



TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday June 7, 2023

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 (electronically)
S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer
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 23 members of the public in attendance.

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

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

a. Adoption of the Agenda

Adoption of Agenda

That the June 7, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Agenda be Adopted.

(2023.183) -- CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS:

a. Tim Ennis (BC Community Bat Program): Certification of Comox as a Bat Friendly Community

Bat Friendly Community

Tim Ennis presented information on the purpose and activities of the BC Community Bat Program and advised that the Town has done a lot of work addressing habitat loss and providing education and outreach. Tim advised that the Town has satisfied the criteria to become the first bat friendly community on Vancouver Island.

b. Julie Micksch (Aspen Hector Properties): Comments and Recommendations on Site Design by neighbouring residents

Hector-Aspen Development

Julie Micksch provided information on the local neighbourhood's wishes regarding the proposed development, including loss of trees, increased traffic, building height and loss of trails.

c. Jenny Steel (Comox Golf Course): Information about the Comox Golf Club

Comox Golf Course

Jenny Steel provided information on the history, financial challenges and current plans of the Comox Golf Club.

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 May 17, 2023, be Adopted.

(2023.184) -- CARRIED

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. *That the Consent Agenda items as follows be received for information:*
 - a. *Jen Groundwater, May 15, 2023, regarding Cumberland's tree protection bylaw*
 - b. *Paul Moquin, Island AeroBarrier, May 23, 2023, regarding air tightness of buildings*
 - c. *Jennifer Knox, Desolation Sound Yacht Charters, May 24, 2023, concerned with lack of service at the marina.*
 - d. *Julie Micksch, May 24, 2023, recommending a wetland scientist for Hector development*
 - e. *Rosemary Abram, May 26, 2023, feels the screening of a coach house is insufficient*
 - f. *Maurito Prato, Comox Valley Food Policy Council, May 29, 2023, encouraging the Town to include local food procurement as a part of its social procurement policy*
 - g. *Karen and Eric Alexandre, May 30, 2023, in support of DVP 23-4 (183 Bay Court)*
 - h. *Rory Bratrud, June 2, 2023, asking how the Town is honouring the 94 Calls of Action set out by the Truth and Reconciliation Council.*
 - i. *Chief Councillor Price, K'omoks First Nation, June 2, 2023, invitation to National Indigenous People's Day community celebration on June 21, 2023*

(2023.185) -- CARRIED
2. *That item c (Desolation Sound Yacht Charters) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2023.186) -- CARRIED
3. *That item a (tree protection bylaw) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2023.187) -- CARRIED
4. *That item f (Food Policy Council) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2023.188) -- CARRIED

a. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

- 5. *That item h (94 Calls of Action) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*
(2023.189) -- CARRIED

- 6. *That item I (National Indigenous People's Day) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*
(2023.190) -- CARRIED

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Comox Skate Park and Pump Track Update

Skate

That Council receive the June 7, 2023 report to Mayor and Council, titled "Comox Skate Park and Pump Track Update", for information.
(2023.191) -- CARRIED

b. Comox Skatepark and Pump Track Engagement Plan

Skatepark and Pump Track Engagement

- 1. *THAT Council endorse the skatepark and pump track community engagement plan in the June 7, 2023 report to Mayor and Council, titled "Comox Skatepark and Pump Track Community Engagement Plan".*
(2023.192) -- CARRIED

- 2. *THAT Council endorse using the Comox Valley Regional District's Engage Comox Valley community engagement platform as a communications and community outreach tactic.*
(2023.193) -- CARRIED

- 3. *THAT Council accept the Skatepark and Pump Track Advisory Committee's (SPTAC) terms of reference.*

That the main motion be amended to add the text:

*"as amended to include:
- a statement that the development of the projects would be grant dependent, and
- a statement under "Membership" that alternates shall be appointed for each representative member."*

(2023.194) -- DEFEATED
[Opposed: Mayor Minions, Councillors SBlacklock CHaslett
KGrant JKerr JMeilleur MSwift]

- 4. *That the main motion be amended to add the text:*

*"as amended to include:
- a statement that the development of the projects would be grant dependent,
- an additional Comox youth member (total of two), and
- a statement under "Membership" that alternates shall be appointed for each representative member."*
(2023.195) -- CARRIED

b. Comox Skatepark and Pump Track Engagement Plan

Skatepark and Pump Track Engagement

5. MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

THAT Council accept the Skatepark and Pump Track Advisory Committee's (SPTAC) terms of reference as amended to include:

- *a statement that the development of the projects would be grant dependent,*
- *an additional Comox youth member (total of two), and*
- *a statement under "Membership" that alternates shall be appointed for each representative member.*

(2023.196) -- CARRIED

9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS:

a. Comox Street and Traffic Bylaw No. 1358.05, 2023

Street and Traffic Bylaw

That Comox Street and Traffic Bylaw No. 1358.05, 2023 be Adopted.

(2023.197) -- CARRIED

b. Comox Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 2004.01, 2023

Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw

That Comox Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 2004.01, 2023 be Adopted.

(2023.198) -- CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Bat Friendly Community Certification

Bat Friendly Community

THAT the Town of Comox proceed with an application to the BC Community Bat Program to become a Certified Bat-Friendly Community as recommended in the June 7, 2023 report to Mayor and Council from the Parks Department titled "Bat-Friendly Community Certification".

(2023.199) -- CARRIED

b. Development Variance Permit Application DVP 23-4: 183 Bay Court

183 Bay Court

That Development Variance Permit DVP 23-4 for the proposed garage addition (as shown in Attachment 2 to the May 15, 2023 Planning Report on DVP 23-4) be issued, subject to the Development Variance Permit Conditions listed in Schedule 1.

(2023.200) -- CARRIED

c. Automatic Garbage Collection Cart Sizes

Automated Solid Waste

1. *That automated curbside collection cart sizes for single family starting in January 2024 be as follows: (1) 120L garbage, (1) 360L recycling, (1) 360L organics*

(2023.201) -- CARRIED

c. Automatic Garbage Collection Cart Sizes

Automated Solid Waste

- 2. *That automated curbside collection cart sizes for single family with suite starting in January 2024 be as follows: (2) 120L garbage, (1) 360L recycling, (1) 240L recycling, (1) 360L organics*

That the motion be amended to add (1) 120L organics

(2023.202) -- DEFEATED

[Opposed: Mayor Minions, Councillors SBlacklock CHaslett JMeilleur]

- 3. ORIGINAL MAIN MOTION:

That automated curbside collection cart sizes for single family with suite starting in January 2024 be as follows: (2) 120L garbage, (1) 360L recycling, (1) 240L recycling, (1) 360L organics

(2023.203) -- CARRIED

[Opposed: Councillors CHaslett MSwift]

- 4. *That automated curbside collection cart sizes for each duplex unit starting in January 2024 be as follows: Duplexes (per unit): (1) 120L garbage, (1) 360L recycling, (1) 240L organics*

(2023.204) -- CARRIED

- 5. *That automated curbside collection cart sizes for each tri/quadplex unit starting in January 2024 be as follows: (1) 120L garbage, (1) 240L recycling, (1) 120L organics*

(2023.205) -- CARRIED

- 6. *That automated curbside collection cart sizes for each multifamily unit starting in January 2024 be as follows: (1) 120L garbage, (1) 240L recycling, (1) 120L organics*

(2023.206) -- CARRIED

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 7:22 P.M. AND WAS CALLED BACK TO ORDER AT 7:37 P.M.

d. Introductory Report: Official Community Plan Amendment (2077 Hector Road and 941 Aspen Road)

Hector-Aspen Development

- 1. *THAT, in accordance with section 475 of the Local Government Act:*

- a. *Notice of proposed Official Community Plan Amendment, as contained in Attachment 1 to the June 7, 2023 Planning Report on RZ OCP 23-2, be posted on the Town's bulletin board and website, until replaced by a notice of public hearing;*

- b. *June 7, 2023 Planning Report on RZ OCP 23-2 be posted on the Town website.*

(2023.207) -- CARRIED

[Opposed: Mayor Minions, Councillors JKerr JMeilleur]

- 2. *THAT when a public hearing is scheduled for the proposed development on the subject properties, an option for online participation is added.*

(2023.208) -- CARRIED

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. **Ken Price, Chief Councillor (K'omoks First Nation): Seeking partner support for National Indigenous People's Day**

National Indigenous People's Day

That the May 10, 2023 letter from Chief Councillor Price of the K'omoks First Nation, seeking partner support for National Indigenous People's Day, be received and that staff be authorized to provide support if needed.

(2023.209) -- CARRIED

- b. **Lisa Dennis (Comox Valley Regional District): Comox Valley Emergency Program Extended Service Establishment Bylaw**

CVRD Emergency Program

THAT the Town of Comox consent to the adoption of the Comox Valley Regional District Bylaw No. 766 being "Comox Valley Emergency Program Extended Service Establishment Bylaw 1991, Amendment No. 4" under section 346 of the Local Government Act.

(2023.210) -- CARRIED

- c. **Steve Thiessen (Comox Men's Shed): Ukrainian tree dedication ceremony**

Welcome Tree Ceremony

That the March 23, 2023 email from Steve Thiessen of the Comox Men's Shed, requesting Council's attendance at a "Welcome Tree" ceremony to welcome new arrivals from Ukraine, be received and the request supported.

(2023.211) -- CARRIED

- d. **Bradley Little (19 Wing Comox): Flyby request for 103rd birthday**

Flyby Request

That the Town of Comox is supportive of a flyby by Canadian Armed Forces aircraft as low as 500 feet, for the 103rd birthday event being held at 618 Anderton Road for transit, practice, and shows on June 30, 2023.

(2023.212) -- CARRIED

- e. **Doug Hillian (Courtenay Councillor): Mental health program support request**

Mental Health Program Support Request

That the June 2, 2023 email from Courtenay Councillor Doug Hillian, regarding the City's work with the Coalition to End Homelessness in applying for a Peer Assisted Care Team program, be received and that the Town of Comox support the City's application.

(2023.213) -- CARRIED

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

- a. **Councillor Blacklock**

Councillor Blacklock advised that he attended:
- a performance of the Taiwanese acrobat group,
- a Community Justice Centre meeting, and
- a Phase 3 Substance Use Strategy meeting.

b. Councillor Swift

Councillor Swift advised that she attended:

- a neighbourhood emergency preparedness meeting,
- a performance of the Taiwanese acrobat group,
- a Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association meeting, and
- a regional sewer commission meeting.

c. Councillor Haslett

Councillor Haslett advised that he attended:

- the Strategic Planning Committee meeting,
- a Nautical Days Committee meeting, and
- a North Island College brewery graduation ceremony.

d. Councillor Kerr

Councillor Kerr advised that he:

- attended Council's Strategic Planning sessions,
- visited the Comox Library with CAO Wall regarding staff safety concerns,
- hosted a community engagement session in Filberg Park,
- participated in a canoe tour of Comox Lake to learn about the region's watershed,
- attended a Beaufort Avenue neighbourhood gathering along with Councillor Swift,
- attended the Highland Graduation ceremony in Filberg Park,
- participated in a walking tour of the Neptune Way / Aspen Road neighbourhood concerns about on-street parking,
- visited Pioneer Park and spoke with some residents about their concerns with smoking and drug use in the park,
- viewed the solid waste collection bin size options at the Public Works yard,
- attended a Cooperate housing working group meeting,
- attended the Vancouver Island Regional Board meeting,
- played a game of table tennis with Councillor Blacklock and Mayor Minions at the new table located at Anderton Park,
- attended a Coalition to End Homelessness meeting,
- spoke with the Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society and noted 2700 coho smolts were counted this year, and
- attended the regional waste management board, recreation commission, sewage commission, water committee and two board meetings.

e. Councillor Grant

Councillor Grant advised that he attended:

- the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' conference, and
- the regional sewer commission, water committee, regional parks committee and board meetings.

f. Councillor Meilleur

Councillor Meilleur advised that she attended:

- Council's strategic planning sessions,
- a performance of the Taiwanese acrobat group,
- a local leaders for health webinar,
- the Comox Archives and Museum Society board meeting, and
- the regional parks committee meeting.

TOWN OF COMOX - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

g. Mayor Minions

Mayor Minions advised that she:

- attended Council's strategic planning sessions,
- attended Emterra Environmental's check presentation to the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation,
- met with the BIA along with CAO Wall regarding their downtown plan,
- met with Dr. Charmaine Enns regarding community health findings,
- attended an Island Coastal Economic Trust board meeting,
- attended the Cumberland May Day celebrations,
- participated in a tour of the new Marine Services Building,
- attended the Comox Valley Lion Club donation of funding towards playground equipment at McKenzie Park,
- presented the Mack Laing bursary award to Highland Secondary student, and
- met with a couple of residents regarding bylaw concerns.

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 June 7, 2023 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;

(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

(2023.214) -- CARRIED

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 8:22 P.M.

THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 9:44 P.M.

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 9:44 p.m.

CARRIED

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

MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER

