

Municipality of North Cowichan

Regular Council

MINUTES

April 19, 2017, 1:30 p.m.
Municipal Hall - Council Chambers

Members Present Mayor Jon Lefebure
 Councillor Joyce Behnsen
 Councillor Rob Douglas
 Councillor Maeve Maguire
 Councillor Kate Marsh
 Councillor Al Siebring
 Councillor Tom Walker

Staff Present Mark Ruttan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
 Alyssa Meiner, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
 Scott Mack, Director of Development Services
 David Conway, Director of Engineering and Operations
 Ernie Mansueti, Director of Parks and Recreation
 Kyle Young, Assistant Manager of Planning and Subdivision
 Darrell Frank, Municipal Forester (from 2:17 p.m. to 2:36 p.m.)
 Natasha Horsman, Community Planning Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded:

That Council approve the agenda as amended to add 12.1 Conference Attendance, and 12.2 Update on Cowichan Estuary under New Business.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the following minutes:

1. April 5, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting,
2. April 5, 2017 Regular Council meeting as amended, and
3. April 10, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received no public input regarding agenda items from registered speakers.

5. PUBLIC MEETING

5.1 Development Variance Permit - Cassino Road

Council received a presentation from the Assistant Manager of Planning and Subdivision, regarding the proposed variance. Council then invited public input but no one came forward. Council heard briefly from the applicant before closing the public meeting.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council issue a development variance permit to Greenways Developments Ltd., for proposed Strata Lot 38, Plan EPS1773 (Phase 3), to vary section 80.4(5)(d) of the Zoning Bylaw, to increase the maximum lot coverage from 35% to 45%.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

6.1 RCMP Quarterly Report

Council heard from Inspector Ray Carfantan regarding North Cowichan/Duncan RCMP detachment's 1st Quarter (January through March 2017) activities and accomplishments and answered questions from Council. Inspector Carfantan suggested the restorative justice program be added to the annual performance plan.

6.2 Economic Development Cowichan

Council heard from Amy Melmock, Economic Development Manager, Cowichan Valley Regional District regarding the activities of Economic Development Cowichan, including: a new website (in progress), a labour and skills workshop, a technical study, an industrial land use study, a new film coordinator, the Cowichan Valley Regional District Agricultural Select Committee, a forestry study, and answered questions from Council.

7. BYLAWS

7.1 Bylaw 3652 - "Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2017"

Council heard that due to changes in property assessments, as discussed at the April 10, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting, a revision to the proposed bylaw is required.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council rescind third reading, and read a third time as amended, Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2017, No. 3652.

CARRIED

7.2 Bylaw 3653 - "Tax Rates Bylaw, 2017"

It was moved and seconded:

That Council read a first, second and third time Tax Rates Bylaw, 2017, No. 3653.

CARRIED

8. REPORTS

8.1 2016 Annual Forestry Report

Council heard from Darrell Frank, the Municipal Forester, regarding the 2016 Annual Forestry Report. Council received a summary of activities and accomplishments, noting that the forestry program generated over \$400,000 in profits. The Municipal Forester answered questions from Council and was thanked by Council for his work managing the municipal working forest. The Mayor presented a certificate to the Municipal Forester for his 30 years of dedicated service to the Municipality.

8.2 Emergency Management Agreement

It was moved and seconded:

That Council approve, and authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign, the five-year Emergency Management Agreement.

CARRIED

8.3 Weddings and Special Events in the Agricultural Land Reserve

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to develop a policy, regulatory and permitting framework for "gatherings for an event" in the Agricultural Land Reserve in conjunction with the strategic OCP review and new Zoning Bylaw.

CARRIED

8.4 Cowichan Watershed Board (Water Conservation Working Group)

Council heard from Councillor Marsh that the Water Conservation Working Group intends to put on three micro-irrigation workshops this summer for the public in the valley and that she will report back to Council following the workshops.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council grant \$1,500 from the Climate Action and Energy Plan Reserve Fund to the Water Conservation Working Group of the Cowichan Watershed Board to offset costs to provide public education irrigation water conservation workshops in the Spring of 2017.

CARRIED

8.5 Climate Action and Energy Plan and Official Community Plan

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to work with the Environmental Advisory Committee on clarifying the alignment between the Climate Action and Energy Plan goals and the Official Community Plan as part of the targeted review.

CARRIED

8.6 New Intake for Gas Tax Funding

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to apply to the Strategic Priority Fund for \$3,500,000 for the South End Water Trunk Main.

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to apply to the Strategic Priority Fund for \$2,500,000 for the Cowichan Aquatic Centre Renovation/Expansion.

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to apply to the Strategic Priority Fund for \$350,000 for the Asset Management and Long-term Infrastructure.

CARRIED

8.7 Council and Administrative Relations Protocol

Council clarified that it is understood that a Council member designated as Chair of the Committee can liaise, as necessary, with staff member(s) assigned for the Committee and agreed that section 8 (c) of the Protocol should be amended to replace "Council" with "they".

Councillor Siebring left the meeting at 2:59 p.m. and returned at 3:04 p.m.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the Council and Administrative Relations Protocol, as amended.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

Councillor Maguire left the meeting at 3:15 p.m. and returned at 3:16 p.m.

Council discussed the letter from the FCM and the value of assistance by FCM with cases of national importance.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council ask staff to prepare a report on this request for funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

(Opposed: Lefebure; Behnsen; Maguire; Marsh; Siebring)

DEFEATED

It was moved and seconded:

That Council contribute \$695.69 to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for the Legal Defence Fund.

(Opposed: Walker)

CARRIED

9.2 Cowichan Sportsplex Track Funding

It was moved and seconded:

That Council give pre-budget approval to grant \$175,000 to the Chesterfield Sports Society towards track renewal.

CARRIED

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

11. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Council reviewed, for information, the following Council committee minutes:

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee - March 28, 2017
2. Environmental Advisory Committee - March 30, 2017
3. Forestry Advisory Committee - April 5, 2017

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Conference Attendance

Council received a request from Councillor Marsh to attend a conference in Vancouver May 17 - 19, 2017. Council agreed that more information would be helpful and that this could be considered at the May 3, 2017 Council meeting.

12.2 Update on Cowichan Estuary

Council received an update from Mayor Lefebure regarding an application to rezone land in the Cowichan Estuary. Council heard this should not impact North Cowichan or Western Forest Products and the application will proceed to the Cowichan Estuary Committee, then to the CVRD Board and public hearing if it advances.

Councillor Marsh left the meeting at 3:35 p.m. and returned at 3:36 p.m.

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Council received no questions from the public regarding business considered at this meeting.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Council closed the meeting to the public at 3:38 p.m. on the basis of section (90) (1) (a) *[municipal appointment]*, (f) *[law enforcement]*, and (g) *[litigation or pending litigation]* of the *Community Charter*. Council rose and reported on the following:

14.1 Appointment of Acting Director of Corporate Services

It was moved and seconded:

That Council appoint Mary Beth MacKenzie as Acting Director of Corporate Services.

CARRIED

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 4:23 p.m.

Signed by Mayor

Certified by Corporate Officer