

Municipality of North Cowichan

Regular Council

MINUTES

May 1, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
Municipal Hall - Maple Bay Meeting Room

Members Present Mayor Al Siebring
 Councillor Rob Douglas
 Councillor Christopher Justice
 Councillor Tek Manhas
 Councillor Kate Marsh
 Councillor Rosalie Sawrie
 Councillor Debra Toporowski (arrived 3:23 p.m.)

Staff Present Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 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
 Natasha Horsman, Manager, Communications and Strategic Initiatives
 Karen Robertson, Corporate Officer
 Matt O'Halloran, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the 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 May 1, 2019 Regular Council agenda, as amended, to include the following amendments:

- **A request by the Maple Bay Rowing Club for a letter of support as circulated on the addendum agenda (to be considered under Correspondence – item 9.1);**
- **A request by Councillor Sawrie to fly the Rainbow flag from May 14th through June 30th as circulated on the addendum agenda (to be considered under New Business – item 11.1); and**
- **To consider item 7.2 (Citizen Satisfaction Survey) prior to item 7.1 (Audited Financial Statements).**

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the minutes of the following meetings:

- 1. Special Council held April 17, 2019;**
- 2. Committee of the Whole held April 17, 2019; and**
- 3. Regular Council held April 17, 2019.**

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the Public Hearings and Public Meetings minutes held April 17, 2019, as amended, by replacing on item 4.1 Helen Sursdahl to Helen Schuckel.

CARRIED

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor gave a verbal report on meetings and activities he recently attended. The Mayor also congratulated CAO, Ted Swabey for recently being recognized to the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators for 15 years of service as a CAO.

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received brief public input regarding agenda items from the following registered speaker:

- Joyce Behnsen – spoke to item 7.1 (2018 Audited Financial Statements).

6. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 PRESENTATION: RCMP Quarterly Report

Council heard from Inspector Chris Bear regarding the North Cowichan/Duncan RCMP detachment's activities and accomplishments over the reporting period January through March 2019.

Council asked questions of Inspector Bear and thanked him for his presentation and work.

7. REPORTS

7.1 2018 Audited Financial Statements

It was moved and seconded:

That Council accept the 2018 Draft Audited Financial Statements and the 2018 Draft Audited Joint Utility Board Financial Statements.

CARRIED

7.2 2019 Citizen Satisfaction Survey - Draft Questionnaire Endorsement

The Manager of Communications and Strategic Initiatives provided a PowerPoint overview of the Citizen Satisfaction Survey project that Council directed staff to undertake in January, 2019. She outlined the survey method that would be undertaken and provided an overview of the survey questions.

Tim Chan, Vice-President of NRG Research Group provided an overview of the process for developing and conducting the citizen satisfaction survey and responded to questions from Council.

Council then reviewed the proposed survey questions in detail and referred to a document circulated by Councillor Justice which contained optional questions for Council's consideration.

It was moved and seconded:

That questions 26 and 27 as outlined in Appendix 1 to the Manager of Communications and Public Engagement's May 1, 2019 report be removed.

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That the contractors' staff who are conducting the survey be directed to collect contact information from the citizens who are interested in participating in forestry consultation generally.

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That question 25 as outlined in Appendix 1 to the Manager of Communications and Public Engagement's May 1, 2019 report be removed.

CARRIED

Mr. Chan left the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

It was moved and seconded:

That question 4 as outlined in Appendix 1 to the Manager of Communications and Public Engagement's May 1, 2019 report be removed and replaced with the following:

- **What do you feel are the most important challenges facing North Cowichan?**
- **If you had to pick only one issue for your local leaders to take action on, what would it be? Are there any other important issues you would like to see action on?**

(Opposed: Douglas; Justice)

CARRIED

Councillor Toporowski entered the Council Chambers at 3:23 p.m.

It was moved and seconded:

That the following questions noted as 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the document circulated by Councillor Justice be added to the survey:

- **What is your favourite thing about North Cowichan?**
- **If you could change one thing about North Cowichan to make it a better place to live, what would it be?**
- **In general, have you liked the changes to North Cowichan over the last 5-10 years? If yes, what specifically? If no, what specifically?**
- **North Cowichan's population (and housing) has been growing by about 1% per year. Would you prefer to see North Cowichan:**

- a) **Grow at a faster rate?**
- b) **Grown about the same rate?**
- c) **Grow at a slower rate?**
- d) **Not grow at all?**

(Opposed: Siebring)

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That questions 7 and 8 as outlined in Appendix 1 to the Manager of Communications and Public Engagement's May 1, 2019 report be removed.

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That the following questions as outlined on the document circulated by Councillor Justice be added under the "Demographics Section" of the survey:

- **How do you identify (gender)?**
- **What is your age?**
- **What is your annual income?**
- **How long have you lived in North Cowichan?**
- **How long do you see yourself staying in North Cowichan?**
- **How many people live in your household?**

It was moved and seconded:

That the motion be amended to include "subject to the additional demographic questions falling within the budget of \$20,000."

(Opposed: Douglas; Justice)

CARRIED

Main Motion as Amended:

That the following questions as outlined on the document circulated by Councillor Justice be added under the "Demographics Section" of the survey subject to the additional demographic questions falling within the budget of \$20,000:

- **How do you identify (gender)?**
- **What is your age?**
- **What is your annual income?**
- **How long have you lived in North Cowichan?**
- **How long do you see yourself staying in North Cowichan?**
- **How many people live in your household?**

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That question 12, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the Manager of Communications and Public Engagement's May 1, 2019 report be removed.

(Opposed: Siebring; Justice; Manhas; Marsh; Sawrie; Toporowski)

DEFEATED

Council, by consensus recessed the meeting for a 10 minute break at 3:50 p.m.

Council, by consensus resumed the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

7.3 Appointment to Island Savings Centre Commission

It was moved and seconded:

That Council repeal Councillor Marsh's appointment to the Island Savings Centre Commission and appoint Councillor Sawrie to the Island Savings Centre Commission.

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That Council appoint Councillor Marsh as Councillor Sawrie's alternate to the Island Savings Centre Commission.

CARRIED

8. BYLAWS

8.1 "Animal Responsibility Bylaw 3740, 2019"

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt "Animal Responsibility Bylaw No. 3740, 2019".

CARRIED

8.2 Bylaw 3747 "Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2019" and Bylaw 3749 "Tax Rates Bylaw, 2019"

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt "Bylaw 3747, Five-Year Financial Plan, 2019."

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt "Bylaw 3749, Tax Rates Bylaw, 2019."

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Request by the Maple Bay Rowing Club for a Letter in Support of Their 2019 Gaming Grant Application

It was moved and seconded:

That Council provide a letter of support to the Maple Bay Rowing Club for their 2019 Gaming Grant application.

CARRIED

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Request by Councillor Sawrie Re: Flying the Rainbow Flag From May 14th through June 30, 2019

It was moved and seconded:

That Council endorse the following resolution:

Whereas 50 years ago, on May 14, 1969, homosexuality was decriminalized in Canada through the Criminal Law Amendment Act which received royal assent on June 27, 1969;

And Whereas May 17th is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia and June is recognized as Pride month;

Therefore be it Resolved that the District of North Cowichan show its support for the LGBTQ2S+ community by flying the pride flag from May 14 – June 28, 2019 and from May 17 for the month of June thereafter.

It was moved and seconded:

That the motion be amended to remove “and from May 17 for the month of June thereafter.”

(Opposed: Justice; Manhas)

CARRIED

Main Motion as Amended:

That Council endorse the following resolution:

Whereas 50 years ago, on May 14, 1969, homosexuality was decriminalized in Canada through the Criminal Law Amendment Act which received royal assent on June 27, 1969;

And Whereas May 17th is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia and June is recognized as Pride month;

Therefore be it Resolved that the District of North Cowichan show its support for the LGBTQ2S+ community by flying the pride flag from May 14 – June 28, 2019.

(Opposed: Manhas)

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That staff be directed to prepare a report on establishing a flag policy.

CARRIED

12. QUESTION PERIOD

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

13. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved and seconded:

That Council close the May 1, 2019, Council meeting to the public on the basis of the following sections of the *Community Charter*:

- 1. 90(1)(a) - personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality;**
- 2. 90(1)(c) - labour relations or other employee relations; and**
- 3. 90(1)(g) - litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality.**

CARRIED

The open portion of the meeting concluded at 4:26 p.m.

14. RISE AND REPORT

Council rose, with report, on the following resolution which was passed at the closed portion of the meeting:

That Matthew O'Halloran be appointed as the person responsible for performing the duties of the Officer Assigned Responsibility for Corporate Administration for the District of North Cowichan, under Section 148 of the *Community Charter*, in the absence of the Corporate Officer.

15. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adjourn the May 1, 2019 Regular Council meeting at 7:11 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor