



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday, January 20, 2025, 4:00 p.m.  
Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre  
80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC

- Members:**
- Mayor L. Krog, Chair (vacated at 9:48 p.m., returned at 9:49 p.m.)
  - Councillor S. Armstrong
  - Councillor H. Eastmure
  - Councillor B. Geselbracht\* (joined at 4:05 p.m.)
  - Councillor E. Hemmens
  - Councillor P. Manly (arrived at 7:00 p.m.)
  - Councillor J. Perrino (vacated at 9:48 p.m., returned at 9:49 p.m.)
  - Councillor I. Thorpe
- Absent:**
- Councillor T. Brown
- Staff:**
- L. Mercer, General Manager, Corporate Services/Acting Chief Administrative Officer
  - B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
  - L. Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development
  - S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
  - K. Robertson, Deputy Corporate Officer
  - A. Breen, Manager, Culture and Special Events
  - K. MacDonald, Manager, Parks Operations
  - N. Skeels, Manager, Real Estate
  - K. Biegun, Planner
  - C. Horn, Planner
  - N. Sponaule, Communications Advisor
  - A. Chanakos, Steno, Legislative Services
  - L. Young, Recording Secretary

\* Denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by "Council Procedure Bylaw 2018 No. 7272"

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

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

**2. PROCEDURAL MOTION:**

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 part of a Council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (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;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations; and,
- (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.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Council moved out of In Camera at 5:09 p.m.

Council recessed the Open Meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Council reconvened the Open Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

- (a) Add Agenda Item 13(b) "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024, No. 4500.233".
- (b) Add Agenda Item 13(c) "Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2024, No. 7336.13".

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

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

**5. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:**

It was moved and seconded that the following Minutes be adopted as circulated:

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2024-DEC-16, at 4:30 p.m.

- (b) Minutes of the Special Council Meeting (Public Hearing) held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Thursday, 2024-DEC-19, at 7:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

**6. MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Krog advised of the following:

- Residents are encouraged to register for a MyCity account for 24-hour online access to City account information
- The City has opened a new year-round drop-in hub in partnership with community agencies that provides shelter, support, and safety. The Island Crisis Care Society will operate the hub in partnership with the Nanaimo Family Life Association
- The Marie Davidson BMX track has been recently refurbished and is now open for casual day use
- Noted closures related to Design Commercial Phase 1 and options for free 2-hour parking nearby
- Invited residents to experience the opening of the Luminous Paths: Nanaimo's 150 and Beyond from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on 2025-JAN-22 at Maffeo Sutton Park
- Noted the recent vandalism of the safety booms at the lower dam in Colliery Dam Park and asked citizens to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity
- The traffic lights at the new Bowen Road/Boxwood Road/Beban Parkway intersection will be activated on 2025-JAN-22, and the new crosswalks and intersection will be officially open

**7. RISE AND REPORT:**

- (a) Appointments to the Nanaimo Performing Arts Guild

The Mayor advised that at the In Camera portion of the 2024-DEC-16 Regular Council meeting, Council amended the Terms of Reference to expand membership from 8 to 10, and appointed the following members-at-large to the Nanaimo Performing Arts Guild, effective 2024-DEC-16, for a two-year term ending 2026-DEC-16, with the possibility to renew membership for one additional two-year term:

- Arlene Blundell, Holly Bright, Bonnie Catterson, Jason Friesen, Jacqui Kaese, Samantha Letourneau, Sara McLeod, Bill Miner, Gregory Segal, and Wendy Wearne

## 8. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) Freedom of the City Award to John Ruttan

Mayor Krog presented the Freedom of the City Award to John Ruttan.

The Regular Council Meeting recessed at 7:45 p.m.

The Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 7:58 p.m.

(b) Carly Pereboom, Executive Director, Tourism Nanaimo, re: Quarterly Update from Tourism Nanaimo

Carly Pereboom, Executive Director, Tourism Nanaimo, appeared before Council to provide a quarterly update, including the following:

- Key priorities for Tourism Nanaimo in Q1 2025 include: enhancing visitor experiences, strengthening accessibility, expanding sport and event tourism, boosting industry collaboration, and elevating Nanaimo's brand
- A Sport Tourism Coordinator was recently hired in order to build capacity to grow sport tourism in Nanaimo
- Tourism Nanaimo continues to collaborate with Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC), local hoteliers, and community groups
- Currently working on a platform that will track key indicators which will then be posted within an industry portal. This will allow for the City and industry partners to make data-driven decisions

(c) Colin Stansfield, Chief Executive Officer, Nanaimo Prosperity Corporation, re: Quarterly Update from the Nanaimo Prosperity Corporation

Colin Stansfield, Chief Executive Officer, Nanaimo Prosperity Corporation, appeared before Council to provide a quarterly update, including the following:

- In December 2024, the Nanaimo Prosperity Corporation (NPC) encouraged consumers to do their holiday shopping at local businesses in Nanaimo by promoting "Buy Local Week"
- Goals of the NPC for the next year include capacity building by onboarding additional staff and resources, shifting from start-up to mission delivery, and diversifying revenue by securing additional grants
- A Socio Economic Impact Study will be conducted in collaboration with Fair Care Alliance partners in order to assess the economic, social, and environmental impacts of the development of a Cardiac

Catheterization Lab and 600-bed patient tower in Nanaimo. The final report is expected to be completed late Spring 2025

- The NPC is implementing a Business Retention, Expansion, and Attraction (BREA) program in Q1 called the BREAKfast table. This will provide local businesses with opportunities to collaborate, share resources, and network

(d) John McCormick, Executive Director, Andrew Thornton, Research and Knowledge Mobilization Lead, and Willow Hills, Data Coordinator, Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization, re: Quarterly Update from the Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization

John McCormick, Executive Director; Andrew Thornton, Research and Knowledge Mobilization Lead; and Willow Hills, Data Coordinator, Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization, appeared before Council to provide a quarterly update, including the following:

- The Nanaimo Systems Planning Organization (SPO) and the Social Planning Department are drafting an addendum to the Health and Housing Action Plan (HHAP) in order to update the HHAP with current data
- Engaged in the Extreme Weather Response Program which is funded through BC Housing and implemented in partnership with Maranatha Church
- The SPO has been working closely with Snuneymuxw First Nation to draft a Housing Policy
- 2023 Point-in-Time (PIT) Homelessness Count and the By-Name List Blitz were completed to create meaningful data regarding homelessness in Nanaimo. Additionally, SPO staff digitized the Canadian Mental Health Association's Out Shop program data, which was contained in over 3,600 paper intake forms
- The SPO is looking for ways to identify individuals at risk of homelessness before they become homeless

**9. COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

The following Committee Minutes were received:

- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting, held electronically, on Thursday, 2023-OCT-12, at 5:03 p.m.

- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically, on Thursday, 2023-NOV-09, at 5:03 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically, on Thursday, 2023-NOV-23, at 5:08 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held electronically, on Thursday, 2023-DEC-14, at 4:30 p.m.
- Minutes of the Mayor's Leaders' Table Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Friday, 2024-JUN-14, at 8:31 a.m.
- Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2024-OCT-09, at 4:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2024-NOV-25, at 1:01 p.m.

**10. CONSENT ITEMS:**

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

Prior to the vote Councillor Hemmens requested that Agenda Item 10(a)(2) be removed to be voted on separately.

a. Public Safety Committee Meeting 2024-DEC-18

1. Nanaimo Restorative Justice Program Overview

That Council continue to advocate to the Provincial Government for funding for the Nanaimo Restorative Justice Program.

The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Separately Addressed Consent Items

1. Newcastle Community Association

It was moved and seconded that Council defer consideration of the following Consent Item to a future Council Meeting, until after a discussion at a future Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting regarding possible amendments to “Council Procedure Bylaw 2018 No. 7272”:

“That Council invite representatives of the Newcastle Community Association to attend the next Public Safety Committee Meeting to share their concerns regarding the impact of homelessness on residents and local businesses.”

The motion carried.

Opposed: *Mayor Krog*

**11. REPORTS:**

(a) False Alarm Regulation Bylaw

Karen Robertson, Deputy Corporate Officer, provided an overview of the report.

It was moved and seconded that “False Alarm Bylaw 2025, No. 7392” (a bylaw to reduce false alarms), pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “False Alarm Bylaw 2025, No. 7392”, pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “False Alarm Bylaw 2025, No. 7392”, pass third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7336.12” (a bylaw to add false alarm fees), pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7336.12”, pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7336.12”, pass third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7159.24” (a bylaw to add fines for false alarms), pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7159.24”, pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7159.24”, pass third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

The Regular Council Meeting recessed at 9:02 p.m.

The Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

(b) Development Variance Permit Application No. DVP469 - 395 Chesterlea Avenue

Introduced by Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development.

Mayor Krog requested that Council hear anyone wishing to speak with respect to Development Variance Permit No. DVP469 - 395 Chesterlea Avenue.

No one in attendance wished to speak with respect to Development Variance Permit No. DVP469 - 395 Chesterlea Avenue.

It was moved and seconded that Council issue Development Variance Permit No. DVP469 for a second storey addition to an existing accessory building at 395 Chesterlea Avenue with variances as outlined in the "Proposed Variances" section of the Staff Report titled "Development Variance Permit Application No. DVP469 - 395 Chesterlea Avenue", dated 2025-JAN-20. The motion carried unanimously.

(c) City Plan Review 2025

Introduced by Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development.

(d) Zoning Bylaw Review

Introduced by Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development.

Caleb Horn, Planner, provided an overview of the report.



(e) Woodgrove Area Plan Update

Introduced by Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development.

Kasia Biegun, Planner, provided an overview of the report.

(f) Tenant Protections Project

Introduced by Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development.

(g) 933 Park Avenue Concept Plan

Introduced by Lisa Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning/Acting Director, Planning and Development.

Presentation:

1. Kirsty MacDonald, Manager, Parks Operations, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:

- This project is the culmination of many years of work
- The vision for the site at 933 Park Avenue is to open up the site with a main trail to adjacent streets and provide a loop to lead visitors to the site

It was moved and seconded that Council endorse the Concept Plan for 933 Park Avenue as a long-term site vision, as outlined in Attachment A of the report titled “933 Park Avenue Concept Plan”, dated 2025-JAN-20. The motion carried unanimously.

(h) Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage - Community Anniversaries Program

Introduced by Adrienne Breen, Manager, Culture and Special Events.

**12. BYLAWS:**

(a) “Financial Plan Bylaw 2024, No. 7389”

It was moved and seconded that “Financial Plan Bylaw 2024, No. 7389” (to confirm and adopt the 2025 – 2029 Financial Plan) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Perrino vacated the Shaw Auditorium at 9:48 p.m. declaring a conflict of interest as she owns a short-term rental property.

Mayor Krog vacated the Shaw Auditorium at 9:48 p.m. declaring a conflict of interest as a family member operates a short-term rental.

Councillor Hemmens assumed the Chair at 9:48 p.m.

(b) “Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 4500.233”

It was moved and seconded that “Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024, No. 4500.233” (a bylaw to amend the short-term rental regulations) be adopted. The motion carried.

*Opposed: Councillor Armstrong*

Mayor Krog and Councillor Perrino returned to the Shaw Auditorium at 9:49 p.m. and Mayor Krog resumed the Chair.

(c) “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2024, No. 7336.13”

It was moved and seconded that “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2024, No. 7336.13” (a bylaw to add fees and charges for the Finance Department) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

**13. CORRESPONDENCE:**

(a) Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of British Columbia Request for Letter of Support re: PROJECT HOPE

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Society of British Columbia, for the PROJECT HOPE initiative. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) World Leisure Centre of Excellence at Vancouver Island University Request for Letter of Support re: World Leisure Congress 2028

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the World Leisure Centre of Excellence at Vancouver Island University, for their application to the World Leisure Organization to host the 2028 World Leisure Congress. The motion carried unanimously.

**14. QUESTION PERIOD:**

Council received two questions from the public regarding agenda items.

**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved and seconded at 9:53 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

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MAYOR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER