



TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday May 20, 2026

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
E. Henley, Director of Finance
R. Houle, 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 5:04 p.m. with 56 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 May 20, 2026, Regular Council Meeting agenda be Adopted.

(2026.180) -- CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS:

AT 5:07 P.M., COUNCILLOR MAUREEN SWIFT LEFT THE MEETING DECLARING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH ITEMS 3(A) & (B) AS SHE HAS A CLOSE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PROPONENT.

a. Kathleen Duffield/Kelvin Humenny: RZ 25-5 (721 Lazo Rd)

Delegation (721 Lazo Rd)

Kelvin Humenny, speaking on behalf of the Radford Beach Neighbourhood, stated that the proposed rezoning would create unnecessary environmental and neighbourhood impacts, and that similar development could be achieved with significantly less harm by using existing access and alternative lot configurations. He urged Council to defer or defeat the application, stating that staff had not adequately analyzed alternatives, minimized OCP conflicts, and failed to fully address community concerns.

b. Corey Cooper, Planner (McElhanney Ltd): RZ 25-5 (721 Lazo Rd)

Delegation (721 Lazo Rd)

Corey Cooper, speaking on behalf of the owners, explained that the proposal is an early-stage rezoning to allow a small, low-density development with six lots, where access has been designed to meet safety standards while reducing environmental impact by using Andrew Avenue for vehicles and Lazo Road for pedestrians. He emphasized that the design protects the environment by dedicating over half the land as park, and that more detailed studies and refinements would happen later through the subdivision and development permit process.

AT 5:34 P.M., COUNCILLOR MAUREEN SWIFT RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

c. Colin Eves (Jane Place Residents Association): Diesel Pump Operations at the Comox Pumping Station

Delegation (Jane Place)

Colin Eves, speaking on behalf of the Jane Place Residents Association, said that residents on Jane Place were concerned about the diesel pumps running 24/7 for several months as part of the sewer project, especially because they were not informed in advance and the noise is affecting their daily lives. He asked Council to help ensure the CVRD improves noise mitigation and communication, and that both the temporary works and final facility better reflect the neighbourhood character as originally presented.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 5:49 P.M. AND RECONVENED AT 5:58 P.M.

a. Adoption of Minutes (May 6, 2026 Public Hearing)

Adoption of Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, be Adopted.

(2026.181) -- CARRIED

b. Adoption of Minutes (May 6, 2026 Regular Council Meeting)

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, be Adopted.

(2026.182) -- CARRIED

c. Adoption of Minutes (May 8, 2026 Special Council Meeting)

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 8, 2026, be Adopted.

(2026.183) -- CARRIED

d. Adoption of Minutes (May 13, 2026 Special Council Meeting)

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, be Adopted.

(2026.184) -- CARRIED

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS:

a. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting (May 13, 2026)

**Strategic Planning
Committee Meeting**

THAT the Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 be Received.

(2026.185) -- CARRIED

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) Tree Protection Bylaw

**COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the following changes be made to the proposed Tree Protection Bylaw No. 2063:

- 1. Remove the security deposit requirements;*
- 2. Apply landscape bonding to multi-family developments;*
- 3. Address bylaw infractions in accordance with the Bylaw; and,*
- 4. Amend the diameter at breast height (DB) requirement of a Protected Tree from 60 centimetres to 50 centimetres.*

(2026.186) -- CARRIED

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

THAT the Consent Agenda items as follows be received:

- 1. Paulina Maj: Concerns about Proposed Installation of Artificial Turf Fields*
- 2. Stella Webers (Legion Branch 160 Comox): Centenary Celebration BBQ - July 19*
- 3. Sara Dillistone: Pedestrian Sign Request for Butchers Rd & Lazo Rd Intersection*
- 4. Barbara Gowse: BEN Complaint - Request for Warning*
- 5. Jamie Branch: Mini Peaks Legacy Program*

(2026.187) -- CARRIED

THAT Item 3 (Sara Dillistone: Pedestrian Sign Request for Butchers Rd & Lazo Rd Intersection) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

(2026.188) -- CARRIED

THAT Item 5 (Jamie Branch: Mini Peaks Legacy Program) be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

(2026.189) -- CARRIED

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Scott Mercer, Detachment Commander (Royal Canadian Mounted Police): Policing priorities discussion

**RCMP Mobile Integrated
Crisis Response program**

Council discussed the RCMP Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) program, noting its value and high cost, and agreed to consider it during the 2027 budget discussions.

b. Sail Building Utilization

Sail Building Utilization

- 1. THAT the Spinnaker and Genoa Sail Buildings at Marina Park continue to be used for recreation programs, special events, warming centres, and hourly and daily facility rentals.*

(2026.190) -- CARRIED

b. Sail Building Utilization

Sail Building Utilization

2. *THAT Council direct Administration to explore expanding the Marina Park Vendor Policy No. CCL-072 to include a mobile coffee option with seating.*

(2026.191) -- CARRIED

c. Tree Protection Bylaw Update

Tree Protection Bylaw Update

1. *THAT Tree Protection Bylaw No. 2063 be given First, Second and Third Readings.*

(2026.192) -- CARRIED

2. *THAT the Town of Comox consider Tree Protection Bylaw No. 2063 when determining future tree covenant requirements and discharges; and further,*

THAT Administration be authorized to remove existing tree protection covenants when the situations arise on low-density properties where community or neighbourhood conditions do not support retaining the covenant.

(2026.193) -- CARRIED

d. Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 2004.05

**Bylaw Notice Enforcement
Amendment Bylaw**

THAT Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 2004.05 be given First, Second and Third Readings.

(2026.194) -- CARRIED

e. Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 2058.01

**Fees and Charges
Amendment Bylaw**

THAT Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 2058.01 be given First, Second and Third Readings.

(2026.195) -- CARRIED

8. SPECIAL REPORTS: NIL

9. BYLAW ADOPTIONS:

a. 2025-2029 Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2046.01

**2025-2029 Financial Plan
Amendment Bylaw**

THAT the Comox Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2046.01 be Adopted.

(2026.196) -- CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS:

a. 2025 Annual Report

2025 Annual Report

THAT the 2025 Annual Report, as attached to the May 15, 2026, report from the Communications Coordinator, titled "Adoption of the 2025 Annual Report", be received; and further,

THAT the 2025 Annual Report be available for public inspection as per section 98(1)(b) of the Community Charter.

(2026.197) -- CARRIED

b. Comox General Local Election – Appointment of Election Officers and Election Bylaw No. 2060

**Comox General Local Election
Bylaw**

1. *THAT pursuant to Section 58 of the Local Government Act, Shelly Russwurm be appointed as Chief Election Officer for conducting the October 17, 2026 General Local Election with the power to appoint other election officials as required for the administration and conduct of the 2026 General Local Election; and further,*

THAT Lia Pesklevits be appointed as Deputy Chief Election Officer for the October 17, 2026 General Local Election.

(2026.198) -- CARRIED

2. *THAT Election Bylaw No. 2060 be given First, Second and Third Readings.*

(2026.199) -- CARRIED

AT 6:38 P.M., COUNCILLOR MAUREEN SWIFT LEFT THE MEETING DECLARING A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH ITEM 10(C) AS SHE HAS A CLOSE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PROPONENT.

c. Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2056.01 (721 Lazo Road)

721 Lazo Road

1. *THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2056.01 (721 Lazo Road) be given First and Second Readings and that any available reports be publicly available.*

AMENDING MOTION:

THAT the main motion be amended to include Town-led community engagement after First and Second Readings.

(2026.200) -- CARRIED

2. *MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:*

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2056.01 (721 Lazo Road) be given First and Second readings and that any available reports be publicly available; and further,

THAT a Town-led community engagement process be held following the First and Second Readings.

(2026.201) -- CARRIED

AT 7:28 P.M., COUNCILLOR MAUREEN SWIFT RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 7:28 P.M. AND RECONVENED AT 7:30 P.M.

a. Jason Bashnick, Senior Director (FreshAirCinema): Proposed Outdoor Movie Night - July 24, 2026

**Outdoor Movie Night - July
24, 2026**

Council received the correspondence dated May 7, 2026 from Jason Bashnick regarding the proposed outdoor movie night. It was noted that the event has been awarded and will take place on July 24 at Marina Park.

13. LATE ITEMS: NIL

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

a. Councillor Blacklock

Councillor Blacklock reported on the Business Improvement Association AGM, noting new directors, continued leadership, and upcoming work including preparation for a tourism tax program.

b. Councillor Swift

Councillor Swift noted the upcoming Filberg AGM.

c. Councillor Haslett

Councillor Haslett had nothing to report.

d. Councillor Kerr

Councillor Kerr shared updates from the CVRD Waste Management Board, highlighting success of the organics program and requesting clearer, more relatable reporting metrics.

e. Councillor Grant

Councillor Grant had nothing to report.

f. Councillor Meilleur

Councillor Meilleur had nothing to report.

g. Mayor Minions

Mayor Minions reported on recent community events, including attending Cumberland May Days and a local cycling race. She also shared updates about the Snowbirds program ending after this season, upcoming marina and downtown activities, and encouraged visiting the Air Force Museum.

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 7:35 p.m.

CARRIED

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



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER