

Municipality of North Cowichan

Regular Council

MINUTES

May 15, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
Municipal Hall - Council Chambers

Members Present Mayor Al Siebring
 Councillor Rob Douglas
 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, Corporate Services
 Rob Conway, Director of Planning
 Natasha Horsman, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the May 15, 2019 Regular Council agenda, as amended, to include the following:

- **Letter dated May 10, 2019 from the Licence Inspectors' and Bylaw Officers' Association of BC re: request for financial contribution (to be considered under New Business – item 10.1); and**
- **Authorization for mileage reimbursement for any Council member wishing to attend the Regional Invasive Species Symposium in Victoria (to be considered under New Business – item 10.2).**

CARRIED

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt the following minutes:

1. **Special Council meeting held May 1, 2019;**

2. **Committee of the Whole meeting held May 1, 2019;**
3. **Regular Council meeting held May 1, 2019; and**
4. **Joint Committee of the Whole meeting held May 6, 2019.**

CARRIED

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

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

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Council received brief public input from 12 speakers regarding item 6.2 (community engagement on forestry activities and engagement in general). A letter addressed to Council was also presented that contained 639 signatures from North Cowichan and non North Cowichan citizens requesting public consultation on ecologically sensitive Stoney Hill prior to any trees being cut down or machinery brought in to extract trees or build roads, skid trails or landing areas.

6. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 DELEGATION: Jen Woike Re: Agricultural Setbacks for Ancillary Buildings

Ms. Woike was in attendance to request that Council consider amending its zoning bylaw to change the setback requirements for ancillary buildings on agricultural property. She noted that currently the setback requirements as outlined in North Cowichan's Zoning Bylaw are 46 meters (151 feet) and she would like to see these changed to 25 meters which falls between the 15 – 30 meter setbacks suggested by the Ministry of Agriculture.

It was moved and seconded:

That staff be directed to provide a report regarding a zoning amendment to change the setback requirements for ancillary buildings on agricultural property from 46 meters to 25 meters.

(Opposed: Douglas; Justice; Marsh)

CARRIED

6.2 PRESENTATION: Dr. Steven Sheppard from UBC Re: Community Engagement on Forest Activities and Engagement in General

Dr. Sheppard, who was invited by Council to speak about forest engagement and engagement generally, provided an overview about why community engagement provides value to forest management; his experience/approach to doing community engagement in other communities; what has worked/not working in his experience; and things Council should keep in mind as they embark upon community engagement related to North Cowichan's Municipal Forest Reserve. He highlighted the following:

- Why do community engagement and the practical reasons for public participation;
- The multiple values in forest management and how those values overlap;
- The importance of social processes;
- Legitimizing management decisions and outcomes on public land;
- What community engagement brings to forestry;

- Forest management scenarios;
- The importance of working with communities and local experts to plan for climate change impacts;
- The significance of fire-smarting and outlining it through fire-spread mapping;
- Public engagement planning (whom to involve, when to involve, what methods to use);
- Who are the stakeholders;
- An outline on a typical participatory planning process;
- The hierarchy of public involvement processes;
- The types of engagement tools used to seek public participation;
- What makes a good process;
- Common problems with public involvement;
- Options for North Cowichan to consider regarding engagement and planning;
- The need for active forest management; and
- The information needs of citizens.

He concluded his presentation by stressing the importance of seeking early input and the value of using visualization tools to help people better understand.

A full copy of Dr. Shepphard's PowerPoint presentation can be found on North Cowichan's website at www.northcowichan.ca

By consensus Council recessed the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

By consensus the meeting resumed at 4:00 p.m.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1 **Bylaw 3751 - Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Retail Cannabis Sales - 9750 Chemainus Road), 2019 - a bylaw to permit retail cannabis sales at 9750 Chemainus Road**

Councillor Manhas declared a conflict of interest as his employer has submitted a rezoning application for a retail cannabis store and left the Council Chambers at 4:03 p.m.

Councillor Toporowski declared a conflict of interest as Cowichan Tribes is a partner in rezoning application for a retail cannabis store and she is a Cowichan Tribes Council member and left the Council Chambers at 4:04 p.m.

It was moved and seconded:

That Council deny consideration of first reading of Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Retail Cannabis Sales - 9750 Chemainus Road), 2019 - Bylaw 3751 - a bylaw to permit cannabis retail sales at 9750 Chemainus Road.

(Opposed: Siebring; Justice)

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

That Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Retail Cannabis Sales – 9750 Chemainus Road), 2019 – Bylaw 3751 be abandoned.

CARRIED

Councillors Manhas and Toporowski returned to the Council Chambers at 4:22 p.m.

7.2 Cowichan Attainable Housing Strategy Endorsement

It was moved and seconded:

That Council endorse the Cowichan Attainable Housing Strategy, join the Cowichan Attainable Housing Strategy Partnership, and authorize the Mayor to sign the partnership declaration.

CARRIED

7.3 Municipal Ticket Information System Amendment Bylaw

It was moved and seconded:

That "Municipal Ticket Information System Amendment Bylaw No. 3750, 2019" be given first three readings.

CARRIED

8. BYLAWS

8.1 Bylaw 3746 - Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Micro Cannabis Production Facility), 2019"

It was moved and seconded:

That Council adopt "Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Micro Cannabis Production Facility), 2019 Bylaw 3746" - a bylaw to define and permit Micro Cannabis Production Facilities in the Commercial Service Zone (C3).

CARRIED

9. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

9.1 Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Douglas Re: Regional Growth Strategy

Councillor Douglas has requested that the following Notice of Motion be considered at the June 5, 2019 Council meeting:

"That the Mayor be directed to write the CVRD urging the Board to adopt a Regional Growth Strategy to prevent further urban sprawl."

9.2 Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Justice Re: Proclamations

Councillor Justice has requested that the following Notice of Motion be considered at the June 5, 2019 Council meeting:

"Whereas North Cowichan's proclamation policy is over 20 years old, and contains no rationale for not issuing proclamations;

And Whereas proclamations can help community groups draw attention to important events and causes;

And Whereas many other communities both large (Victoria and Vancouver) and small (Duncan and Campbell River) support proclamation requests and issue proclamations;

Therefore be it Resolved that staff be directed to prepare a report and recommendation on an updated policy related to receiving proclamation requests and issuing proclamations."

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Letter from the Licence Inspectors' and Bylaw Officers' Association BC Re: Request for a Financial Contribution

It was moved and seconded:

That Council receive the letter from the Licence Inspectors' and Bylaw Officers' Association of BC for information.

CARRIED

10.2 Regional Invasive Species Symposium on May 29, 2019 in Victoria, BC

It was moved and seconded:

That any Council member attending and driving to the May 29, 2019 Regional Invasive Species Symposium in Victoria, BC be authorized to receive mileage reimbursement.

CARRIED

11. QUESTION PERIOD

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

12. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved and seconded:

That Council close the May 15, 2019 Council meeting to the public on the basis of the following sections of the *Community Charter*:

- **90(1)(c) - labour relations or other employee relations;**
- **90(1)(e) - the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, that if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;**
- **90(1)(i) - the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and**
- **(90)(1)(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 Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.**

CARRIED

13. RISE AND REPORT

Council rose without reporting and ended the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor