



TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday September 3, 2025

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

Absent: Nil

Staff Present: S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer
E. Henley, Director of Finance
R. Houle, Director of Development Services
G. Schreiner, Fire Chief

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. with 15 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, the traditional keepers of this land.

1. INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF LATE ITEMS: NIL

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

a. Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of Agenda

THAT the September 3, 2025, Regular Council Meeting agenda be Adopted.

(2025.333) -- CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS:

a. Maddie Turenne (Youth Climate Corps BC): Update on the Successes of our Program and Impact on the Community

Delegation - Youth Climate Corps (YCCBC)

Representatives from the YCCBC Courtenay program reported 250 days of climate action with 12 partners on food security, ecosystem restoration, and invasive species removal. They invited the Town to explore joint projects to support youth, climate skills, and community resilience.

b. Tanya Massa, Tourism Development Specialist (Experience Comox Valley): Revised CV Tourism Strategic Framework

Delegation - Experience Comox Valley

Representatives from Experience Comox Valley provided an update on the draft 10-Year Tourism Strategy for the Comox Valley, focusing on sustainable tourism growth, collaboration with the K'omoks First Nation, year-round tourism opportunities, improved infrastructure, and inclusive visitor experiences. They requested that the Town provide feedback and consider endorsing the final plan in fall 2025, with public feedback open until September 8, 2025.

c. Rosemary Abram: Town Infill / Building Height (concrete, #2 cause of emissions)

Delegation - Rosemary Abram

The delegate spoke to Council on behalf of 86% of homeowners surveyed regarding infill development and building heights. She asked Council to support low-rise infill to limit environmental impacts and emissions, consider provincial housing orders without increasing staffing or infrastructure costs, and take into account community concerns about building heights and the pace of development.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

a. Regular Council Meeting Minutes

RCM Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, be Adopted.

(2025.334) -- 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 for information:*

1. *Brandy Fuchs: Request for Rat Bylaw*

2. *Marc Rutten, Acting Chief Administrative Officer (Comox Valley Regional District): Solid Waste Management Plan*

3. *Sherwin Christian: Motion to uphold tanker ban*

4. *Dave Durrant (Walk of Achievement Program): Induction of Honourable Senator Kim Pate, C.M.*

(2025.335) -- CARRIED

2. *THAT Item 1. (Brandy Fuchs: Request for Rat Bylaw) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

(2025.336) -- CARRIED

3. *THAT Item 2. (Marc Rutten, Acting Chief Administrative Officer (Comox Valley Regional District): Solid Waste Management Plan) be removed from the agenda for discussion.*

(2025.337) -- CARRIED

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

AT 5:58 P.M. COUNCILLOR BLACKLOCK LEFT THE MEETING, DECLARING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH ITEM 7.(a) AS HIS PARTNER IS EMPLOYED WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY.

- a. **Jeff West, Executive Director (Habitat for Humanity, Vancouver Island North): 2161 Park Drive Affordable Housing**

August 13, 2025 Delegation - Jeff West

THAT the August 13, 2025 request from Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North for the 8-unit housing project at 2161 Park Drive be postponed to the October 1, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

(2025.338) -- CARRIED

AT 6:01 P.M., COUNCILLOR BLACKLOCK RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

- b. **Kim Holl (Indigenous Women's Sharing Society): Comox Valley Substance Use Strategy Collaboration**

August 13, 2025 Delegation - Kim Holl

1. *THAT Council approve the August 13, 2025 request from the Substance Use Strategy Collaborative, led by the Indigenous Women's Sharing Society, for a multi-year \$10,000 contribution toward implementing its 21 recommendations to improve community health and safety.*

(2025.339) -- POSTPONED TO OCT 1, 2025 RCM

- c. **Dayna Forsgren, Coordinator (CV Coalition to End Homelessness): Amend Zoning Bylaw for Extreme Weather Response**

August 13, 2025 Delegation - Dayna Forsgren

1. *THAT the Town investigate the use of Temporary Use Permits (TUP) to allow Extreme Weather Response Shelters.*

AMENDING MOTION:

THAT the motion be amended to add "and that Administration provide a staff report on this matter" after "Extreme Weather Response Shelters."

(2025.340) -- CARRIED

2. *MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:*

THAT the Town investigate the use of Temporary Use Permits (TUP) to allow Extreme Weather Response Shelters and that Administration provide a report on this matter.

(2025.341) -- POSTPONED TO OCT 1, 2025 RCM

8. SPECIAL REPORTS: NIL

9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS: NIL

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Allocating 2025 Wildfire Deployment Revenue**

2025 Wildfire Deployment Revenue

THAT Council allocate the following amounts from revenue received through 2025 wildfire deployments to the fire department's 2025 operating budget:

- *\$10,000 to the Community Safety Program.*
- *\$15,000 for the repair, replacement, and enhancement of wildfire equipment.*
- *\$100,000 for the design and construction drawings related to the fire station replacement.*

(2025.342) -- CARRIED

b. Fire Services - 2025-2027 Capital Budget Adjustment

Replacement of Duty Officer Truck

THAT Council approve an adjustment to the Fire Department's Five-Year Capital Plan to advance the replacement of Duty Officer Truck #37 (2015 model) from 2027 to 2025.

(2025.343) -- CARRIED

c. Flag Raisings and Flag Protocol Policy

Flag Raisings and Flag Protocol Policy

THAT the draft Flag Raisings and Flag Protocol Policy CCL-058.05 as detailed in the July 28, 2025, report from the Corporate Coordinator, titled "Flag Raisings and Flag Protocol Policy" be Approved.

(2025.344) -- CARRIED

11. NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Lisa Dennis, Manager of Legislative Services (Comox Valley Regional District): Consent for Bylaw No. 883 - Comox Valley Sports Track and Fields Service Conversion

Sports Track and Fields Service Conversion

THAT the Town of Comox consent to the adoption of Comox Valley Regional District Bylaw No. 883 being "Comox Valley Sports Track and Fields Service Conversion Bylaw 2353, Amendment No. 2" under section 349 of the Local Government Act.

(2025.345) -- CARRIED

b. Isha Matous-Gibbs (Urban Matters): Winter shelter strategy

Winter Shelter Strategy

THAT the correspondence dated August 22, 2025, from Isha Matous-Gibbs (Urban Matters) regarding an update on the Winter Shelter Strategy be received.

(2025.346) -- CARRIED

AT 6:17 P.M., COUNCILLOR KERR LEFT THE MEETING DECLARING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH ITEM 12.(c) AS HIS PARTNER IS EMPLOYED BY SENIOR SUPPORT NORTH VANCOUVER ISLAND.

c. Christopher Bate (Senior Support North Vancouver Island): Request for letter of support

Senior Support North Vancouver Island

THAT the correspondence dated August 26, 2025, from Christopher Bate, Senior Support North Vancouver Island, requesting a letter of support for a Government of Canada New Horizons for Seniors Program grant, be received; AND FURTHER,

THAT the request for a letter of support be granted.

(2025.347) -- CARRIED

AT 6:20 P.M., COUNCILLOR KERR RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

13. LATE ITEMS: NIL

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

a. Councillor Blacklock

Councillor Blacklock advised of the upcoming Walk for Glacier View Lodge event on September 20 and reported attending several meetings and events, including the Pride Flag Raising, Comox Valley Substance Use meeting, Pride in the Park, and the BIA Lorne Park Light Up.

b. Councillor Swift

Councillor Swift had nothing to report.

c. Councillor Haslett

Councillor Haslett attended a d'Esterre Seniors Centre meeting and a Comox Nautical Days Festival Committee meeting. He expressed his appreciation to Bob Bowen for his dedicated volunteer support during the Nautical Days Festival. He also noted there is a vacancy on the Festival Committee, and the Town will be advertising for anyone interested in joining.

d. Councillor Kerr

Councillor Kerr attended a Comox Nautical Days Festival Committee meeting. He thanked Councillor Haslett, as chair of the committee, for leading the meetings and Town staff for their support of the Festival Committee. He also attended two Pride events, including walking in the Pride Parade with physician allies.

e. Councillor Grant

Councillor Grant had nothing to report.

f. Councillor Meilleur

Councillor Meilleur shared details about an upcoming community conversation on place-making, a free event open to everyone, scheduled for September 8 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Filberg Centre in Courtenay.

g. Mayor Minions

Mayor Minions advised of the upcoming Comox Dragon Boat Festival, hosted by VI Paddling and the Town of Comox, on September 13 at Marina Park. She thanked Elevate the Arts and all staff and departments involved in organizing the Music in the Park event held at Marina Park on August 31.

17. RESOLUTION TO GO IN-CAMERA: NIL

18. RISE AND REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA: NIL

Adjournment:

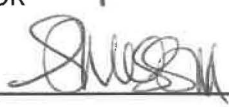
Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 6:25 p.m.

CARRIED

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



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER