

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE,
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC
MONDAY, 2022-APR-04, AT 4:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor L. Krog, Chair
Councillor S. D. Armstrong
Councillor D. Bonner (joined electronically)
Councillor T. Brown (joined electronically)
Councillor B. Geselbracht
Councillor E. Hemmens
Councillor Z. Maartman
Councillor I. W. Thorpe
Councillor J. Turley (joined electronically)

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services/Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
Supt. L. Fletcher, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP
T. Doyle, Fire Chief
J. Le Masurier, Deputy Fire Chief - Administration
B. Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development
L. Mercer, Director, Finance
J. Van Horne, Director, Human Resources
L. Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning
W. Fulla, Manager, Business Asset and Financial Planning
D. Laberge, Manager, Bylaw Services
T. Pan, Manager, Sustainability
M. Squire, Manager, Water Resources
T. Webb, Communications Consultant
C. Wood, Social Planner
S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
N. Sponaule, Legislative Communications Clerk
S. Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer
A. Mac Coll, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. PROCEDURAL MOTION TO PROCEED IN CAMERA:

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in order to deal with agenda items under the *Community Charter* Section 90(1):

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;

- (b) personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a municipal award or honour, or who has offered to provide a gift to the municipality on condition of anonymity;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (d) the security of property of the municipality;
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;
- (h) an administrative tribunal hearing or potential administrative tribunal hearing affecting the municipality, other than a hearing to be conducted by the Council or a delegate of Council;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under Section 21 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
- (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;
- (l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under Section 98 [*annual municipal report*];
- (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting;
- (o) the consideration of whether the authority under Section 91 [*other persons attending closed meetings*] should be exercised in relation to a Council meeting.

Community Charter Section 90(2):

- (b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party;

The motion carried unanimously.

Council moved In Camera at 4:00 p.m.

Council moved out of In Camera at 6:17 p.m.

Council recessed the Open Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Council reconvened the Open Meeting at 8:37 p.m.

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 following Minutes be adopted as circulated:

- Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2022-MAR-07, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Regular Council held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2022-MAR-21, at 5:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Krog spoke regarding:

- The Agents of Change grant fund of \$15,000 through International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) will be used in partnership with the Regional District of Nanaimo to fund a volunteer climate mitigation engagement program
- Shaw TV is exploring closed captioning for future Council meetings and advised the City of Nanaimo (City) not to proceed until viable options are provided
- A local resident, Karel Doruyter, generously presented a painting to the Staff from Public Works who had been working on the sanitary and sewer upgrade on Arrow Road
- Nanaimo Concert Band, the oldest concert band in Canada, is celebrating their 150th anniversary. In 1997 the band received an Excellence in Culture award and has now received recognition from the Provincial and Federal governments as well as from Buckingham Palace.
- Development Services approved 503 housing units in the first three months of 2022 for a total of \$120 million

6. PRESENTATIONS:

- (a) Merv Unger, Mikaela Torres, and Diane Brennan re: Welcoming Immigrants and Refugees to Nanaimo

Merv Unger, Mikaela Torres, and Diane Brennan, provided Council with a verbal presentation regarding welcoming immigrants and refugees to Nanaimo. Highlights included:

- 9,000 Ukrainian refugees will come to Canada in 2022 with an average of 50 refugees per year arriving in Nanaimo
- The Canadian Border Services Agency reported 3,000 Ukrainians have already arrived in Canada since 2022-FEB-24
- Many families will not want to return to Ukraine due to lack of infrastructure, support, and trauma

- Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society (CVIMS) provides services for immigrants such as temporary housing, language, and employment
- CVIMS submitted a successful proposal to Citizenship Canada and is now a resettlement designation in Canada
- CVIMS requested that the welcome reception hosted by the City and CVIMS at Vancouver Island Conference Centre be restored
- CVIMS is requesting that the City to sponsor the welcome reception in 2022 and provide a certificate of welcome from the City to each new immigrant and refugee

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to prepare a report for the 2022-APR-20 Finance and Audit Committee meeting outlining options to host an immigrant welcome reception. The motion carried unanimously.

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES:

The following Committee Minutes were received:

- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel meeting held electronically on Thursday, 2021-NOV-25, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Special Mayor's Leaders' Table Meeting held electronically on Friday, 2021-DEC-03, at 9:03 a.m.
- Minutes from the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically on Thursday, 2021-DEC-09, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically on Thursday, 2022-JAN-13, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held electronically on Wednesday, 2022-JAN-26, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically on Thursday, 2022-JAN-27, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically on Thursday, 2022-FEB-10, at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness held electronically on Wednesday, 2022-FEB-23, at 3:58 p.m.
- Minutes of the Special Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2022-FEB-28, at 2:00 p.m.

8. DELEGATIONS:

(a) Kathy Barnard re: Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness

Kathy Barnard, Save Your Skin Foundation, provided Council with a verbal presentation to raise awareness that May is melanoma/skin cancer awareness month. The Save Your Skin foundation was founded in 2006 as a not for profit to provide support for survivors and through education, advocacy, and awareness initiatives. Examples of support include paying for expenses, taxis, food, accommodation, and ferry costs. Skin cancer is the most common of all cancers with 1 in 6 Canadians getting it in their lifetimes and it is most commonly found in Canadians aged 15-29.

9. REPORTS:

(a) State of the Nanaimo Economy

Introduced by Bill Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development.

Presentation:

1. Amrit Manhas, Economic Development Officer. Highlights included:

- The State full of Economy report is on the Invest Nanaimo website
- 2021 was trending upwards with signs of optimism and recovery with COVID-19 restrictions being lifted
- Nanaimo is one of the top 5 fastest growing urban centres in Canada with a growth rate twice as fast as the rest of Canada
- International migration is the main source of growth in British Columbia each year
- Largest growth of business licences in Nanaimo were in the health care, social services and retail sectors
- 2021 building permits had a value of \$272 million
- New housing starts in Nanaimo increased by 50%
- Lower interest rates enticed residents to enter into the housing market
- In 2021 there was an increase of overall of housing units available for seniors
- Factors contributing to labour shortages included a slow in migration, reluctance to return to work, government and financial supports available, and former workers opting to change their career
- The average length of stay for visitors in Nanaimo was not included in the data received

(b) Agents of Change Project Application

Dale Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services/Deputy Chief Administrative Officer stated the City was successful in receiving the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives grant.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to participate in the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Canada's Agents of Change Project and receive \$15,000 in funding to support running a volunteer climate mitigation engagement program in partnership with the Regional District of Nanaimo.
The motion carried unanimously.

(c) 2022 Strengthening Communities Services Program

Introduced by Laura Mercer, Director, Finance.

Councillor Armstrong vacated the Shaw Auditorium at 8:18 p.m. declaring a conflict of interest due to being a consultant for Hulit Lelum.

It was moved and seconded that Council endorse an application to the 2022 Strengthening Communities Services Program to fund and provide overall grant management for the following projects:

- Extreme Weather Shelter and Support Program;
- Food Security and Breakfast Program;
- Snuneymuxw Hulit Lelum's Homeless Outreach Team Support; and,
- Community Policing Volunteer (CPV) Program Support.

The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Armstrong returned to the Shaw Auditorium at 8:20 p.m.

(d) Mid-Town Water Supply Project - Phasing Option

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

It was moved and seconded that Council approve:

- Amending the phasing of the water utility portion of the Mid-Town Water Supply Project and increase the budget from \$30,311,239 in 2022 and 2023 to \$44,585,500 in 2022 through 2025 in the 2022-2026 Financial Plan funded from Water Reserves.
- Adding a culvert upgrade project in the amount of \$55,183 that is associated with the Mid-Town Water Supply Project funded from the General Capital Reserve to the 2022-2026 Financial Plan.
- Amending the water projects in the 2022-2026 Financial Plan, as outlined in Attachment A.

The motion carried unanimously.

(e) Council Resolutions Update

Introduced by Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services. Highlights included:

- Council at regular council meetings make resolutions to move forward with the business of the City of Nanaimo
- The challenges of the pandemic and the high percentage of resolutions and action plans being completed

10. BYLAWS:

(a) "Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2021 No. 4500.195"

It was moved and seconded that "Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2021 No. 4500.195" (To amend the Local Service Centre [CC1] zone to allow a liquor store as a site-specific use at 6201 Blueback Road) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) “Parks, Recreation and Culture Regulation Bylaw 2022 No. 7340”

It was moved and seconded that “Parks, Recreation and Culture Regulation Bylaw 2022 No. 7340” (A bylaw to regulate parks, recreation & culture services and facilities within the City of Nanaimo) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

(c) “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2022 No. 7336.01”

It was moved and seconded that “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2022 No. 7336.01” (A bylaw to add the existing parks, recreation & culture fees and charges to the Fees and Charges Bylaw) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

(d) “Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw 2021 No. 7159.16”

It was moved and seconded that “Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw 2022 No. 7159.16” (A bylaw to add the fines associated with the new Parks, Recreation & Culture Regulation Bylaw) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

(e) “Housing Agreement Repeal Bylaw 2022 No. 7344”

It was moved and seconded that that “Housing Agreement Repeal Bylaw 2022 No. 7344” (A bylaw to repeal Housing Agreement Bylaw 2016 No. 7226 for 416 Wakesiah Avenue) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

11. QUESTION PERIOD:

There were no members of the public in attendance to ask questions.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 8:37 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CHAIR

DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER