



**TOWN OF COMOX**  
**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,**  
**held in Council Chambers on Wednesday July 12, 2023**

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**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

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. with 5 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.

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**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 July 12, 2023 pursuant to the following sub-sections of section 90 of the Community Charter:*

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

*(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*

*(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.*

*(2023.234) -- CARRIED*

**THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 4:00 P.M.**

**THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 5:00 P.M.**

**1. INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF LATE ITEMS:**

**a. Amendment of Agenda**

**Amendment of Agenda**

*That the Agenda be amended to include a staff presentation on the development review process.*

*(2023.235) -- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**a. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Adoption of Agenda**

*That the July 12, 2023 Regular Council Meeting agenda be Adopted as Amended.*

(2023.236) -- CARRIED

**3. DELEGATIONS:**

**a. Certificate of Recognition: Junyi Liu**

**Certificate of Recognition**

Fire Chief Gord Schreiner recounted the quick thinking actions of a very important key member of the community in responding to a recent motor vehicle accident that resulted in a very fast moving fire at a local gas station. Mr. Junyi Liu rushed to the burning vehicle and rescued the driver, bringing her to safety. Chief Schreiner honoured Mr. Liu for his actions and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Town of Comox.

**b. Drs. Charmaine Enns and Paivi Abernethy (Island Health): Climate change, health and community planning**

**Climate Change, Health and Community Planning**

Drs. Enns and Abernethy advised that Island Health has new staff and capacity to work with local governments on climate adaptation. They advised of a new program they're building and challenges with drought and water shortages as well as effects of heat on health. They also advised they are hoping to work with Council in the future.

**c. Joanne Schroeder (Building Age Friendly Communities): Partnership on grant application**

**Building Age Friendly Communities**

Katrina Bray summarized some of the research they are doing in relation to their Building Intergenerational Connections Project. Katrina advised that they are seeking the interest of the Town in applying for the Age Friendly Communities Grant on their behalf.

**d. Jordan Wall (CAO) and Marvin Kamenz (Director of Development Services): Development Approval Process**

**Development Approval Process**

Marvin and Jordan identified what the development approvals process currently looks like, as well as identified what Council's roles and powers are in the process. They also discussed the Provincial initiative to Renovate the Public Hearing process and potential changes to the process.

**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 June 7, 2023, be Adopted.*

(2023.237) -- CARRIED

**b. Special Council Meeting Minutes**

**Special Council Meeting Minutes**

- 1. *That the Minutes Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday June 14, 2023, be Adopted.*  
(2023.238) -- CARRIED
  
- 2. *That the Minutes Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday July 5, 2023, be Adopted.*  
(2023.239) -- CARRIED

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS:**

**a. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes**

**SPC Meeting Minutes**

*That the Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday June 14, 2023, be Received.*  
(2023.240) -- CARRIED

**6. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**a. Consent Agenda**

**Consent Agenda**

- That the Consent Agenda items as follows be received for information:*
- a. *Myrna Martin, June 5, 2023, concerned with development and climate change.*
  
  - b. *Donavan Jacobsen, June 5, 2023, requesting improvements to the crosswalk at Cooke and Anderton.*
  
  - c. *Bob Bowen, June 6, 2023, questions regarding the new automated collection coming in 2024.*
  
  - d. *Ingrid Brown, June 7, 2023, lack of support for Substance Use Strategy Project.*
  
  - e. *Dave Godfrey, June 9, 2023, Community Event Recognition Request re: #3 Wing RCAF Zweibrucken Brats Reunion 2023.*
  
  - f. *Jen Williams, June 12, 2023, asking what Council is doing to encourage a more thriving small business retail community hub for Comox Ave.*
  
  - g. *John Case, June 12, 2023, suggestion for bus route.*
  
  - h. *John Case, June 12, 2023, water meter depth concerns.*
  
  - i. *Tanya Sedunow, June 16, 2023, 2024 organic collection suggestions.*
  
  - j. *John & Barbara Neilson, June 22, 2023, requesting a lower speed limit on Balmoral Ave.*
  
  - k. *Lee Everson, Dawn to Dawn, June 26, 2023, Rainbow house update.*

**a. Consent Agenda**

**Consent Agenda**

- l. Colin & Sandra Eves, July 5, 2023, concerned about activities at the Marina after dark.*
  - m. Brenda Locke, Mayor, City of Surrey, impact of Surrey Police transition.*
  - n. Hope Milloy, Island Kids Cancer Association, July 6, 2023, Community Event Recognition request.*
  - o. Kari Dyer, July 7, 2023, screening of soil happening beside her home.*
- (2023.241) -- CARRIED

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**a. Menstrual Equity and Safer Sex Supplies**

**Menstrual Equity and Safer Sex**

1. *THAT Council authorizes administration to initiate a free menstrual product and safer sex supplies program in Town owned facilities, listed in Table 1 of the July 6, 2023 Report to Mayor titled "Menstrual Equity and Safer Sex Supplies", with an unbudgeted amount of \$12,250; and further,*  
  
*THAT Facilities annual budget be increased by \$2,000 to operate the Free Menstrual Products and Safer Sex Supplies program.*  
  
*That the main motion be amended to include the washroom facilities within Filberg Park in the program.*
- (2023.242) -- CARRIED

2. *MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:*

- THAT Council authorizes administration to initiate a free menstrual product and safer sex supplies program in Town owned facilities listed in Table 1 of the July 6, 2023 Report to Mayor titled "Menstrual Equity and Safer Sex Supplies", including the washroom facilities within Filberg Park, with an unbudgeted amount of \$12,250; and further,*
- THAT Facilities annual budget be increased by \$2,000 to operate the Free Menstrual Products and Safer Sex Supplies program.*
- (2023.243) -- CARRIED

**b. Skate Park and Pump Track Discussion**

**Skate Park and Pump Track**

- That Council directs staff to prioritize the construction of a hardtop pump track appropriate for a wide age range, in response to the 2021 Youth Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment.*
- (2023.244) -- CARRIED  
[Opposed: Councillor JMeilleur]

**8. SPECIAL REPORTS: NIL**

**9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS: NIL**

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. 2022 Annual Report**

**Annual Report**

*That the 2022 Annual Report, as contained in the July 12, 2023 Regular Council Meeting agenda, be received; and further,*

*That the 2022 Annual Report be available for public inspection as per section 98(1)(b) of the Community Charter.*

(2023.245) -- CARRIED

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION:**

**a. Notice of Motion: Speed limit in Downtown Core (Councillor Kerr)**

**Notice of Motion**

Notice of Motion to be added to August 9, 2023 RCM agenda:

- That Administration be directed to prepare a report for Council that:
1. recognises the importance of safety to Comox residents and visitors;
  2. evaluates a reduction in the speed limit in Downtown Comox to 30 km/hr, effective November 1st, 2023; and
  3. provides recommendations on piloting a speed limit reduction in one residential neighbourhood to 30 km/hr, effective November 1st, 2023.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**a. Sharon Gregson (Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC): Request for Council resolution urging Provincial multi-year funding to support organizational capacity for grant applications**

**Child Care Advocates**

*That the June 3, 2023 email from Sharon Gregson of the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC, requesting that Council adopt a resolution urging the Ministry of Education and Child Care to provide multi-year funding to local and Indigenous governments and non-profit organizations to enhance their organizational capacity to coordinate the current grant applications process, be received and filed for information.*

(2023.246) -- CARRIED

**b. Marusha Taylor (Pride Society of the Comox Valley): Community Event Recognition Request**

**Pride Weekend 2023**

*That the proclamation and flag-raising request from the Pride Society of the Comox Valley, in support of Pride Weekend 2023, be approved.*

(2023.247) -- CARRIED

**c. Paul Whyte (Comox Golf Club): Request for lease extension**

**Comox Golf Club**

*That the June 12, 2023 letter from Paul Whyte, President of the Comox Golf Club, requesting that Council approve a lease extension between the Courtenay Golf Course Ltd. and the Comox Golf Club Society until December 2065, be received and filed for information.*

(2023.248) -- CARRIED

**d. Jessie Gill (Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative): Requesting a Council representative CV Early Years Collaborative**

*That the June 14, 2023 email from Jessie Gill of the Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative, requesting that Council appoint a representative, be received and that Councillor Swift attend the Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative meetings in an unofficial capacity.*

(2023.249) -- CARRIED

**e. Leslie Kellett (City of Prince George): Sharing resolution and asking for support at the 2023 UBCM Convention**

**Prince George Resolution**

*That the June 28, 2023 email from Leslie Kellett, Deputy Corporate Officer with the City of Prince George, requesting support of a UBCM resolution that local governments be reimbursed for medical services provided by local government fire and rescue services, be received and filed for information.*

(2023.250) -- CARRIED

**f. Pete Chambers, President (Comox BIA): 2023 Halloween Parade and Mayor Tree Lighting Comox BIA Support**

*That the June 27, 2023 letter from Pete Chambers of the Comox BIA, requesting \$2,200 for the Halloween Costume Parade and \$5,900 for the Mayor's Tree Lighting and Winter Market, be received and the request granted.*

(2023.251) -- CARRIED

**13. LATE ITEMS: NIL**

**14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:**

**a. Councillor Blacklock**

Councillor Blacklock advised that he attended:  
- a Community Justice Centre meeting, and  
- a Comox Valley Substance Use Strategy meeting.

**b. Councillor Swift**

Councillor Swift advised that she attended a Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association meeting.

**c. Councillor Haslett**

Councillor Haslett advised that he attended a d'Esterre Seniors meeting.

**d. Councillor Kerr**

Councillor Kerr thanked the K'omoks First Nation for hosting Indigenous Peoples Day and advised that he attended the Regional District meetings.

**e. Councillor Grant**

Councillor Grant advised that he attended:  
- a North Island 911 meeting,  
- the regional solid waste management meeting, and  
- the regional district sewer commission meeting.

**f. Councillor Meilleur**

Councillor Meilleur advised that she has nothing to report.

**TOWN OF COMOX - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

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**g. Mayor Minions**

Mayor Minions advised that:

- the Town issued a letter of support for Courtenay, and Courtenay was selected, to have a Peer Assisted Care Team;
- she attended a tour of the d'Esterre Cypress Gardens on Balmoral Avenue; and
- she attended a couple of leadership meetings reviewing upcoming Provincial changes regarding housing;

**17. RESOLUTION TO GO IN-CAMERA:**

**a. Exclude the Public**

**Exclude the Public**

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*(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.*

(2023.252) -- CARRIED

**THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 8:02 P.M.**

**THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 9:32 P.M.**

**18. RISE AND REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA: NIL**

**Adjournment:**

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

CARRIED

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

  
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MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER