

# Municipality of North Cowichan

## Special Council

### MINUTES

July 3, 2019, 6:00 p.m.  
Municipal Hall - Council Chambers

Members Present      Mayor Al Siebring  
                                 Councillor Rob Douglas (6:04 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)  
                                 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  
                                 Natasha Horsman, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement  
                                 Shaun Mason, Municipal Forester  
                                 Karen Robertson, Corporate Officer

#### 1.      **CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, Mayor Siebring called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### 2.      **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council approve the July 3, 2019 Special Council agenda as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

#### 3.      **PUBLIC INPUT**

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

#### 4.      **FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### 4.1      **June 17, 2019 Forest Advisory Committee Minutes (for information purposes)**

Council reviewed the minutes and asked questions of the Forest Advisory Committee Chair regarding the proposed harvesting plan for Osborne Bay Road and Babine Road.

**4.2 Harvest Plan Review - Blow Down on Osborne Bay Road**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council direct staff to proceed with Option 1 for Osborne Bay Road, as presented in the Municipal Forester's June 17, 2019 report, which supports the following harvest plan:**

- **Blow down only at an estimated volume of ~500m<sup>3</sup>.**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council table the vote on item 4.2 until after 5.1 and 5.2 have been considered.**

**CARRIED**

**5. BUSINESS**

**5.1 UBC/Conservation Partnership Group - Proposal for Collaboration with North Cowichan in an Operational Review of the Municipal Forest Reserve**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council support, in principle, North Cowichan collaborating with UBC, 3GreenTree Consulting, and the Coastal Douglas Fir Partnership to develop a sustainable forest management plan for implementation on January 1, 2022 to maximize the diverse values of the municipal forest to the community that includes the following:**

- a) Community input;**
- b) Council's future goals for management of the MFR;**
- c) A strategic level (long term) sustainable forest management plan;**
- d) An evaluation of existing inventory data with a focus of expanding and enhancing spatial data to accommodate multi-objective analyses to aid decision making and accommodate the priorities and values of a broad range of interests;**
- e) A multi-objective scenario analysis to be conducted using landscape-level planning tools. The calibrated planning tool(s) could also be made available to the Municipality of North Cowichan to facilitate additional future analyses;**
- f) Feasibility of undertaking a forest carbon project within the MFR;**
- g) Details on recommended harvest volumes, area managed using partial cutting approaches, assortments (log sizes and quality), harvest rotation, area of a specific desired habitat over time, area of a specific desired forest type over time, area managed for carbon, roads, and associated economies; and**
- h) that a maximum of \$75,000 be sole sourced from the Forest Reserve Fund to develop this plan; and**
- i) Explore the possibility of establishing spatially differentiated uses – forest land use zones – by either area or sub-area.**

**CARRIED**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council support, in principle, North Cowichan collaborating with UBC and the Coastal Douglas Fir Partnership, to develop an interim forestry management strategy for the estimated period between September 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021.**

**CARRIED**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council hire an engagement facilitator to assist with community input and to meet with UBC to confirm key documents to be developed, timelines, and information flow between the engagement and technical review processes.**

**CARRIED**

## **5.2 Next Steps on Engagement for the Municipal Forest Reserve**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council direct staff to prepare a RFP to seek facilitators to undertake two phases of engagement:**

- a) engagement on development of the interim forest management strategy for the estimated period between September 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021; and**
- b) engagement on the long-term forest management plan for implementation on January 1, 2022.**

**CARRIED**

The Mayor called for a recess to the meeting at 8:00 p.m. for 10 minutes.

The meeting resumed at 8:10 p.m.

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council lift item 4.2 from the table.**

**CARRIED**

The following motion was on the floor for consideration:

### **Harvest Plan Review - Blow Down on Osborne Bay Road**

**That Council direct staff to proceed with Option 1 for Osborne Bay Road, as presented in the Municipal Forester's June 17, 2019 report, which supports the following harvest plan:**

- Blow down only at an estimated volume of ~500m<sup>3</sup>.**

(Opposed: Siebring; Manhas; Sawrie; Toporowski)

**DEFEATED**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council direct staff to proceed with Option 2 for Osborne Bay Road, as presented in the Municipal Forester's June 17, 2019 report, which support the following harvest plan:**

- Blow down, plus the entire northern parcel (2.7 ha) at an estimated volume of ~1,000m<sup>3</sup>.**

(Opposed: Douglas; Justice; Marsh; Sawrie; Toporowski)

**DEFEATED**

**4.3 Proposed Blow Down Harvest Plan Summaries**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council direct staff to proceed with tendering contracts to complete the blow down harvest work for Mount Richards (Escarpment Way), Mount Sicker and Mount Prevost as outlined in the Municipal Forester's June 17, 2019 report.**

(Opposed: Sawrie)

**CARRIED**

**Mount Richards Blow Down – Babine Road**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council direct staff to not proceed with the harvesting work for Mount Richards (Babine Road) as outlined in the Municipal Forester's June 17, 2019 report.**

**CARRIED**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6.1 Notice of Motion**

Councillor Justice put forward the following Notice of Motion to be considered at the July 17, 2019 Council meeting:

*Whereas the Terms of Reference that Council designed for the municipal forestry review was used as the scope in the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) Terms of Reference, which states that the Committee is conducting the review (and suggests that its role does not go beyond that);*

*And Whereas the FAC is a part of, but is not conducting, North Cowichan's municipal review of forestry (and is providing technical advice on issues not part of the review);*

*Be it resolved that Council reconsider the wording of the Terms of Reference for the Forestry Advisory Committee to more accurately portray the Committee's overall role and, especially, the part they will play in Council's review of forestry.*

**7. QUESTION PERIOD**

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

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded:

**That Council adjourn the July 3, 2019 Special Council meeting at 9:15 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

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Certified by Corporate Officer

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Signed by Mayor