

# **Municipality of North Cowichan**

## **Regular Council**

### **MINUTES**

**February 1, 2023, 5:00 p.m.**

**Municipal Hall - Council Chambers & Electronically**

Members Present	Mayor Rob Douglas Councillor Mike Caljouw Councillor Bruce Findlay Councillor Chris Istace Councillor Christopher Justice Councillor Tek Manhas Councillor Debra Toporowski
Staff Present	Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) George Farkas, General Manager, Planning, Development and Community Services Alyssa Meiner, Information Management Office Barb Floden, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement Chris Osborne, Manager, Planning Clay Reitsma, Director, Engineering David Conway, Director, Engineering Projects Heather Power, Legislative Coordinator Marla Laycock, Director, Human Resources and Health & Safety Michelle Martineau, Corporate Officer Neil Pukesh, Director, Parks and Recreation Rob Conway, Director, Planning and Building Shawn Cator, Director, Operations Walter Wiebe, Senior Manager, Financial Services

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, Mayor Douglas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

An error in the regular minutes was noted [delegation name should be Paul Gowland] prior to adoption of Consent Agenda.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council approve the Consent Agenda and the recommendations contained therein.

CARRIED

#### **2.1 Items for decision**

##### **2.1.1 Council Meeting Minutes for Adoption**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council adopt the minutes of their special, regular and public hearings meetings held January 18, 2023.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**2.2 Items for information**

**2.2.1 Our Health Our Community Survey: MNC Suggested Questions Submission**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council receive for information the February 1, 2023 report from the  
Manager of Planning.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**2.2.2 Public comments Re: Proposed motion to amend the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB)**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council receive for information the submissions from the public regarding  
Agenda Item 11.1.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

The agenda order was amended as follows:

- (1) Item 8.1 [4th Quarter Report for RCMP Activities] was brought forward so that it would come immediately before Delegations; and,
- (2) Item 11.1 [Urban Containment Boundary – 24 month Amnesty] was brought forward so that it would come immediately after Public Input.
- (3) Item 4 [Mayors Report] was deferred to immediately follow Bylaws.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

Councillor Findlay joined the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

**4. MAYOR'S REPORT**

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

**5. DELEGATIONS**

**5.1 Cowichan Trail Stewardship Society Re: Parks and Trails Master Plan**

Rick Martinson, on behalf of the Cowichan Trail Stewardship Society, provided a presentation to Council regarding the Society's request for an adjustment to the Parks and Trails Master Plan.

**5.2 Townsite Planning Re: Proposed motion to amend the Urban Containment Boundary**

Scott Mack, on behalf of Townsite Planning Inc., provided a presentation to Council regarding their support of the motion that Councillor Findlay brought forward [Agenda Item 11.1], regarding an amnesty period for landowners who had their properties removed from the Urban Containment Boundary in the new OCP, including his clients rezoning application for 1771 Robert Street in Crofton.

**6. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council suspend the rules to wave the limit on the number of speakers and extend the time limit for Public Input to 45 minutes in total to allow as many people as possible an opportunity to be heard.

CARRIED

Council received public input from 14 members (11 in-person from Council Chambers and 3 virtually) of the public regarding agenda items 5.1 and 11.1.

Council, by unanimous consent, recessed the meeting at 6:50 p.m. and reconvened at 7:01 p.m.

**7. BYLAWS**

None.

**8. REPORTS**

**8.1 4th Quarter Report for RCMP Activities**

Inspector Chris Bear presented the North Cowichan/Duncan RCMP Detachment's quarterly report for October - December 2022, the Cowichan Community Policing & Engagement society quarterly report September to December 2022, and the Downtown Corridor and Area January to December 2022 annual review, and responded to questions from Council.

**8.2 Curbside Automation Implementation Plan – Cart Size**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the meeting be extended to 9:00 p.m.

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT staff be directed to provide households with a choice of garbage cart sizes (i.e. 80, 120, and 240 liters), with 80 liters as default, and a size-based pricing structure designed to provide a financial incentive to go with the smallest 80 liter option - an incentive supported by higher pricing for the larger cart options, with the goal of reducing the amount of garbage waste.

(Opposed: Manhas)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council:

- (1) Authorize staff to proceed with the Automated Curbside Collection Implementation Phase one Plan in 2025, including the purchase of four fully automated trucks (three diesel and one electric truck);
- (2) Direct staff to increase the garbage fee in 2023 from \$125 per year to \$183 for phase one of the Automated Collection Program; and,
- (3) Allocate \$110,000 to cover the electric premium for the electric fully automated truck from the Climate Action and Energy Plan Corporate Reserve Fund; and,
- (4) Allocate up to \$250,000 on electrical upgrades and one level three charging station from the Climate Action and Energy Plan Corporate Reserve Fund and Local Government Climate Action Program grant.

(Opposed Findlay, Manhas)

CARRIED

**8.3 Amendment to Consent Agenda Policy**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council amend the Consent Agenda Policy by inserting "With the exception of author name" before "all personal information shall be redacted" in section 4.4. CARRIED

**9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

None.

**10. UNFINISHED AND POSTPONED BUSINESS**

None.

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**11.1 Urban Containment Boundary – 24 month Amnesty**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT Council provide a 24-month "amnesty" period for all owners whose properties were excluded from the revised Urban Containment Boundary (UCB) included in the Official Community Plan, in order for those property owners to provide notice to North Cowichan staff of their intention to proceed with their property development options, which had been available to them prior to the UCB change.

(Opposed: Douglas, Istace, Justice and Toporowski)

DEFEATED

**12. QUESTION PERIOD**

Council received 1 question from the public regarding agenda items.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

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Certified by Corporate Officer

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Signed by Mayor