society -
Councillor McGowan with Councillor Minions as alternate;*
 - (b) *Comox Business in Action -
Mayor Arnott with Councillor Grant as alternate;*
 - (c) *Comox Valley Community Justice Centre -
Councillor Minions with Councillor Bissinger as alternate;*
 - (d) *d'Esterre Seniors Centre -
Mayor Arnott with Councillor McGowan as alternate;*
 - (e) *Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association -
Councillor Swift with Councillor Bissinger as alternate;*
 - (f) *Comox Nautical Days -
Councillor Bissinger with the New Councillor as alternate;*
 - (g) *Comox Valley Social Planning Society -
Councillor McGowan;*
 - (h) *Comox Valley Food Policy Council -
Councillor McGowan with Councillor Bissinger as alternate;*
 - (i) *Comox Valley Community Drug Strategy Committee -
Councillor McGowan with Councillor Minions as alternate;*
 - (j) *Comox Golf Club - Director of Finance*
 - (k) *Comox Valley Harbour Authority - Parks Superintendent.*

(2021.453) -- CARRIED

2. *That the following appointments be made to the Comox Valley Regional District boards, committees and commissions:*
 - (a) *Comox Valley Regional District Board and Comox Valley Recreation Commission - Councillor Grant and Councillor Swift, with Councillor Bissinger and Councillor Minions as alternates;*
 - (b) *Comox-Strathcona Regional Waste Management Board – Councillor Grant and Councillor Swift, with Councillor Bissinger and Councillor Minions as alternates and designated as the members who will regularly attend the meetings;*
 - (c) *Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital Board – Councillor Grant and Councillor Swift, with Councillor McGowan and the new Councillor as alternates and designated as the members who will regularly attend the meetings;*
 - (d) *Comox Valley Sewage Commission – Councillor Grant, Councillor Swift and Councillor McGowan, with Councillor Bissinger, Councillor Minions and the New Councillor as alternates; and*
 - (e) *Comox Valley Water Committee – Councillor Grant with 2 voting units and Councillor Swift with 1 voting unit, and with Councillor Bissinger and Councillor Minions as respective alternates.*

(2021.454) -- CARRIED

3. *That the New Councillor be appointed to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board, with Councillor Minions as alternate.*

(2021.455) -- CARRIED

TOWN OF COMOX - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

a. Council Appointments, Acting Mayor Roster, Signing Authorities and Meeting Schedule

Council Appointments

4. That the Acting Mayor Roster for 2022 be as follows:

- Councillor Ken Grant - January and July
- Councillor Stephanie McGowan - February and August
- New Councillor - March and September
- Councillor Nicole Minions - April and October
- Councillor Maureen Swift - May and November
- Councillor Alex Bissinger - June and December

(2021.456) -- CARRIED

5. That signing authority for 2022 be designated to Mayor Russ Arnott, Councillor Ken Grant, Councillor Maureen Swift, Chief Administrative Officer Jordan Wall, Director of Finance Clive Freundlich, Deputy Director of Finance Jessie Proske, and Corporate Officer Shelly Russwurm.

(2021.457) -- CARRIED

6. That MNP LLP be appointed as the Town auditor for the 2022 calendar year.

(2021.458) -- CARRIED

7. That the 2022 Regular Council and Strategic Planning Committee meeting schedule be approved as outlined in the October 28, 2021 report from the Executive Coordinator titled "2022 Council Appointments, Acting Mayor Roster, Signing Authorities and Meeting Schedule".

(2021.459) -- CARRIED

REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MEETING RECESS AT 5:45 P.M. UNTIL AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING ON REZONING APPLICATION RZ 20-4 (URBAN AGRICULTURE).

CARRIED

THE MEETING WAS CALLED BACK TO ORDER AT 7:30 P.M.

b. Council Remuneration

Council Remuneration

1. THAT staff produce bylaw amendments for Council Remuneration Bylaw 1905 to reflect a Mayoral remuneration of \$58,275.

(2021.460) -- CARRIED

2. THAT staff produce bylaw amendments for Council Remuneration Bylaw 1905 to reflect a Council remuneration of \$26,371.

(2021.461) -- CARRIED

[Opposed: Councillors ABissinger NMinions]

3. THAT yearly inflationary adjustments in Mayor and Council remuneration have a weighting of 90% from changes in the basket of communities contained within the bylaw and 10% from BC Consumer Price index changes.

(2021.462) -- CARRIED

4. That all change in Mayor and Council remuneration become effective in 2023 after the next set of municipal elections.

(2021.463) -- CARRIED

11. NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **Jasia Cocking (Royal Canadian Legion Br 160 Comox): Remembrance Day Ceremony and request for road closure and use of barricades**

Remembrance Day

That the October 18, 2021 letter from Jasia Cocking of the Royal Canadian Legion Br 160 Comox, requesting the Town's support for the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony and associated events be received and that permission be granted to:

- 1. Restrict access to emergency vehicles only on Comox Avenue from Church Street to Port Augusta Street on November 11, 2021 between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.;*
- 2. Place No Parking signs on both sides of Comox Avenue between Church and Port Augusta Streets from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.; and*
- 3. Use the Town barricades.*

(2021.464) -- CARRIED

13. LATE ITEMS: NIL

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

a. **Councillor Swift**

Councillor Swift advised that she:

- attended a Filberg Heritage Lodge and Board meeting,
- attended the CVRD board meeting, and
- participated in an annual check in with the CVRD chair.

b. **Councillor McGowan**

Councillor McGowan advised that she attended:

- a Comox Archives and Museum Society meeting,
- a Community Justice Centre meeting,
- a Food Policy Council meeting, and
- a brown bag lunch meeting.

Councillor McGowan also advised that she has achieved the Local Government Leadership Academy Level 1 certificate.

c. **Councillor Grant**

Councillor Grant advised that he:

- attended the CVRD board meeting,
- attended a hospitality roundtable, and
- met with members of the Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society.

d. **Councillor Bissinger**

Councillor Bissinger advised that she attended:

- the Community Justice Centre board meeting,
- the Solid Waste advanced technology meeting,
- the Regional Solid Waste Management meeting, and
- the BIA Halloween event.

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e. Councillor Minions

- Councillor Minions advised that she attended:
- the Regional Solid Waste Management meeting,
 - the VIHA Covid-19 update meeting,
 - a Mayor's update meeting,
 - a meeting on modernizing forestry policy, and
 - the BIA Halloween event.

f. Mayor Arnott

- Mayor Arnott advised that he attended:
- the BIA monthly meeting,
 - the BIA Halloween event,
 - a meeting with the new owner of Excel Career College,
 - a winter preparation meeting with the RCMP, other municipalities and Mainroad Contracting,
 - the first poppy presentation with the Comox Legion,
 - a meeting with a local resident regarding the environment, and
 - a regional Emergency Operations Centre policy group meeting.

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 November 3, 2021 pursuant to the following sub-sections of section 90 of the Community Charter:

(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations; and

(1)(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality.

(2021.465) -- CARRIED

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 7:50 P.M.

THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:55 P.M.

18. RISE AND REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA: NIL

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

CARRIED

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



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER