

Municipality of North Cowichan

Committee of the Whole

MINUTES

November 7, 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
Talitha Soldera, General Manager, Corporate Services
Heather Power, Legislative Coordinator
Marla Laycock, Director, Human Resources and Health & Safety
Neil Pukesh, Director, Parks and Recreation
Shawn Cator, Director, Operations
Teri Vetter, Director, Financial Services
Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes from the October 10, 2023 meeting for adoption

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the minutes of the meeting held October 10, 2023 be adopted, as circulated.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 BC Nature

Andrew Banks from Andrew Banks Consulting, and Kephra Becket from BC Nature informed Council on the Municipal Protected Areas Project (MPAP) and answered questions.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole direct staff to engage with BC Nature regarding the assessment of municipal owned protected areas for the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) and the registration of eligible areas and report back to Council.

(Opposed: Caljouw Findlay, Manhas)

CARRIED

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Council received public input from 3 the public regarding agenda 6.1.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 2024 Grant-in-Aid

Councillor Istace left the meeting at 6:03 p.m. and returned at 6:06 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Chemainus & District Chamber of Commerce for \$30,000.

(Opposed: Findlay, Manhas)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Chemainus BIA - Flags/Banners for \$2,000. (Opposed: Caljouw, Findlay, Manhas)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the following motion:

"THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the House of Grace Pregnancy Centre for \$3,500"

Be amended by striking out \$3,500 and replacing it with \$2,000.

(Opposed: Douglas, Justice)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the House of Grace Pregnancy Centre for \$2,000.

(Opposed: Douglas, Istace, Justice. Toporowski)

DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for NEED2 - Suicide prevention, education & support for \$2,500.

(Opposed: Caljouw, Findlay, Manhas)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Salish Sea Stones for \$3,000.

(Opposed: Findlay, Istace)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Take a Hike Foundation for \$1,500. (Opposed: Findlay, Manhas)

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the following motion:

"THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Maple Bay Community Association for \$4,570"

Be amended by striking out \$4,570 and replacing it with \$3,500.

(Opposed: Douglas, Findlay, Justice)

CARRIED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for Maple Bay Community Association - Canada Day for \$3,500. CARRIED

Councillor Manhas recused himself from the meeting during the discussion and vote regarding the grant in aid request from the Clements Centre for Families due to a conflict of interest, as his wife is employed by Clements Centre Society, and he left the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Clements Centre for Families for \$5,000. CARRIED

Councillor Manhas returned to the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve the following 2024 grant-in-aid amounts:

1. BC Forest Discovery Centre – BC Forest Museum \$25,000;
2. Chemainus Valley Historical Society \$8,500;
3. Cowichan Historical Society \$5,500;
4. Duncan Cowichan Chamber of Commerce \$34,000;
5. Cowichan Neighbourhood House Association \$38,600;
6. Chemainus BIA - Flower Baskets \$24,000;
7. Chemainus Theatre Festival Society \$20,000;
8. Chemainus Cemetery (St. Michael's and All Angels Church) \$1,000;
9. Chemainus Communities in Bloom \$7,000;
10. Cowichan - Bring Back Bluebirds (BCCF) \$2,000;
11. Cowichan Family Caregivers Support Society \$1,000;
12. Fosterkitters Feral Cat Rescue Society \$1,000;
13. Somenos Marsh Society \$950;
14. WildsafeBC (BCCF) \$3,000;
15. Chemainus Rotary Club (Summerfest Parade and Festivities) \$500;

16. Crofton Art Group \$2,000;
17. Somenos Community Association \$7,000;
18. Vimy Community Club (Hall) \$3,000;
19. Westholme School Society \$5,000; and
20. Cowichan Rugby Club \$5,000.

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve a 2024 grant-in-aid for the Cowichan Agricultural Society and Farmers' Institute for \$5,000 to be funded from the Agricultural Reserve.

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council deny the grant-in-aid requests from:

1. Chemainus BIA - Beautification: Repurpose fall baskets;
2. Chemainus Residents Association - Community Development; and
3. Cowichan Agricultural Society and Farmers' Institute.

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

Council received no questions from the public regarding agenda items.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor