

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, March 9, 2026 @ 2:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers & Via Video-Conference
4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

Present: Mayor S. Minions
Councillor D. Dame
Councillor D. Haggard*
Councillor C. Mealey
Councillor T. Patola
Councillor C. Solda
Councillor T. Verbrugge

(* Denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by Part 10 of "City of Port Alberni Procedures Bylaw No. 4830".

Staff: A. McGifford, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Darling, Director of Corporate Services
B. McLoughlin, Manager of Planning
P. Deakin, Manager of Economic Development
K. Motiuk, Deputy Director of Corporate Services (Recording Secretary)
J. Pelech, Manager of Information Services

Gallery: 11

A. CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the agenda be approved as circulated with the following additions:

- G.2 – Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce | Letter of Support
- K.1 – Paralympic Athlete | Invitation to Council

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. *MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the minutes of the Special and Regular meetings of Council held on February 23, 2026 be adopted as presented.*

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

1. **Introduction | Communications Manager**
The Corporate Officer introduced the City's new Communications Manager, Sara Bearchell.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Temporary Use Permit 25-05 | 3048 3rd Avenue**

Chair Dame left the meeting at 2:04 p.m. declaring a conflict of interest as it relates to the subject property being in close proximity to his personal business' leased property.

Members of the public were invited forward to speak to Temporary Use Permit 25-05 at 3048 3rd Avenue.

No one came forward to speak.

K. Dlay, Applicant, was invited forward by Council to speak.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council does not issue Temporary Use Permit No. 25-05 at 3048 3rd Avenue.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-70

Councillor Dame returned to the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

E. STAFF REPORTS

F. BYLAWS

G. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

1. Guru Nanak Sikh Society | 2nd Annual Vaisakhi Parade

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize the Guru Nanak Sikh Society access to City streets on Saturday, May 9, 2026 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for the purpose of a parade from 4144 8th Ave. to Roger Street, to 10th Ave back to Guru Nanak Sikh Temple, subject to:

- *the notification of emergency services and BC Transit;*
- *consultation with all affected businesses/residents;*
- *provision of a Traffic Safety Plan completed by a certified professional, including qualified Traffic Control personnel as required;*
- *provision of standard liability insurance in the amount of \$5M; and*
- *review by event organizers of the [Report of the Study Commission of Inquiry into Community Events Safety](#) dated June 26, 2025.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-71

2. Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce | Letter of Support

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a letter to the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce to meet the requirement as part of the renewal package submission to Destination BC confirming that the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce is the 'Sponsor Organization' and lead provider of Community Visitor Services for the City of Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-72

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of the GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada, proclaim the month of May 2026 as GBS/CIDP Awareness Month in Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-73

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The Director of Corporate Services summarized correspondence to Council as follows:

- a. Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General | Follow up to the 2025 UBCM Convention Meeting
- b. BC Council of Forest Industries | 'Forestry is a Solution' Initiative
- c. City of Prince George | Petition to Minister of Justice and Attorney General Re: Stronger Public Safety Measures
- d. Union of BC Municipalities | Annual Membership

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to forward the BC Council of Forest Industries letter requesting support of the 'Forestry is a Solution' initiative to the Alberni Valley Forestry Coalition, and if the letter aligns with the Coalition's initiatives, return it to Council for a resolution of support.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-74

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the Council Correspondence Summary as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-75

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

February 9, 2026

- Council released for public consumption, execution of the lease agreement between the City of Port Alberni and the Italian Canadian Fraternal Society for 4045 6th Avenue for a five-year term, expiring December 31, 3030 in the amount of \$12 per year plus applicable taxes.
- Council released for public consumption execution of the Animal Control Service Agreement between the City of Port Alberni and Coastal Animal Control Services of BC Ltd. for a two-year term commencing March 1, 2026; and direction for Administration to bring forward an amendment to the 2026–2030 Financial Plan to provide funding for contract animal control services, including contract expenditures of \$125,714 in 2026 and \$129,485 in 2027, as follows:
 - 2026: Increasing Line 22931 – Animal Control Service Contract - \$55,975; and
 - 2026: Decreasing Line 29911 – Contingency - \$55,975.
 - 2027: Increasing Line 22931 – Animal Control Service Contract - \$51,607; and
 - 2027: Increasing Line 11111 – General Purposes - Taxes - \$51,607.

K. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Council and Regional District Reports

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to invite Chase Nicklin to a future Council meeting to be honoured for his representation of Port Alberni at the 2026 Paralympic Games at Milano Cortina.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-76

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council reports outlining recent meetings and events related to the City's business, be received as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-77

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Branding Services Plan

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize Administration to proceed with the 'Branding Services Plan' that includes up to \$50,000 annually in the Financial Plan for brand implementation for a ten-year period, 2027 through 2036, subject to annual budget approval and the pursuit of external funding [grants, sponsorships, partnerships].

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-78

2. Notice of Motion | Mayor Minions

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a report that explores options including:

- i. Inclusion of City-owned parks outside of City limits within the Regional Parks' Service;*
- ii. The City's participation in the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Regional Parks' Service.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-79

3. Temporary Use Permit 25-02 | 3723 Redford Street

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of Council eligible to vote, authorize the acceptance and consideration of a reapplication within one (1) year of the denial date for a substantially similar Temporary Use Permit for 3723 Redford Street.

DEFEATED

M. QUESTION PERIOD

R. Smith

Inquired about financial plan amendments for animal control services.

Notice of Motion - Committee of the Whole Meeting | Councillor Patola

THAT Council direct Administration to produce a report defining a clear standard of housing permitted for long-term occupancy within the City of Port Alberni on the basis that the housing conforms to the Canadian Standards Association, BC Building Code, or recreational vehicle standards at the date of the construction of the housing to be inspected annually with consideration of the site layout and utilities.

H. Singh Rai

Inquired about future direction for temporary housing at 3723 Redford Street.

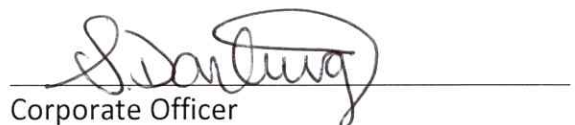
N. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:07 p.m.

CARRIED



Mayor



Corporate Officer