

# Municipality of North Cowichan Council - Regular and Public Hearings MINUTES

October 21, 2020, 1:30 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 Dave Conway, Director, Engineering Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation George Farkas, Director, Human Resources and Corporate Planning Jason Birch, Chief Information Officer Megan Jordan, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement Clay Reitsma, Senior Manager, Engineering Dave Preikshot, Senior Environmental Specialist Glenn Morris, Development Planning Coordinator Chris Hutton, Community Planning Coordinator 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 1:30 p.m.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the agenda, as circulated.

CARRIED

## 3. CONSENT AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the Consent Agenda be approved.

CARRIED

### 3.1.1 Request for a letter of support from the Oak Park Heritage Preservation Society

That the Mayor be authorized to write a letter of support for the Oak Park Heritage Preservation Society to include in their application for a British Columbia Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) grant to preserve and restore Elkington house at 1241 Maple Bay Road.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**3.1.2 Request for a Letter of Support from The Raptors**

That the Mayor be authorized to write a letter of support for The Raptors to include in their application for a British Columbia Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) grant to help run programs year round and to open the parrot area.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**4.1 Regular Council meeting held October 7, 2020 for adoption**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held October 7, 2020.

CARRIED

**4.2 Special Council meeting held October 8, 2020 for adoption**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the minutes of the Special Council meeting held October 8, 2020.

CARRIED

**5. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor gave a verbal report on meetings and activities he recently attended.

**6. PRESENTATION**

Councillor Toporowski declared a conflict on the next item of business stating the reason being her role as a Councillor on Cowichan Tribes Council and she left the meeting at 1:36 p.m.

**6.1 Joint Utility Board Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall Relocation Project: Project Update**

The Senior Manager, Engineering provided an update on the joint utility board sewage treatment plant outfall relocation project that included: outfall location and proposed pipe routes; continued First Nations consultation, and information on stakeholder and public engagement process. A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is on file at the Municipal Hall.

**7. PUBLIC INPUT**

Council received 3 submissions via email prior to the meeting regarding items 9.1, 9.2, 9.4, 12.1 and 12.2. Submissions were forwarded to Council prior to the meeting.

Councillor Toporowski returned to the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

**8. BYLAWS**

**8.1 Council Remuneration Amendment Bylaw No. 3780 for adoption**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt Council Remuneration Amendment Bylaw 2020, No. 3780. CARRIED

**8.2 Respectful Spaces Bylaw No. 3796 for adoption**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt Respectful Spaces Bylaw No. 3796, 2020.

CARRIED

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 Temporary Use Permit Amendment No. TUP00022 (2 - 6380 Lakes Road)**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the following motion:

*That Temporary Use Permit Amendment Application TUP00022 (#2-6380 Lakes Road) to extend the term of Temporary Use Permit TUP00011 to October 31, 2021, be approved on the condition that the applicant obtains an occupancy permit for an assembly use by January 31, 2021, and on the condition that the number of weddings in that period be limited to four.*

be amended to replace the word "four" at the end of the sentence with the word "six".

(OPPOSED: Justice, Marsh, Toporowski)

DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Temporary Use Permit Amendment Application TUP00022 (#2-6380 Lakes Road) to extend the term of Temporary Use Permit TUP00011 to October 31, 2021, be approved on the condition that the applicant obtains an occupancy permit for an assembly use by January 31, 2021, and on the condition that the number of weddings in that period be limited to four.

(OPPOSED: Marsh, Toporowski)

CARRIED

The meeting recessed by unanimous consent at 3:34 p.m. and reconvened at 3:42 p.m.

Councillor Marsh left the meeting at 3:56 p.m. and returned at 3:59 p.m.

**9.2 Climate Action and Energy Plan (CAEP) Remodeling next steps**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council direct staff to proceed with modelling the costs and benefits of various greenhouse gas emissions reduction initiatives identified to-date and report back to Council with the results.

CARRIED

**9.3 Committee of the Whole Recommendation – Diversity and Inclusion**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That staff be directed to include an update on diversity and inclusion in the Council Strategic Plan quarterly reporting.

CARRIED

**9.4 Committee of the Whole Recommendation – Public Input on Agenda**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council will only take formal public input on agenda items up until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the meeting for the duration of COVID related meetings.

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council continue the present public input practice - that Council will be assumed to have read the public input and that there is no need for a staff summary during the public input portion of the agenda. CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That staff be directed to post as an addendum to the agenda, an aggregate of the Public Input that is received, by 6:00 p.m. the day before the meeting. CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the meeting be extended until 8:00 p.m. CARRIED

**10. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

None.

**11. UNFINISHED AND POSTPONED BUSINESS**

None.

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

**12.1 Request to Reinstate the Environmental Advisory Committee**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

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, as directed by Council. CARRIED

**12.2 Climate Action and Energy Plan Targets and Alignment with the Official Community Plan**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the following motion:

*WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded that it is imperative that we achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and the BC provincial government's climate plan also has as a target the achieving of net zero by 2050;*

*AND WHEREAS Council has been assured that further adjustments or refinements to the Climate Action and Energy Plan ("CAEP") project (and report) will not add significantly to our understanding of how to reduce our emissions but may rather delay the Official Community Plan ("OCP") process (where those CAEP-derived understandings will be translated into policy);*

*AND WHEREAS going forward, it is the intention of staff to work with both Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) and Modus to ensure that there is harmony or alignment between the CAEP derived understandings and the OCP policies, and to use the new CAEP modelling tool to ensure that OCP policies, including growth*

*management scenarios, will result in the meeting of our emissions reductions target;*

*NOW THEREFORE Council directs, subject to the completion of the CAEP, that the 2050 emissions reductions target of 80% be changed to a target of achieving net zero by 2050 and that subsequent modelling for the OCP aspires to develop policy which achieves net zero by 2050.*

be amended to replace the last paragraph with:

*'NOW THEREFORE Council directs, subject to the completion of the CAEP, that the 2050 emissions reductions target of 80% be changed to a target of achieving net zero by 2050, and that this be reflected in the development of policy in the OCP.'*

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded that it is imperative that we achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and the BC provincial government's climate plan also has as a target the achieving of net zero by 2050;

AND WHEREAS Council has been assured that further adjustments or refinements to the Climate Action and Energy Plan ("CAEP") project (and report) will not add significantly to our understanding of how to reduce our emissions but may rather delay the Official Community Plan ("OCP") process (where those CAEP-derived understandings will be translated into policy);

AND WHEREAS going forward, it is the intention of staff to work with both Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) and Modus to ensure that there is harmony or alignment between the CAEP derived understandings and the OCP policies, and to use the new CAEP modelling tool to ensure that OCP policies, including growth management scenarios, will result in the meeting of our emissions reductions target;

NOW THEREFORE Council directs, subject to the completion of the CAEP, that the 2050 emissions reductions target of 80% be changed to a target of achieving net zero by 2050, and that this be reflected in the development of policy in the OCP. CARRIED

### **12.3 Letter from Jennifer Woike, Farmer Bens Eggs**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the Mayor be authorized to write a letter to Jennifer Woike, Farmer Bens Eggs, in response to the letter dated August 24, 2020, to provide some of the actions that Council has taken to support new and local businesses, and to support the growth and development in North Cowichan. CARRIED

### **13. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING TO RECONVENE AT 6:00 P.M.**

There being no objection, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m. to reconvene at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 6:00 p.m.

**14. PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:00 P.M.**

**14.1 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Production in the Agricultural Land Reserve), 2020, No. 3797**

Mayor Siebring outlined the public hearing process and called the public hearing to order at 6:01 p.m. for Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Production in the Agricultural Land Reserve), 2020, No. 3797.

The Corporate Officer provided a summary of the correspondence that was received prior to the hearing, noting the following two submissions that were received in support of the amendment:

- Karen McClinchey, in support of limiting cannabis production in the ALR to soil based production only, and
- Jaye Bryan, in support of soil-based food production, and food security for the current population and future generations

Council then received a presentation from Chris Hutton, Community Planning Coordinator introducing the proposed amendment.

The Mayor called for submissions from members of the public for a first time, waiting for 30 seconds to allow for people to call in through the teleconference number provided on the screen. No one wished to speak to the application.

The Mayor called for submissions from the public for a second and final time. No one wished to speak to the application.

Mayor Siebring closed the public hearing for Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Production in the Agricultural Land Reserve), 2020, No. 3797 at 6:16 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 6:16 p.m.

**15. PUBLIC HEARING BYLAW FOR CONSIDERATION**

**15.1 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Production in the Agricultural Land Reserve), 2020, No. 3797**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council give third reading to "Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Cannabis Production in the Agricultural Land Reserve), 2020" No. 3797. CARRIED

**16. QUESTION PERIOD**

Mayor Siebring called for a recess at 6:17 p.m. to allow viewers to submit questions via email on the matters discussed during the meeting. One submission was received when the meeting reconvened at 6:27 p.m. As it was not in relation to a matter discussed during the meeting, the Mayor stated that it would not be read out and advised the sender to submit a freedom of information request.

**17. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**18. RISE AND REPORT**

None.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:  
That Council adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

CARRIED

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Certified by Corporate Officer

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Signed by Mayor