

Municipality of North Cowichan

Regular Council

MINUTES

October 7, 2020, 1:38 p.m.
Electronically

Members Present	Mayor Al Siebring Councillor Christopher Justice Councillor Tek Manhas Councillor Kate Marsh Councillor Rosalie Sawrie Councillor Debra Toporowski
Members Absent	Councillor Rob Douglas
Staff Present	Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (D/CAO) Mark Frame, General Manager, Financial and Protective Services Clay Reitsma, Senior Manager, Engineering Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation Rob Conway, Director of Planning and Building Shawn Cator, Director, Operations George Farkas, Director, Human Resources and Corporate Planning Dave Preikshot, Senior Environmental Specialist Jason Birch, Chief Information Officer Megan Jordan, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement Shaun Mason, Municipal Forester Michelle Martineau, Corporate Officer Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Two Late Items were added to the Closed Session on the basis of the following sections of the *Community Charter*:

- Agenda Item 14.6 - 90(1)(f) law enforcement; and
- Agenda Item 14.7 - 90 (1)(c) labour matter.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council meeting held September 16, 2020 for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held September 16, 2020.

CARRIED

3.2 Special Council meeting held September 30, 2020 for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the minutes of the Special Council meeting held September 30, 2020.

CARRIED

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Siebring provided a verbal update on meetings and activities he recently attended.

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received 14 submissions via email prior to the meeting as follows:

- 11 in relation to item 8.5 [Pause on Public Engagement on the Future of the Municipal Forest Reserve]
- 1 in relation to item 7.1 [Respectful Spaces Bylaw No. 3796 for first three readings], and item 7.2 [Council Remuneration Amendment Bylaw No. 3780 for first three readings]
- 1 in relation to item 8.3 [Council Correspondence], and item 8.5 [Pause on Public Engagement on the Future of the Municipal Forest Reserve], and item 9.1 [Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justice regarding the Environment Advisory Committee]
- 1 in relation to item 8.1 [Council Strategic Plan: Quarter 3 Update]

7. BYLAWS

7.1 Respectful Spaces Bylaw No. 3796 for first three readings

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council gives first, second and third readings to Respectful Spaces Bylaw No. 3796, 2020.

CARRIED

7.2 Council Remuneration Amendment Bylaw No. 3780 for first three readings

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council gives first, second and third readings to Council Remuneration Amendment Bylaw 2020, No. 3780.

CARRIED

8. REPORTS

8.1 Council Strategic Plan: Quarter 3 Update (July 1 to September 30, 2020)

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council accept the 2020 Quarter 3 Update on the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan as presented by the Director, Human Resources and Corporate Planning.

CARRIED

8.2 Community Resiliency Investment Funding Application 2021

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council authorize staff to submit an application to the Community Resiliency Investment 2021 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports Program for grant funding to oversee and hire a qualified professional to conduct detailed treatment prescriptions in the high risk areas including critical infrastructure; fuel reduction treatments around critical infrastructure as per the approved treatment prescriptions; and development of a Wildfire Development Permit Area. CARRIED

8.3 Council Correspondence

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the following motion:

1. *That Council authorize a Consent Agenda to be presented at the beginning of a meeting, allowing items to be removed from the Consent Agenda on the request of any member; and that items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate, and further that removed items may be taken up either immediately after the Consent Agenda or placed on the regular meeting agenda under New Business at the discretion of Council.*
2. *That Council direct staff to permanently cease distribution of the Council Info Package.*
3. *That the Council@northcowichan.ca email is automatically redirected to each member of Council and copied to the Executive Assistant.*

be amended to strike out the words "may be taken up either immediately after the Consent Agenda or", and the words "at the discretion of Council" CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

1. That Council authorize a Consent Agenda to be presented at the beginning of a meeting, allowing items to be removed from the Consent Agenda on the request of any member; and that items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate, and further that removed items are placed on the regular meeting agenda under New Business.
2. That Council direct staff to permanently cease distribution of the Council Info Package.
3. That the Council@northcowichan.ca email is automatically redirected to each member of Council and copied to the Executive Assistant. CARRIED

8.4 Cowichan Valley Regional District - Osborne Bay Park Lease Agreement

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council give notice of its intention to terminate the lease agreement between the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) and the Corporation of the District of North Cowichan regarding the maintenance of Osborne Bay Regional Park, effective January 1, 2021, in accordance with Article 6, Clauses 3 and 4 of the agreement, as attached as Schedule A to CVRD Bylaw No. 1795. CARRIED

Councillor Toporowski declared a conflict on the next item of business stating the reason being her affiliation and role on Cowichan Tribes Council and she left the meeting at 3:01 p.m.

8.5 Pause on Public Engagement on the Future of the Municipal Forest Reserve

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council extend the pause on the public engagement until an agreed upon way of moving forward is reached during the First Nations consultation process. CARRIED

Councillor Toporowski returned to the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

9.1 Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justice regarding the Environmental Advisory Committee

Councillor Justice introduced the following motion which he intends to move at the October 21, 2020 regular meeting for debate and consideration by Council:

That North Cowichan reinstate its Environmental Advisory Committee as an advisory body to serve at the will of Council and to work with staff and help Council 1) develop and integrate practical CAEP policies and programs through both the pending CAEP and OCP processes, and 2) to provide Council with advise on other environmental issues, such as natural areas, watershed protection, air quality, climate adaptation and so on, as directed by Council.

9.2 Notice of Motions submitted by Councillor Justice regarding the Climate Action & Energy Plan Targets and Alignment with the Official Community Plan

Councillor Justice introduced the following motions which he intends to move at the October 21, 2020 regular meeting for debate and consideration by Council:

1. WHEREAS Council recognizes that the point of the Climate Action and Energy Plan (CAEP) is to discover ways the Municipality of North Cowichan can act to reduce GHG emissions, and that the business at present (BAP)1 scenario assumptions should reflect what will most likely occur, even if the municipality were to take no action at all as opposed to assuming the current situation will remain unchanged; AND WHEREAS Council recognizes that most of our community's GHG emissions reductions will require policy and actions from higher levels of government; and that our 'Big Moves', as identified in the CAEP report, should be focused on those policies and action which the municipality has the ability to change or influence; NOW THEREFORE Council directs that: (1) the 2050 emissions reductions target of 80% be re-evaluated in light of the findings to date from the CAEP remodeling process and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and that any subsequent modeling and community planning aspires to achieve net zero by 2050 for emission sources over which the municipality has control or influence; (2) targets be set, in four year intervals, for both corporate and community GHG emissions to achieve the 2050 objectives, and that reporting coincides with the Council term of office; (3) a second Low Carbon Scenario be modeled using a new emissions target which assumes a more conservative estimate of e-vehicle uptake and other assumptions as

determined by Sustainable Solutions Group, the consultant, and municipal staff to identify actions that could result in a 'most probable' outcome by 2050.

2. That Council direct staff to prepare a report that outlines how the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Climate Action and Energy Plan (CAEP) can be aligned, to avoid any inconsistencies between the two plans with respect to the policies and/or actions required to achieve the Municipality of North Cowichan's GHG reduction targets.
3. That the growth scenarios considered by the public, as part of the OCP engagement process, include achieving the Municipality's GHG reductions targets as a primary concern informed by the findings of the CAEP remodeling process.

10. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

None.

11. UNFINISHED AND POSTPONED BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Anticoagulant Rodenticides

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

1. That Council recognizes the harmful impacts of anticoagulant rodenticide use and directs staff to prepare a report outlining options available to ban their use by, and in the Municipality of North Cowichan; and that staff communicate to the public the harmful impacts of anticoagulant rodenticide and the alternatives that are available.
2. That Council request that the Mayor write, on behalf of Council, to the Premier of British Columbia, appropriate ministers, and copying Members of the Legislative Assembly in the Cowichan Valley, requesting that the Province of British Columbia ban the use of anticoagulant rodenticides. CARRIED

12.2 Petition requesting speed bumps be installed on Indian Road

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the following motion:

That staff be directed to bring back a report to the October 21, 2020 Regular Council meeting detailing proposed traffic calming measures on Indian Road.

be amended to remove the words "to the October 21, 2020". CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That staff be directed to bring back a report detailing proposed traffic calming measures on Indian Road. (OPPOSED: Toporowski, Marsh and Sawrie)
DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the question of renaming Indian Road be referred to the First Nations Relations Committee. CARRIED

12.3 Petition requesting speed bumps and signs be installed on Beaumont Avenue

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That staff be directed to conduct a study of safety related measures on Beaumont Avenue.

CARRIED

12.4 Request for a Letter of Support from the Halalt First Nation

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the Mayor be authorized to write a letter of support for the Halalt First Nation to submit with their grant application under the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund to make their gymnasium and community hall more energy efficient.

CARRIED

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Mayor Siebring called for a recess at 4:00 p.m. to allow viewers to submit questions via email on the matters discussed during the meeting. One question had been submitted when the meeting reconvened at 4:10 p.m.

14. CLOSED SESSION

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council close the meeting at 4:19 p.m. to the public on the basis of the following sections of the *Community Charter*:

- 90(1)(c) - labour relations or other employee relations;
- 90(1)(e) - the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, which council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- 90(1)(f) - law enforcement, which the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;
- 90(1)(j) - information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#); and
- 90(1)(m) - a matter that, under another enactment, that being section 16 of the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#), is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.

CARRIED

15. RISE AND REPORT

RCMP Facility Construction Change of Method

Council rose and reported on this item:

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council approve the project change for the construction of the RCMP facility from mass timber to structural steel to reduce the impact on the capital budget created by the increased construction costs related to mass timber.

CARRIED

16. ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor