



MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 7, 2025, 4:30 P.M.
Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre
80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC

- Members:
- Mayor L. Krog, Chair
 - Councillor S. Armstrong
 - Councillor T. Brown (arrived at 4:39 p.m.)
 - Councillor H. Eastmure
 - Councillor B. Geselbracht
 - Councillor E. Hemmens
 - Councillor P. Manly*
 - Councillor J. Perrino
 - Councillor I. Thorpe
- Staff:
- D. Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer
 - L. Mercer, General Manager, Corporate Services
 - B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
 - S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
 - J. Holm, Director, Planning and Development
 - D. Osborne, Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture
 - M. Bryson, Deputy Director, Civic Facilities
 - D. Thompson, Manager, Roads and Traffic Services
 - C. Scholberg, Planner, Community Development
 - N. Sponaule, Communications Advisor
 - K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

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

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Agenda Item 2 Procedural Motion – Remove *Community Charter* Section (90)(2)(b)

3. 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 the 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;
- (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;
- (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; and,
- (n) the consideration of whether a Council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2).

The motion carried unanimously.

Council moved In Camera at 4:30 p.m.

Council moved out of In Camera at 5:44 p.m.

Council recessed the Open Meeting at 5:44 p.m.

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

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS (Continued):

- (b) Agenda Item 12(f) Covenant Amendment Application No. CA19 – 6340 McRobb Avenue – Add delegation from Scott Mack, Townsite Planning Inc.
- (c) Add Agenda Item 15(a) – Councillor Hemmens Notice of Motion re: The Distribution of New Supportive Housing Projects.

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 minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2025-MAR-17 at 5:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Krog advised of the following:

- The City of Nanaimo is seeking a volunteer for a member-at-large position on the Design Advisory Panel. The term for this positions is three years, and interested applicants are encouraged to review the Panel's mandate, objectives and meeting schedule on the City website. The deadline to submit an application is 2025-APR-11
- The Nanaimo Clippers will be facing the Cowichan Valley Capitals on 2025-APR-08. Mayor Krog has made a bet with Mayor Rob Douglas of North Cowichan that the Mayor of the losing team will wear the opponents Jersey at their next Council Meeting
- Encouraged all eligible residents to vote in the upcoming federal election on 2025-APR-28

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES:

The following committee minutes were received:

- 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-DEC-09 at 1:00 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-DEC-13 at 8:33 a.m.
- Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2025-JAN-08 at 4:00 p.m.

- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Thursday, 2025-FEB-13 at 5:01 p.m.
- Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2025-FEB-19 at 9:00 a.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Thursday, 2025-FEB-27 at 5:00 p.m.

8. **CONSENT ITEMS:**

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

Prior to the vote Councillor Thorpe requested that Agenda Item 10(b)(2) Loudon Park Improvements be removed to be voted on separately.

(a) Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness 2025-MAR-12

1. Westwood Lake Park Accessible Wayfinding Signage

That Council endorse blue as the colour palette for Westwood Lake Park wayfinding and signage as part of the Westwood Lake Park Amenity Improvements project.

(b) Finance and Audit Committee Meeting 2025-MAR-19

1. 2024 Surplus Allocation

That Council approve the allocation of the 2024 operating surplus as follows:

1. General Fund

a. RCMP Contract Reserve	\$1,411,438
b. General Financial Stability Reserve	\$1,094,545
c. Special Initiatives Reserve	<u>\$5,290,000</u>
	<u>\$7,795,983</u>

2. Sewer Fund

a. Sewer Reserve	<u>\$342,240</u>
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(c) Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting 2025-MAR-24

1. City Plan Monitoring Engagement

That Council endorse in principle the proposed City Plan monitoring process as outlined in the Staff Report dated 2025-MAR-24.

The motion carried unanimously.

(d) Separately Addressed Consent Items

1. Loudon Park Improvements

That Council direct Staff to increase the budget by \$1,876,373 funded from the Special Initiatives Reserve to proceed with the alternate design for the Loudon Park improvements as outlined in the report titled "Loudon Park Improvements" dated 2025-MAR-19.

The motion was defeated.

Opposed: Mayor Krog and Councillors Armstrong, Brown, Perrino, Thorpe

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to increase the budget by \$6,169,373 funded by \$4,000,000 from the Special Initiatives Reserve and \$2,169,373 from the Strategic Infrastructure Reserve Fund to proceed with the current design for the Loudon Park improvements.

It was moved and seconded that the motion be deferred to a future meeting. The motion to defer was defeated.

Opposed: Mayor Krog and Councillors Armstrong, Brown, Hemmens, Perrino and Thorpe

The vote was taken on the main motion as follows:

That Council direct Staff to increase the budget by \$6,169,373 funded by \$4,000,000 from the Special Initiatives Reserve and \$2,169,373 from the Strategic Infrastructure Reserve Fund to proceed with the current design for the Loudon Park improvements.

The motion carried.

Opposed: Councillors Eastmure, Geselbracht, Hemmens and Manly

9. DELEGATIONS:

(a) Tod Maffin re: Nanaimo Tourist Event Update and Request for Assistance

Tod Maffin informed Council of an overwhelming response with international tourists registered to visit Nanaimo on 2025-APR-25. The delegation

requested the City's support in efforts to organize a group photo at Maffeo Sutton Park.

10. REPORTS:

(a) Heritage Alteration Permit - 35 Front Street

Introduced by Jeremy Holm, Director, Planning and Development.

It was moved and seconded that Council issue Heritage Alteration Permit No. HAP00031 to allow minor exterior alterations of the Nanaimo Court House building at 35 Front Street. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Miscellaneous Bylaws Repeal Bylaw

Introduced by Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services.

It was moved and seconded that "Miscellaneous Bylaws Repeal Bylaw 2025 No. 7352" (a bylaw to repeal outdated bylaws) pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that "Miscellaneous Bylaws Repeal Bylaw 2025 No. 7352" pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that "Miscellaneous Bylaws Repeal Bylaw 2025 No. 7352" pass third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

(c) Recycle BC Financial Projections 2025 Through 2029

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

David Thompson, Manager, Roads and Traffic, presented the financial projections for curbside recycling collection operations.

(d) Liquor Licence Application No. LA158 - Unit 201-70 Commercial Street

Introduced by Jeremy Holm, Director, Planning and Development.

It was moved and seconded that Council recommend that the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch approve the application for a liquor primary licence at Unit 201 – 70 Commercial Street. The motion carried unanimously.

(e) Development Permit Application No. DP1365 - 1810 Fremont Road

Introduced by Jeremy Holm, Director, Planning and Development.

It was moved and seconded that Council issue Development Permit No. DP1365 for an addition to an existing light industrial building at 1810 Fremont Road with

variances as outlined in the “Proposed Variances” section of the Staff Report dated 2025-APR-07. The motion carried unanimously.

(f) Covenant Amendment Application No. CA19 - 6340 McRobb Avenue

Introduced by Jeremy Holm, Director, Planning and Development.

Delegation:

1. Scott Mack, Townsite Planning Inc., spoke on behalf of the owner, regarding the application. They advised Council that the owner has become aware of an opportunity that would allow for one of the two buildings to be built as a purpose-built rental building. The delegation requested that Council consider waiving the requirement for a Public Hearing for the covenant amendment application.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to proceed with a Public Hearing for the proposed Covenant Amendment for 6340 McRobb Avenue. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillor Brown*

11. BYLAWS:

(a) “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2025, No. 7394”

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2025 No. 7394” (to secure the terms and conditions of occupancy for a residential shelter at 11 Dancer Road) be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

- (a) Correspondence dated 2025-MAR-20 from the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) re: Feedback Requested for Reforming the Local Government Act - A Roadmap
- (b) Correspondence dated 2025-MAR-24 from Island Rail Corporation re: Rebuilding Vancouver Island's Railway
- (c) Italian Society Felice Cavallotti Lodge Request for a Letter of Support re: Grant Application to Legacy Fund - Building Communities through Arts and Heritage

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Italian Society Felice Cavallotti Lodge for their grant application to Legacy Fund - Building Communities through Arts and Heritage. The motion carried unanimously.

- (d) Vancouver Island Exhibition Request for a Letter of Support re: Grant Application for the Destination Events Program Grant

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Vancouver Island Exhibition for their grant application to Destination Events Program Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

- (e) Nanaimo Equestrian Association Request for a Letter of Support re: Grant Application for the Destination Events Program Grant

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Nanaimo Equestrian Association for their grant application to Destination Events Program Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

- (f) Petroglyph Development Group Request for a Letter of Support re: the Proposed Cabin Project on Saysutshun Island

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to Petroglyph Development Group for their proposed cabin project on Saysutshun Island. The motion carried unanimously.

- (g) Wildcoast Ecological Society Request for a Letter of Support re: Grant Application for the Environment and Climate Change Canada EcoAction

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Wildcoast Ecological Society for their grant application to Environment and Climate Change Canada EcoAction. The motion carried unanimously.

- (h) Loyal Nanaimo Bathtub Society Request for a Letter of Support re: Grant Application to the Destination Events Program

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Loyal Nanaimo Bathtub Society for their grant application to the Destination Events Program Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

13. NOTICE OF MOTION:

- (a) Councillor Hemmens Notice of Motion re: The Distribution of New Supportive Housing Projects

Councillor Hemmens advised that she would be bringing forward the following notice of motion for consideration at a future Council Meeting:

“That Council direct Staff to include draft policy as part of the upcoming City Plan review to encourage the distribution of new supportive housing projects through the community.”

14. OTHER BUSINESS:

- (a) Request from Mayor Krog to send Correspondence to Ravi Parmar, MLA, Minister of Forests re: Future of Our Local Forest Industry

It was moved and second that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, send a letter to Ravi Parmar, MLA, Minister of Forests regarding "The Future of Our Local Forest Industry". The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Brown, Eastmure, Geselbracht and Manly*

- (b) Councillor Manly Motion re: City of Nanaimo and Regional District of Nanaimo Synergism re: Public Works Yard Upgrades

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to explore, as part of the City of Nanaimo's process to update the facilities at the Public Works Yard located at 2020 Labieux Road, synergies between the needs of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) and the City of Nanaimo, and report back to Council on how the Public Works Yard upgrades could assist the RDN with their transit related infrastructure and vehicle maintenance needs while reducing costs for both levels of government. The motion was defeated.

Opposed: *Mayor Krog, and Councillors Armstrong, Hemmens, Perrino and Thorpe*

- (c) Councillor Manly Motion re: Media's Usage of Electronic Devices during Meetings

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to prepare a report outlining options for an amendment to "Council Procedure Bylaw 2018 No. 7272" to include a certification process to provide accreditation to media representatives and independent journalists to permit the usage of electronic devices at the City of Nanaimo Council and Committee meetings for journalistic purposes. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Mayor Krog and Councillors Armstrong, Perrino and Thorpe*

11. BYLAWS: (Continued)

- (a) "Council Procedure Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2025 No. 7272.05"

It was moved and seconded that "Council Procedure Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7272.05" (a bylaw to include provisions associated with delegations, inappropriate behaviour, electronic devices and signs in Council and Committee meetings and minor housekeeping amendments) be adopted. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Armstrong and Eastmure*

(b) “Respectful Spaces Amendment Bylaw 2025 No. 7381.01”

It was moved and seconded that “Respectful Spaces Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7381.01” (a bylaw to include electronic devices and other housekeeping amendments) be adopted. The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Armstrong and Eastmure*

15. QUESTION PERIOD:

Council received four (4) questions from the public regarding agenda items.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 10:02 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER