

Municipality of North Cowichan Regular Council MINUTES

**November 4, 2020, 1:30 p.m.
Electronically**

Members Present Mayor Al Siebring
 Councillor Rob Douglas
 Councillor Christopher Justice
 Councillor Tek Manhas
 Councillor Kate Marsh
 Councillor Rosalie Sawrie
 Councillor Debra Toporowski arrived at 2:08 p.m.

Staff Present Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (D/CAO)
 Mark Frame, General Manager, Financial and Protective Services
 David Conway, Director, Engineering
 Don Stewart, Director, Parks and Recreation
 Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building
 Shawn Cator, Director, Operations
 George Farkas, Director, Human Resources and Corporate Planning
 Jason Birch, Chief Information Officer
 Megan Jordan, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement
 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

2.1 Consent Agenda

Consent agenda item 1.1 [Email from Crofton resident, regarding Fireworks in Crofton] was removed from the Consent agenda and will be considered separately under New Business.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the Consent Agenda be approved:

1. That the following correspondence is received for information purposes only:
 - 1.1 Email from A Crofton resident, re: Fireworks in Crofton
 - 1.2 Email from Endangered Ecosystem Alliance, re: BC Old-Growth Forests
 - 1.3 Email from Maple Bay resident re: OCP & Community Outreach
 - 1.4 Email re: 2020 Report Measuring the benefits of BC's Community Forests

- 1.5 Email from a North Cowichan resident, re: UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 1.6 Email re: Support for Forest Preservation. ADOPTED ON CONSENT

2.2 Regular Agenda

Consent Agenda item 1.1. [Email from Crofton resident, regarding Fireworks in Crofton] was added under New Business.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council and Public Hearings meeting held October 21, 2020 for adoption

3.2 Special Council meeting held October 26, 2020 for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council adopt the minutes of the Regular Council and Public Hearings meeting held October 21, 2020 and the Special Council meeting held October 26, 2020. CARRIED

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Siebring announced that North Cowichan has been awarded \$4.4 million from the Safe Restart Agreement from the federal government, and that Cowichan Tribes has just received notice that they are receiving \$24 million from the federal government to invest in the Cowichan River.

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Cowichan Neighbourhood House Association

Cucilia-Ann Crocker and Arlene Robinson from Cowichan Neighbourhood House Association requested that Council consider providing financial assistance by purchasing a permanent place to house Cowichan Neighbourhood House and then leasing the property to them, or by acting as a guarantor for a purchase initiative by the Neighbourhood House Association.

6. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received one submission via email prior to the meeting regarding Consent Agenda item 1.1 [Email from Crofton resident, regarding Fireworks in Crofton]. The content of the submission and Consent Agenda item were discussed under New Business.

7. BYLAWS

7.1 Temporary Borrowing Bylaw (RCMP Facility) No. 3802 for first 3 readings

Councillor Toporowski joined the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council give first, second and third readings to Temporary Borrowing Bylaw (RCMP Facility) No. 3802, 2020. CARRIED

7.2 Housing Agreement Bylaw for Affordable Housing at Willow Street and Sherman Road

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That consideration of the motion to give first three readings to Housing Agreement Bylaw 2020, No. 3805 be postponed until the next meeting.

(Opposed: Siebring, Justice, Toporowski, Douglas, Marsh, Sawrie)

DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council gives first, second and third readings to Housing Agreement Bylaw 2020, No. 3805.

(Opposed: Manhas)

CARRIED

8. REPORTS

8.1 Third Quarter Financial Report

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council accept the November 4, 2020 3rd Quarter Financial Report prepared by the Manager of Budget and Infrastructure.

CARRIED

9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

9.1 Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Justice regarding Biodiversity Protection

Councillor Justice introduced the following motion which he intends to move at the November 18, 2020 regular meeting for debate and consideration by Council:

"Whereas it is council's intention to develop a biodiversity protection strategy in 2021;

And Whereas biodiversity protection strategies developed in some neighbouring communities have land use components such as preservation of habitat areas and ensuring connectivity between habitat areas;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council directs that our planning staff communicate to the OCP consultants (Modus) that protection of our rare ecosystems and the species that inhabit them is a priority of Council and that this should be a strong consideration in the formulation of our OCP's land use policy."

10. UNFINISHED AND POSTPONED BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Consent Agenda Item 1.1 [Email from Crofton resident, regarding Fireworks in Crofton]

Council discussed the matter fireworks in Crofton and noted that revisions to the bylaw are underway and that a report will be coming to a future meeting.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

Mayor Siebring called for a recess at 2:51 p.m. to allow viewers to submit questions via email on the matters discussed during the meeting. No questions had been submitted when the meeting reconvened at 3:01 p.m.

13. CLOSED SESSION

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council close the November 4, 2020 Regular Council meeting at 3:01 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)(k) - negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public; and
 - 90(1)(m) - a matter that, under another enactment, that being section 16(1)(a)(iii) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* related to intergovernmental relations or negotiations with an aboriginal government, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.
- CARRIED

14. RISE AND REPORT

Council rose and reported on the following items:

13.3 First Nations Relations Committee Terms of Reference

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council amend the First Nations Relations Committee Terms of Reference by removing the word "over" from the first sentence in the Preamble, and by removing clause 2.0 (2) in its entirety;

And That Council adopt the First Nations Relations Committee Terms of Reference as amended.

CARRIED

13.4 Process for Reviewing Road Name Change Requests

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council direct staff to arrange a meeting with Larry George, Land & Self Governance Director and an elder of his recommendation, to continue discussions on road names.

CARRIED

13.6 First Nations Cultural Training

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council direct staff to bring forward First Nations Cultural Training information (for Council and senior staff) to the upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting where professional development will be discussed.

CARRIED

13.8 Regional Community to Community Forum Program Funding - Elders Meeting

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That Council authorize staff to apply for funding for upcoming regional community to community forum meetings.

CARRIED

15. ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor