



TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Regular (Inaugural) Council Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday November 2, 2022

Present: Mayor N. Minions
Councillors S. Blacklock, K. Grant, C. Haslett,
J. Kerr, J. Meilleur, M. Swift

Absent: Nil

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

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. with 35 members of the public in attendance.

The Corporate Officer called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the Town of Comox is standing on the Unceded traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation.

3. OATHS OF OFFICE:

a. Oaths of Office and Council Governance Commitment

Oaths of Office

Shelly Russwurm, Corporate Officer (Commissioner for Taking Affidavits for BC) administered Oaths of Office for Mayor-Elect Nicole Minions, Councillor-Elect Steve Blacklock, Councillor-Elect Ken Grant, Councillor-Elect Chris Haslett, Councillor-Elect Dr. Jonathan Kerr, Councillor-Elect Jenn Meilleur and Councillor-Elect Maureen Swift. Each Council member then signed the Council Governance Commitment.

5. INAUGURAL ADDRESS:

a. Inaugural Address by Mayor Minions

Inaugural Address

Mayor Minions read out the following address to Council and the members of the public:

A warm welcome to the inaugural Town of Comox Council meeting for the term 2022 - 2026. Welcome to Chief Administration Officer Jordan Wall, our team of dedicated Senior Staff, supportive family members and the public.

We respectfully acknowledge that the land we gather on is the Unceded Traditional Territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

We look forward to working together and continuing our conversation of reconciliation, through collaborative action and communication. The K'ómoks First Nation began treaty conversations with our Provincial and Federal Government in 1994 and any day it is expected

a. Inaugural Address by Mayor Minions

Inaugural Address

that a Land and Cash offer will be announced. We stand as an ally, neighbour, partner, colleague or friend in this time and in future.

CONGRATULATIONS to each of our 6 council members who have put their names forward in the name of community service and stand elected today.

It is my pleasure to welcome each of you returning Councillors Kerr, Councillor Grant and Councillor Swift and new council members Councillor Blacklock, Haslett and Meilleur Together we work towards creating this BEAUTIFUL and LIVABLE community. And for that I truly believe we are fortunate to call the Town of Comox home.

I want to extend our thanks from Council to Shelly, Lia, Koreen and Jordan for their work during the once in a 4 year event we call "municipal elections". It is a time of excitement, disturbance and from this eve on "renewal" and a new Council.

Our new and returning roles come with community connection, public engagement, plenty of staff report reading... and some pretty great honorary opportunities. It also comes with challenges; there are win-win solutions but the reality is we cannot always have a path forward that is unanimously agreed upon by a diverse community of 15000 people.

We listen, we use our own compass, values and experience to make those challenging decisions at this table.

One thing I can say is in Comox, we are respectful to one another around the table. We are a high-functioning Council that wants to see great things for our community.

Together we have many similarities...

- 1) we all live in Comox,*
- 2) we all had a shared moment of insanity and ran for public office,*
- 3) we all care deeply about this community,*
- 4) We are all here as individuals to do the right thing*

I have the utmost faith in the collaboration and work that this Council will manage and achieve together in the next 4 years, with our experienced and dedicated staff alongside.

*I want to share a quick excerpt that I heard recently from a poem that stuck with me
If— by Rudyard Kipling*

*If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;*

At times it may be a rollercoaster, but we go with the flow. And remember good days have challenges, and challenging days have bright moments.

It is an honour and a privilege to sit in this Chair where Russ Arnott, Paul Ives, Alicia Burns and other Mayors' have sat before me.

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A special thank you to my own family (my parents, brother, sister-in-law and partner) who are here this evening to support me.

And with that, let the meeting and term begin.

6. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS:

a. Council Appointments to Comox Valley Regional District

Council Appointments

1. *That the following be appointed to the Comox Valley Regional District Board and Comox Valley Recreation Commission: Councillor Ken Grant and Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr, with Councillor Maureen Swift and Mayor Nicole Minions as alternates.*

(2022.284) -- CARRIED

2. *That the following be appointed to the Comox-Strathcona Waste Management Board: Councillor Ken Grant and Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr, with Councillor Maureen Swift and Mayor Nicole Minions as alternates.*

(2022.285) -- CARRIED

3. *That the following be appointed to the Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital Board: Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr and Councillor Ken Grant, with Mayor Nicole Minions and Councillor Maureen Swift as alternates.*

(2022.286) -- CARRIED

4. *That the following be appointed to the Comox Valley Sewage Commission: Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr, Councillor Ken Grant and Councillor Maureen Swift, with Councillor Jenn Meilleur, Councillor Steve Blacklock and Councillor Chris Haslett as alternates.*

(2022.287) -- CARRIED

5. *That the following be appointed to the Comox Valley Water Committee: Councillor Ken Grant with 2 voting units and Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr with 1 voting unit, and with Mayor Nicole Minions and Councillor Maureen Swift as respective alternates.*

(2022.288) -- CARRIED

6. *That the following be appointed to the Comox Valley Regional Parks and Trails Committee: Councillor Jenn Meilleur and Councillor Ken Grant, with Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr and Councillor Maureen Swift as alternates.*

(2022.289) -- CARRIED

b. 2022-23 Acting Mayor Roster

Acting Mayor Roster

That the Acting Mayor Roster for 2022-23 be as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| - Councillor Steve Blacklock: | November and December 2022 |
| - Councillor Ken Grant: | January and February 2023 |
| - Councillor Chris Haslett: | March and April 2023 |
| - Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr: | May and June 2023 |
| - Councillor Jenn Meilleur: | July and August 2023 |
| - Councillor Maureen Swift: | September and October 2023 |

(2022.290) -- CARRIED

c. 2022-23 Signing Authority

Signing Authority

That the following be appointed as having signing authority for the year 2022-23:

*Mayor Nicole Minions
Councillor Steve Blacklock
Councillor Ken Grant
Councillor Chris Haslett
Councillor Dr. Jonathan Kerr
Councillor Jenn Meilleur
Councillor Maureen Swift
Jordan Wall
Clive Freundlich
Shelly Russwurm*

(2022.291) -- CARRIED

d. 2022 Council and Committee Meeting Schedule

2023 Meeting Schedule

That the 2023 Regular Council and Committee meeting schedule be approved as outlined in the November 2, 2022 report from the Director of Corporate Services titled "2023 Council Appointments, Acting Mayor Roster, Signing Authorities and Meeting Schedule".

(2022.292) -- CARRIED

e. Community Organization Board Appointments

Board Appointments

1. *That Jonathan Kerr be appointed to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board.*

(2022.293) -- CARRIED

2. *That Maureen Swift be appointed to the Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association.*

(2022.294) -- CARRIED

3. *That Jonathan Kerr and Chris Haslett be appointed to the Nautical Days Committee.*

(2022.295) -- CARRIED

4. *That Steve Blacklock be appointed to the Comox Valley Community Justice Center.*

(2022.296) -- CARRIED

5. *That Jonathan Kerr be appointed to the Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness.*

(2022.297) -- CARRIED

f. Community Organization Liaison Appointments

Liaison Appointments

1. *That Chris Haslett serve as liaison to the D'Esterre Seniors Center.*

(2022.298) -- CARRIED

2. *That Jenn Meilleur serve as liaison to the Comox Archives and Museum.*

(2022.299) -- CARRIED

3. *That Steve Blacklock serve as liaison to the Comox Business Improvement Area.*

(2022.300) -- CARRIED

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7. ELECTION RESULTS:

a. 2022 General Local Election Results

Election Results

That the report titled "2022 Report of General Local Election Results" from the Chief Election Officer, as included in the November 2, 2022 Regular (Inaugural) Council Meeting agenda, be received and filed for information.

(2022.301) -- CARRIED

8. LATE ITEMS: NIL

9. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: NIL

12. RESOLUTION TO GO IN-CAMERA: NIL

13. RISE AND REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA: NIL

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

CARRIED

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



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER