

**MINUTES**  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE,  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
MONDAY, 2020-MAY-11, AT 12:00 P.M.

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- Present: Mayor L. Krog, Chair  
Councillor S. D. Armstrong (joined electronically, disconnected 3:27 p.m.)  
Councillor D. Bonner (joined electronically)  
Councillor T. Brown (joined electronically)  
Councillor B. Geselbracht (joined electronically)  
Councillor E. Hemmens (joined electronically)  
Councillor Z. Maartman  
Councillor I. W. Thorpe (joined electronically)  
Councillor J. Turley (joined electronically)
- Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer  
R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture (arrived 1:03 p.m.)  
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services (vacated 12:44 p.m., returned 2:08 p.m., vacated 3:28 p.m.)  
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works  
S. Legin, General Manager, Corporate Services  
Supt. C. Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP (arrived 1:16 p.m., vacated 2:10 p.m.)  
K. Fry, Fire Chief (arrived 12:06 p.m., vacated 12:30 p.m.)  
L. Mercer, Director, Finance  
W. Fulla, Manager, Business, Asset & Financial Planning  
F. Farrokhi, Manager, Communications  
T. Rey, Fleet Services Clerk (vacated 12:50 p.m.)  
D. Blackwood, Client Support Specialist (vacated 12:06 p.m.)  
S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services  
K. Robertson, Deputy City Clerk  
J. Vanderhoef, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Council Meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Add – Agenda Item 7(a) - Committee Recommendation and update wording of recommendation as follows:

“That Council approve the establishment of a Food Security Advocacy Group Sub-Committee and endorse the Food Security Working Group guidelines.”

- (b) Add – Agenda Item 8(h) – Potential Capital Projects Discussion

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Center, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2020-APR-27, at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Krog spoke regarding the following:

- Premier John Horgan's recent announcement regarding the Province's plan to open up BC
- May 5<sup>th</sup> announcement regarding the formation of the Mayor's Task Force on Recovery and Resilience
- The amount of planning involved in reopening facilities
- Union of BC Municipalities has been monitoring and assessing the impacts of COVID-19 on municipalities

K. Fry entered the Boardroom at 12:06 p.m.

D. Blackwood vacated the Boardroom at 12:06 p.m.

- New rubber safety surface for Maffeo-Sutton Park playground will be made from recycled scrap tire materials
- The Golden Bucket Contest will be back this year with a twist as participants will be searching for a Golden Bucket sticker with a scan code instead of a physical bucket
- Reminded residents to be safe on or near the water while enjoying the nice weather and provided some statistics about drowning incidents
- Reminded residents to continue social distancing as these practices have kept the number of COVID-19 cases low on Vancouver Island and referenced Premier John Horgan's recent announcement for guidelines

6. CONSENT ITEMS:

It was moved and seconded that the following items be adopted by consent:

(a) Committee Recommendations

1. Approval of Special Health and Housing Task Force Meeting Recommendation – 2020-MAY-06.
  1. Food Security Working Group Update and Review of Food Security Working Group Guidelines

That Council approve the establishment of a Food Security Advocacy Group Sub-Committee and endorse the Food Security Working Group guidelines.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORTS:

(a) 2020-2024 Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw

Introduced by Shelley Legin, General Manager, Corporate Services.

It was moved and seconded that “Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw 2020 No. 7307.01” (To amend the 2020 – 2024 Financial Plan), pass first reading. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

It was moved and seconded that “Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw 2020 No. 7307.01” pass second reading. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

It was moved and seconded that “Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw 2020 No. 7307.01” pass third reading. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

It was moved and seconded that “Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw 2020 No. 7307.01” be adopted. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

(b) 2020 Property Tax Rates Bylaw

Introduced by Shelley Legin, General Manager, Corporate Services.

It was moved and seconded that “Property Tax Rates Bylaw 2020 No. 7309” (To set the property tax rates for 2020) pass first reading. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

It was moved and seconded that “Property Tax Rates Bylaw 2020 No. 7309” pass second reading. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

It was moved and seconded that “Property Tax Rates Bylaw 2020 No. 7309” pass third reading. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

It was moved and seconded that “Property Tax Rates Bylaw 2020 No. 7309” be adopted. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Bonner and Turley*

(c) Internal Borrowing Resolution

Introduced by Laura Mercer, Director, Finance.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve additional internal borrowing from the Development Cost Charge (DCC) City Wide Drainage Reserve Fund in the amount of \$672,600 in 2020 to fund the Sanitary Sewer DCC project SS19: Millstone Trunk South, for a 20-year term at an interest rate of 2%. Repayment of the internal borrowing to be from sewer operations. The motion carried unanimously.

(d) Quarterly Purchasing Report (Single and Sole Source, Purchases in Excess of \$250,000 and Instances of Non-Compliance Purchases)

Introduced by Laura Mercer, Director, Finance.

(e) Automated Garbage Trucks - Equipment Financing

Introduced by Laura Mercer, Director, Finance.

It was moved and seconded that Council approve the borrowing of up to \$406,585 through the Municipal Finance Authority's (MFA) Equipment Financing Program to purchase one (1) additional automated garbage truck in 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Fry vacated the Boardroom at 12:30 p.m.

(f) Green Fleet Strategy

Introduced by Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works.

Presentation:

1. Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, provided a presentation regarding the Green Fleet Strategy. Highlights included the following:
  - In June, 2019 Council directed Staff to join the E3 Fleet
  - E3 Fleet is designed to reduce emissions through improved efficiency, and standards for continued improvement of the fleet
  - The City of Nanaimo is the only fleet on Vancouver Island that has an E3 Fleet rating and is rated as silver
  - Reviewed some of the initiatives taken so far such as: automated fuel management system, anti-idling policy, bio-diesel fuel, and hybrid and electric vehicles
  - Noted the decrease in diesel and gasoline usage between 2007 – 2018 and the reduction in green house gas and overall CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions

D. Lindsay vacated the Boardroom at 12:44 p.m.

It was moved and seconded that Council adopt the City of Nanaimo Green Fleet Strategy 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

T. Rey vacated the Boardroom at 12:50 p.m.

(g) Advocacy Framework

Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services, spoke regarding advocacy being conducted as a unit, tying items to the Strategic Plan, having the support of partners including Snuneymuxw First Nation (SFN) and the importance of a clear communication strategy.

A discussion period ensued. Highlights included the following:

- Crime rates and the judicial system
- Potential stake holders
- How to select topics and strategies
- Renaming the treatment centres topic to include health centres

R. Harding entered the Boardroom at 1:03 p.m.

- Topics being routed in current City plans and if possible provincial goals
- Health and Housing Task Force providing suggestions on advocacy topics

Supt. Miller entered the Boardroom at 1:16 p.m.

The Special Council Meeting recessed at 1:22 p.m.

The Special Council Meeting reconvened at 1:39 p.m.

Discussion continued as follows:

- The Health and Housing Task Force is focused on drug addiction and mental health, but there are citizens within the community facing homelessness for other reasons such as job loss, divorce, foreclosure, etc.

It was moved and seconded that Council adopt the Advocacy Framework as a tool for clearly and succinctly outlining future advocacy strategies. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Council refer the Advocacy Framework to the Health and Housing Task Force Working Group. The motion carried unanimously.

(h) Potential Capital Projects Discussion

Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer, noted the importance of having shovel-ready projects on hand to apply for government opportunities/funding as they come up.

A discussion period ensued. Highlights included the following:

- Waterfront Walkway as a potential future shovel-ready project
- Current state of the RCMP building

D. Lindsay returned to the Boardroom at 2:08 p.m.

Supt. Miller vacated the Boardroom at 2:10 p.m.

- Replacement of the Public Works building
- Potential uses for 575 Fitzwilliam Street property
- Including the Wakesiah Avenue Corridor project on the list
- Projects related to active transportation
- Packaging projects in a borrowing referendum
- Economic uncertainty following COVID-19
- Paul Manly, MP, has offered to promote City of Nanaimo shovel-ready projects to the federal government for potential financial support
- Terminal Nicol Reimagined Project

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to prepare briefing materials and an information report on the following capital projects for consideration of future potential stimulus progress and advocacy opportunities:

- Waterfront Walkway – Departure Bay
- South End Community Centre
- RCMP Facility
- Public Works Facility
- Fire Training Centre
- Terminal Nicol Reimagined; and
- Wakesiah Avenue Corridor

The motion carried unanimously.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION:

Mayor Krog spoke regarding correspondence that Council received from Mayor Linda Buchanan, City of North Vancouver, to Hon. David Eby, Q.C., requesting increased flexibility regarding liquor-licensing regulations around restaurants and patios.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Mayor Krog to write a letter in support of the City of North Vancouver's request to Hon. David Eby, Q.C. supporting businesses by making liquor licensing more flexible. The motion carried unanimously.

9. AGENDA PLANNING:

(a) Agenda Planning

Introduced by Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services.

A discussion period ensued. Highlights included the following:

- May 25<sup>th</sup> Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting will be a Special Council meeting potentially regarding MoESS if delegations can attend fairly and social distancing can be facilitated in the Shaw Auditorium

- Adding a discussion regarding homelessness and addiction to the Agenda Planning Document, with a date to be announced
- Staff requested moving the larger discussion regarding the Social Procurement topic from May 25<sup>th</sup> to June or early summer due to Staff workloads and COVID-19
- Transit and Crosswalk Safety topic being separated due to the impact that COVID-19 has had on transit systems
- Process for receiving proclamation requests through the Mayor's Office

Councillor Armstrong disconnected at 3:27 p.m.  
D. Lindsay vacated the Boardroom at 3:28 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:29 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER