

Municipality of North Cowichan

Regular Council

MINUTES

March 6, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
Municipal Hall - Council Chambers

Members Present Mayor Al Siebring
 Councillor Rob Douglas (via teleconference). In person at 2:38 p.m.
 Councillor Christopher Justice
 Councillor Tek Manhas
 Councillor Kate Marsh
 Councillor Rosalie Sawrie
 Councillor Debra Toporowski

Staff Present Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Karen Robertson, Corporate Officer
 Jacqueline East, General Manager, Development and Engineering Services
 Mark Frame, General Manager, Financial and Protective Services
 Ernie Mansueti, General Manager, Community Services
 Sarah Nixon, General Manager, People and Business Services
 Rob Conway, Director of Planning

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the March 6, 2019 Regular Council meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

(For purposes of convenience, some items of business were dealt with out of order, but for ease of reading and cross reference with the agenda, these minutes are recorded in agenda order).

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the March 6, 2019 Regular Council agenda, as amended, to include the following:

- **Forest Advisory Committee recommendation regarding the proposed blowdown harvest plan summaries to be considered under New Business, item 10.1; and**
- **Proposed motion by Councillor Douglas regarding the Cowichan Estuary to be considered under New Business, item 10.2.**

And That Council's Policy be waived for this meeting to include additional speakers under the Public Input section to allow members of the public to speak to the late items.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the minutes of the following meetings:

- 1. Special Council held February 15, 2019;**
- 2. Special Council held February 20, 2019; and**
- 3. Regular Council held February 20, 2019.**

CARRIED

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Siebring gave a verbal report on meetings and activities he recently attended.

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received brief public input regarding agenda items from registered speakers.

6. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 DELEGATION: Judy Stafford, Executive Director, Cowichan Green Community

Judy Stafford presented a [video](#) which highlighted the Cowichan Green Community's projects and achievements for 2018. She then responded to questions about their programs and thanked Council for its grant contribution towards a Regional Grant in Aid, used to purchase a van which picks up and delivers food to various organizations throughout the Cowichan Valley.

6.2 DELEGATION: Nick Versteeg Re: Awareness of "A Just Society" film playing at the Cowichan Performing Arts Centre Re: Opioid Crisis on the Island

Nick Versteeg showed a short clip from a film that will be shown on March 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cowichan Performing Arts Centre regarding the opioid crisis on Vancouver Island. He invited all members of Council to attend the event and noted there would be a one hour panel discussion after the film.

Councillor Douglas entered the Council Chambers at 2:38 p.m.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Micro Cannabis Production Facility

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to bring forward a more fulsome report with the draft Zoning Amendment Bylaw to define micro cannabis production facility and add micro cannabis production facility as a permitted use in the C3 zone.

CARRIED

7.2 Stoney Hill Parking Improvements

It was moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to amend the Cowichan Valley Regional District Licence of Occupation to expand the Stoney Hill Parking up to 1.5 meters as outlined on the site map attached to the March 6, 2019 report by the General Manager of Community Services.

CARRIED

7.3 Council Strategic Plan 2019-2022

The CAO conveyed his appreciation to Council for embracing a Strategic Plan as its number one priority. He stated that the Strategic Plan is so important to an organization, and for staff, as it helps him to align the municipal operations to Council's plan and assist in the development of the budget process.

The Mayor then provided an overview of the Council Strategic Planning process to date, the highlights of the finalized plan, and the identified priorities.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the Council Strategic Plan 2019-2022 and direct staff to implement the Council Strategic Plan, as amended by Council from time to time.

CARRIED

7.4 Financial Plan and Capital Expenditure Plan for Bylaws

It was moved and seconded:

That Council endorse the 2019 – 2023 Financial Plan and adopt the tax rate of 3.2% for 2019 based on the higher levels of service noted in the March 6, 2019 report by the General Manager of Financial and Protective Services;

And That staff be directed to prepare the 2019 – 2023 Financial Plan bylaw for Council's consideration.

(Opposed: Douglas; Manhas)

CARRIED

8. BYLAWS

8.1 Bylaw 3733 - "Select Committees Repeal Bylaw, 2019" (adoption)

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt "Select Committees Repeal Bylaw, 2019," No. 3733.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Council Appointee to the CVRD's Sport Tourism Grant Committee

It was moved and seconded:

That Council appoint Councillor Manhas to the Cowichan Valley Regional District's Sport Tourism Grant Committee for the 2019 - 2022 Council Term.

CARRIED

By consensus, Council recessed the meeting for a short break at 4:52 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 5:00 p.m.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Forestry Advisory Committee Recommendation Re: Proposed Blowdown Harvest Plan Summaries

It was moved and seconded:

That Council endorse the proposed harvest plans as presented by the Municipal Forester, with direction to the Municipal Forester to incorporate the following feedback received from the Committee and implement on a site specific basis, where appropriate;

- **add to the harvest summaries “high stumps are to be retained where possible to enhance ecological properties within the harvest areas”;**
- **review the sensitive ecosystem assessment information from Stoney Hill when available and make appropriate changes and conduct further assessments should there be any overlap of the proposed harvest areas with identified sensitive ecosystems; and**
- **work with Cam Campbell to investigate the potential visual sensitivity of the proposed harvest areas in Stoney Hill;**

And That staff be directed to proceed with tendering contracts to complete the work as outlined in the Municipal Forester’s March 4, 2019 report.

CARRIED

10.2 Councillor Douglas Re: Proposed Motion Related to the Cowichan Estuary

It was moved and seconded:

That the Mayor be directed to write a letter on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan, to the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board, citing concerns with the proposed rezoning application in Area D – Cowichan Bay, which if approved, would allow marine manufacturing in the I3 zone;

And That because the marine manufacturing use could have an effect on the Cowichan Estuary, which is partially contained within North Cowichan’s boundaries, that the CVRD be requested to have an Environmental Impact Assessment conducted prior to the public hearing for this application.”

Amendment:

It was moved and seconded:

That the motion be amended to add: And That the CVRD consider postponing the public hearing until the Environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted and considered by the Board.

CARRIED

Main Motion as Amended:

It was moved and seconded:

That the Mayor be directed to write a letter on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan, to the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board, citing concerns with the proposed rezoning application in Area D – Cowichan Bay, which if approved, would allow marine manufacturing in the I3 zone;

And That because the marine manufacturing use could have an effect on the Cowichan Estuary, which is partially contained within North Cowichan's boundaries, that the CVRD be requested to have an Environmental Impact Assessment conducted prior to the public hearing for this application."

And That the CVRD consider postponing the public hearing until the Environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted and considered by the Board.

(Opposed: Siebring; Manhas)

CARRIED

11. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

12. RISE AND REPORT

The Mayor advised that the following motion was passed at the Special March 6, 2019 Closed Council meeting which took place earlier that day.

It was moved and seconded:

That staff be authorized and directed to appeal the decision of the Province to issue a permit to Coast Environmental facility which authorizes them to increase their processing capacity beyond their existing permit.

CARRIED

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Council received questions from the public regarding business considered at this meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adjourn the March 6, 2019 Regular Council meeting at 5:25 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor