

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, June 26, 2023 @ 2:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers – 4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

Present: Mayor S. Minions
Councillor D. Dame
Councillor J. Douglas
Councillor D. Haggard
Councillor C. Mealey
Councillor T. Patola
Councillor C. Solda

Staff: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
A. McGifford, Director of Finance
D. Monteith, Director of Corporate Services
S. Smith, Director of Development Services | Deputy CAO
R. Macauley, Deputy Director of Finance
B. McLoughlin, Manager of Planning
K. Love, Manager of Communications

Gallery: 5

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 amended to include items under New Business L.16 Notice of Motion - BCEHS Shortage | L.17 Rainbow Gardens [Westporte Place Park Replacement] | L.18 Notice of Motion – Alternate Route to Hwy 4. The agenda was then adopted as amended.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Minutes of the Special meeting held at 12:00 pm and Regular Council meeting held at 2:00 pm on June 12, 2023, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Accounts

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the certification of the Director of Finance dated June 26, 2023, be received and the cheques numbered 152931 to 153006 inclusive, in payment of accounts totalling \$ 710,522.57, be approved.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-195

F. BYLAWS

1. Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw No. 5086, 2023

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw No. 5086, 2023" be now introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-196

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw No. 5086, 2023" be read a second time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-197

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw No. 5086, 2023" be read a third time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-198

2. Growing Communities Reserve Fund Bylaw No. 5087, 2023

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Growing Communities Reserve Fund Bylaw No. 5087, 2023" be now introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-199

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Growing Communities Reserve Fund Bylaw No. 5087, 2023" be read a second time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-200

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Growing Communities Reserve Fund Bylaw No. 5087, 2023" be read a third time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-201

3. Zoning Bylaw No. 5074, 2023 | Bylaw Modernization

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Zoning Bylaw No. 5074, 2023" be now introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-202

4. OCP and Zoning Bylaw Amendments | 2846 4th Avenue

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Official Community Plan Amendment (2846 4th Avenue) Bylaw No. 5078, 2023" be read a third time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-203

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Zoning Amendment (2846 4th Avenue) Bylaw No. 5079, 2023" be read a third time.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-204

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Official Community Plan Amendment (2846 4th Avenue) Bylaw No. 5078, 2023" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and number 5078.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-205

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Zoning Amendment (2846 4th Avenue) Bylaw No. 5079, 2023" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5079.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-206

G. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

1. 2023 UBCM Convention | Meeting Requests

Council provided direction to staff regarding meeting requests with Provincial Ministries, Agencies, Commissions, and Corporations (MACC) staff during the UBCM Convention scheduled September 18 – 22, 2023 in Vancouver.

2. Alberni Pacific Railway | #7 Steam Locomotive Festival

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council support the #7 Steam Locomotive Festival taking place on August 6, 2023 at Alberni Pacific Railway Roundhouse from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm subject to:

- *receipt of confirmation that a Special Event Permit from the LCRB has been issued;*
- *submittal of a Site Plan to be approved by the City of Port Alberni;*
- *Traffic Implementation Plan [parking];*
- *consultation with all affected businesses/residents;*
- *provision of standard liability insurance in the amount of \$5M [minimum]; and*
- *Technical Safety BC approval.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-207

H. PROCLAMATIONS

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

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

- a. Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard | Responding to the City's letter of February 8, 2023 regarding Ghost Gear
- b. N. van Viegen | Public Safety Building [City response dated June 15th included]
- c. S. Recksiedler | Alternate Highway Route
- d. V. & D. McConnell | Alternate Highway Route

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

1. Alberni Harbour Quay | Grassroots Café

Council released for public consumption Notice of its Intent to lease Unit 16 to C. Dupas and G. Gorton for the operation of Grassroots Café at the Alberni Harbour Quay for a five-year term.

2. Annual Report 2022

Council released for public consumption the draft 2022 Annual Municipal Report as amended and further, directed staff to make the report available for public inspection as per legislative requirements.

K. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Council and Regional District Reports

Verbal report provided by Councillor Douglas.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Director of Corporate Services | Presentation of the Annual Report

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni endorse the Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2022 as presented.

CARRIED | Res. No. 23-208

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2. **Statement of Financial Information**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve the statements and schedules included in the Statement of Financial Information for 2022, prepared to comply with the Financial Information Act, as outlined in the report from the Director of Finance dated June 14, 2023.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-209
 3. **BC Transit Annual Operating Agreement 2023 – 2024 | Amendment**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Mayor and Corporate Officer be authorized to execute the amended BC Transit | 2023 – 2024 Annual Operating Agreement between the City of Port Alberni and British Columbia Transit to reflect the changes required for Umo, the electronic fare collection system.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-210
 4. **Kitsuksis Dyke Renewal | Financial Plan Amendment**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend the “City of Port Alberni 2023-2027 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5075, 2023” by allocating \$55,000 from the Canada Community-Building Fund to repair, resurface and renew sections of the Kitsuksis Dyke Walkway.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-211
 5. **Boundary Extension | Johnston Road**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize staff to engage Urban Systems to conduct Phase 1 of the proposed boundary extension process for 3386, 3376, 3344, 3330 and 3310 Johnston Road; 4930 John Street and 4935 Broughton Street as reflected in the proposal dated May 19, 2023, subject to the applicants funding 100% of the costs of the report on a pro rata basis, as determined between the applicants.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-212
 6. **Bylaw Enforcement Policy**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve Policy 3008-1 “Bylaw Enforcement”.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-213
 7. **Sports Fields**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to obtain preliminary costs for the recommended capital projects for City-owned sports fields for Council consideration at a future Regular meeting.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-214

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to utilize a portion of the awarded Growing Communities Fund to complete a Parks, Recreation and Heritage master plan.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-215

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8. **Growing Communities Fund | Grant Priorities Plan**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to allocate Growing Communities funds in the amount of \$5,269,000 as follows:
- *20% of the funding to address information gaps in populating long-term financial planning for community growth and the City's major assets.*
 - *80% of funding to set specific capital priorities based on the results of the long-term financial planning.*
- CARRIED | Res. No. 23-216**
9. **Permissive Tax Exemptions Policy**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to proceed with establishing new Permissive Tax and Places of Public Worship Bylaws for the years 2024 to 2027 [4-year term] based on the Permissive Tax Exemption Policy dated June 10, 2019.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-217
10. **Tseshaht First Nation | Draft Letter in Support of an Alternative Access Road**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council support the letter provided by Tseshaht First Nation addressed to the Prime Minister and Premier Eby requesting the establishment of an alternative access road in response to the Cameron Lake Bluffs fire and associated closure of Highway 4.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-218
11. **Recruitment and Retention of Medical Staff**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to work with the Regional District to determine who is best suited to lead a joint Task Force as it relates to the recruitment and retention of medical staff in the Alberni Valley.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-219
12. **Community Action Team | Poisoned Drug Crisis**
Council received the information presented at the June 19th Committee of the Whole meeting related to the poisoned drug crisis and will continue to advocate services for the community.
13. **2022 Surplus Funds | Notice of Motion deferred from the June 12th Regular Meeting**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council allocate the 2022 surplus equally between the R.C.M.P; Parks, Recreation and Heritage; and Aquatic Centre Replacement Reserve Funds.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-220

14. **Prohibit Illicit Drugs in Public Spaces | Notice of Motion provided June 12, 2023**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to create a nuisance bylaw to prohibit the consumption of controlled substances within 15 metres of any playground, sports field, tennis court, picnic shelter, water park, skate park, community centre, library, swimming pool, the museum and/or any public spaces for and used by children and youth.
DEFEATED
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report exploring the community implications of decriminalization, and options to keep City public spaces safe for use of all community members.
CARRIED | Res. No. 23-221
15. **Notice of Motion for July 17th Committee of the Whole Meeting | Council Meeting Leave Policy**
That Council direct staff to establish a policy related to Council member leave from City Council meetings.
16. **Notice of Motion for July 10th Regular Meeting | BCEHS Ambulance Shortage**
That Council direct staff to prepare a letter to the province requesting additional ambulance coverage and higher levels of training for Port Alberni Station No. 124.
17. **Rainbow Gardens | Westporte Place Park Replacement**
Status update on the Council request for a staff report regarding potential alternative park/playground space in Westporte Place.
18. **Notice of Motion for July 10th Regular Meeting | Alternative Route to Highway 4**
That Council direct staff to write a letter on behalf of Council urging the Government of Canada and the Province of BC to take immediate action on securing a permanent second access road into the City of Port Alberni.
19. **Notice of Motion for July 10th Regular Meeting | Tree Removal Policy**
That Council direct staff to establish a policy related to tree removal within the City.

M. QUESTION PERIOD

D. Stevens

Queried regarding question period and property taxes.

W. Kerr

Requested Council consider writing a letter to the federal government requesting unvaccinated staff members be permitted to return to work in health fields.

M. Ahlroos

Queried regarding the train service in the Alberni Valley, and the location of the emergency operations centre.

N. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 5:16 pm.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT



Mayor



Corporate Officer