



**TOWN OF COMOX**  
**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,**  
**held in Council Chambers on Wednesday July 10, 2024**

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

**Absent:** Nil

**Staff Present:** J. Wall, Chief Administrative Officer  
S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer  
E. Henley, Director of Finance  
G. Schreiner, Fire Chief  
S. Ashfield, Director of Operations

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. with 0 members of the public in attendance.

Mayor Minions respectfully acknowledged that the land on which we gather and work is on the unceded traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

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

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**a. Adoption of Agenda**

**Adoption of Agenda**

*THAT the July 10, 2024, Regular Council Meeting agenda be Adopted.*

*(2024.255) -- CARRIED*

**3. DELEGATIONS:**

**a. Tanya Massa, Tourism Development Specialist (Experience Comox Valley): Experience Comox Valley and the Tourism Strategy Plan**

**Tourism Strategy Plan process**

Tanya Massa from Experience Comox Valley provided an overview of their most recent activities, successes, results, as well as an update on the Tourism Strategy Plan process and engagement to date.

**b. Kailee Mortimer, Community Consulant (Urban Systems): Town of Comox Climate Action Plan**

**Climate Action Plan**

Kailee Mortimer from Urban Systems provided an overview of the Town's Climate Action Plan which identifies six focus areas, 15 goals, and 34 actions to support climate mitigation and adaptation.

**REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MEETING RECESS AT 5:54 P.M. UNTIL AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING ON OCP AMENDMENT & REZONING APPLICATIONS: OCP RZ 23-2 (2077 HECTOR AND 941 ASPEN ROADS) AND OCP RZ 24-3 (2123 HECTOR ROAD)**

THE MEETING WAS CALLED BACK TO ORDER AT 8:09 P.M.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

a. Regular Council Meeting Minutes (June 5, 2024)

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, be Adopted as Amended to reflect Acting Mayor Swift in the K'ómoks First Nation Acknowledgement.

(2024.256) -- CARRIED

b. Special Council Meeting Minutes (June 12, 2024)

Special Council Meeting Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, be Adopted.

(2024.257) -- CARRIED

c. Special Council Meeting Minutes (June 19, 2024)

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, be Adopted.

(2024.258) -- CARRIED

d. Special Council Meeting Minutes (July 4, 2024)

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, July 4, 2024, be Adopted.

(2024.259) -- CARRIED

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS: NIL

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

THAT the Consent Agenda items as follows be received for information:

- 1. Barb Tribe - Garbage Bin Injury
- 2. Michael Seib - Reducing the Towns Expenditures and Lowering the Tax Burden
- 3. Gord Schreiner, Fire Chief (Comox Valley Fire Rescue): Thank-You Card for Delivering Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program
- 4. Brian Sims, Associate Director and Executive Director, (Serious and Organized Crime Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General): Major Crime Unit Initiative
- 5. Sarah Weber, President & CEO (C3 Alliance): 11th Annual Resource Breakfast Series Invite - Sept 17-19, 2024
- 6. Lesley Giroday, President (Comox Valley Land Trust): Participation in a Future Class Action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies

(2024.260) -- CARRIED

**a. Consent Agenda**

**Consent Agenda**

- 7. *Christine Baxter, Executive Director, CYMC: Request for Letter of Support*
- 8. *Steve Hill: Council Criteria to Justify Property Tax Exemptions*
- 9. *Jennifer Groundwater: Three-way Stop Request for Intersection of Church and Beaufort Ave*
- 10. *Bowinn Ma, Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (Government of BC): Response to Mayor Bob Wells Regarding Designation of Search and Rescue*
- 2. *THAT Item 4. (Brian Sims, Associate Director and Executive Director, (Serious and Organized Crime Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General): Major Crime Unit Initiative) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion, and*

*THAT Mayor Minions follow up with the regional leadership team for updates, and for staff to check on the opt-out option.*

(2024.261) -- CARRIED

- 3. *THAT Item 9. (Jennifer Groundwater: Three-way Stop Request for Intersection of Church and Beaufort Ave) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2024.262) -- CARRIED

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NIL**

**8. SPECIAL REPORTS: NIL**

**9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS: NIL**

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Community Works Fund Agreement**

**Community Works Fund Agreement**

*THAT the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement between the Town of Comox and the Union of BC Municipalities, as included in the July 10, 2024 Regular Council Meeting agenda, be approved; and*

*THAT the Mayor and the Corporate Officer be authorized to execute the agreement.*

(2024.263) -- CARRIED

**b. Grant In Aid Program Options**

**Grant In Aid Program Options**

- 1. *THAT Council Grant in Aid Policy CCL-031 be replaced with the draft policy attached to the July 10, 2024, report from Jordan Wall titled 'Grant In Aid Program Options'.*

**AMENDING MOTION:**

*THAT the main motion be amended to add the text ", as amended to specify annual funding in section 6.01, to limit funding for the Coalition to End Homelessness to capital project spending and to source funding for the Coalition to End Homelessness from the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund."*

(2024.264) -- CARRIED

**b. Grant In Aid Program Options**

**Grant In Aid Program Options**

2. MOTION AS AMENDED:

*THAT Council Grant in Aid Policy CCL-031 be replaced with the draft policy attached to the July 10, 2024, report from Jordan Wall titled 'Grant In Aid Program Options', as amended to specify annual funding in section 6.01, to limit funding for the Coalition to End Homelessness to capital project spending and to source funding for the Coalition to End Homelessness from the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund."*

(2024.265) -- CARRIED

3. *THAT Policy No. CCL-031, Council Grant-in-Aid Policy, be amended to limit grants in aid to not more than \$151,000 per year.*

(2024.266) -- CARRIED

[Opposed: Councillor JMeilleur]

4. *THAT funds allocated to Nautical Days, Summerfest, the Downtown Halloween Event, and Christmas Tree Lighting be internalized as costs and not included in the Grant in Aid policy.*

(2024.267) -- CARRIED

**c. Permissive Tax Exemption Policy Adoption**

**Permissive Tax Exemption Policy Adoption**

1. *THAT draft Permissive Tax Exemption Policy CCL-025 as attached to the July 10, 2024 report from Jordan Wall, titled "Permissive Tax Exemption Policy Adoption" be amended to remove provision 6.04(a).*

(2024.268) -- CARRIED

2. *THAT draft Permissive Tax Exemption Policy CCL-025 as attached to the July 10, 2024 report from Jordan Wall, titled "Permissive Tax Exemption Policy Adoption" be amended to remove provision 6.05.*

(2024.269) -- CARRIED

[Opposed: Mayor Minions, Councillors JKerr JMeilleur]

3. *THAT draft Permissive Tax Exemption Policy CCL-025, as amended to remove sections 6.04(a) and 6.05, be adopted.*

(2024.270) -- DEFEATED

[Opposed: Mayor Minions, Councillors SBlacklock CHaslett KGrant JKerr JMeilleur MSwift]

4. *THAT draft Permissive Tax Exemption Draft Policy CCL-025 be forwarded to the next Regular Council Meeting with information on religious institutions included in the report.*

(2024.271) -- CARRIED

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL**

**12. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**a. Bob Wells, Mayor (City of Courtenay): Strengthening Communities' Grant**

**Strengthening Communities' Grant**

*THAT the letter dated June 13, 2024, from Mayor Bob Wells, City of Courtenay, be received.*

(2024.272) -- CARRIED

**b. Vickey Brown, Mayor (Village of Cumberland): Strengthening Communities' Grant**

**Strengthening Communities' Grant**

*THAT the letter dated June 27, 2024, from Mayor Vickey Brown, Village of Cumberland, be received.*

(2024.273) -- CARRIED

**c. Serina Allison, Lead Teacher in Environmental Sustainability & Numeracy (School District 71 Youth Climate Event Committee): Donation Request-SD71 Youth Climate Conference**

**SD71 Donation Request**

*THAT the letter dated June 24, 2024, from Serina Allison, SD71, be received, and*

*THAT the Town of Comox offer in-kind support.*

(2024.274) -- CARRIED

**d. Amy Morris, Executive Director (Vancouver Humane Society): Request to Support UBCM Black Bear Motion**

**UBCM Black Bear Motion**

*THAT the letter dated July 4, 2024, from Amy Morris, Vancouver Humane Society, be received.*

(2024.275) -- CARRIED

**13. LATE ITEMS: NIL**

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

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

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

**Adjournment:**

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 9:24 p.m.

CARRIED

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

  
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MAYOR

  
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CORPORATE OFFICER