

**TOWN OF COMOX**  
**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting,**  
**held in Council Chambers on Wednesday May 15, 2019**

**Present:** Mayor R. Arnott  
Councillors A. Bissinger, K. Grant, S. McGowan,  
P. McKenna, N. Minions, M. Swift  
Staff R. Kanigan, Chief Administrative Officer  
S. Russwurm, Deputy Corporate Administrator  
C. Freundlich, Director of Finance  
M. Kamenz, Municipal Planner

**Absent:** Nil

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Agenda was Adopted.

There were 13 visitors in attendance.

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**1. DELEGATIONS:**

- a. **Tristan Rendell (Boys and Girls Club of Central Vancouver Island) Feed back to improve the Comox Marina Vendor experience**

**Improve Mobile Vendor Experience**

Mr. Rendell advised that he ran the Mexi-Pops stand at Marina Park last year, and thanked the Teen Entrepreneur Program (Boys and Girls Club) and the Town of Comox for the support he received. He advised that he has learned a lot about running a business through his experience last year. He also advised that he would like the Town to establish an on-line calendar of Marina Park events for the benefit of mobile vendors and the public in general. Mr. Rendell advised that such a calendar would help vendors to schedule their time at the park.

- b. **Jess and Stuart Aldred - Development Variance Permit Application DVP 19-4 (1390 Zephyr Place)**

**1390 Zephyr Place**

Ms. Aldred advised that she was available to answer any questions of Council.

- c. **Mike Bell & Steve Faraher-Amidon (Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship) Climate Emergency**

**Climate Emergency**

Mr. Bell advised that there is all kinds of evidence that shows that climate change is real, and that significant changes need to be made by 2030. He advised that evidence shows that Canada will heat up twice as fast as the rest of the world, and northern Canada three times faster. Mr. Bell suggested that the Town needs a plan that can be activated in an emergency, with a communication and transportation system and a budget. Mr. Faraher-Amidon requested that the Town formally recognise the State of Climate Emergency, as 31 other cities in Canada have. He advised that he would like to see a standing committee formed, to consider and recommend actions, as well as keep the community informed.

**d. Dr. Alexander Nataros - Climate Emergency**

**Climate Emergency**

Dr. Nataros showed part of a video by Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, identifying impacts of climate change. He identified and advised that he sees specific health impacts of climate change in Comox, in particular asthma and emphysema attacks related to air quality. He advised the he knows some of the impacts can be reversed, and is encouraged by Council's efforts in promoting and encouraging more biking in the community.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETINGS:**

**a. Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

**RCM Minutes**

*That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday May 1, 2019, be Approved.*

(2019.159) -- CARRIED

**b. Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

**COW Minutes**

*That the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday May 8, 2019, be Received.*

(2019.160) -- CARRIED

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (1) Sareh Puetz (Island Originals) Request for Marina Park fees to be waived

**Island Originals**

*That the Marina Park fees be waived for the Island Originals event during August 10-11, 2019.*

(2019.161) -- CARRIED

- (2) Tim O'Brien (Outlook Engineering and Landscape Architecture) - Shakesides Viewpoint Design Update

**Shakesides Viewpoint Design Update**

*That the revised design of the proposed Shakesides viewing platform, as included in the April 26, 2019 letter from Tim O'Brien of Outlook Engineering and Landscape Architecture, be approved.*

(2019.162) -- CARRIED

**c. Special Council Meeting Minutes**

**Special Council Meeting Minutes**

*That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council, held in Council Chambers on Wednesday May 8, 2019, be Approved.*

(2019.163) -- CARRIED

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS: NIL**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**a. Management Report - May 15, 2019**

**Management Report**

*That the Management Report for May 15, 2019 be received and filed for information.*

(2019.164) -- CARRIED

**5. SPECIAL REPORTS:**

**a. Comox Valley Regional District Meeting Minutes**

**CVRD Meeting Minutes**

*That the following Comox Valley Regional District meeting minutes be received for information:  
- Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District Board held on Thursday, April 11, 2019; and  
- Comox Valley Regional District Board held on Tuesday, April 30, 2019.*

(2019.165) -- CARRIED

**6. BYLAWS:**

**a. Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1913**

**Accessible Parking Standards**

*That Comox Zoning Amendment Bylaw 1913 be Adopted.*

(2019.166) -- CARRIED

**b. Kye Bay Water and Sewer Service Debt Repayment Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1918, 2019**

**Kye Bay Water and Sewer Service Debt Repayment**

*That the Kye Bay Water and Sewer Service Debt Repayment Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1918, 2019 be Adopted.*

(2019.167) -- CARRIED

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Climate Change**

**Climate Change**

The May 10, 2019 report from the Chief Administrative Officer, titled "Climate Change", was received for information.

**b. Climate Emergency (April 17, 2019 Notice of Motion: Councillor Bissinger)**

**Climate Crisis**

1. *That the Town of Comox formally recognize the Climate Crisis.*

(2019.168) -- CARRIED

2. *That the following motions be referred to Council's next strategic planning process:*

- *"That staff prepare a report to Council within six months with tangible actions the Mayor/Council and Town staff can take to address the Climate Crisis", and*
- *"That Council seek commitment and financial support from the Comox Valley Regional District and its member communities for a shared position of Sustainability and Long Range Planning Manager for the Comox Valley."*

(2019.169) -- CARRIED

**c. Development Variance Permit Application: DVP 19-4 (1390 Zephyr Place)**

**1390 Zephyr Place**

*That Development Variance Permit DVP 19-4 be issued, subject to the Development Variance Permit Conditions listed in Schedule 1 of the May 15, 2019 Planning Report on DVP 19-4.*

(2019.170) -- CARRIED

**d. Regional Organics Composting Facility Expansion Project**

**Regional Organics Facility**

*That the Council of the Town of Comox provide conditional support to the Regional Organics Program for Option F as identified in the May 3, 2018 Technical Memorandum from CH2M, titled "Initial Analysis of Regional System Options", subject to Council's satisfaction of a detailed, current cost comparative analysis being completed by the Comox Valley Regional District that considers:*

- a regional compost facility in Campbell River,
- a regional compost facility in the Comox Valley, and
- smaller sub-regional facilities in both Campbell River and the Comox Valley.

(2019.171) -- CARRIED

**e. Planning Report 19-9 Housing Needs Report, Regional Approach**

**Housing Needs Report**

*That the Town of Comox support the Comox Valley Regional District as the primary applicant to apply for, receive, and manage the Housing Needs Report program grant funding on the Town's behalf with the condition of Council's review and acceptance of a proposed Scope of Work prior to the initiation of any work by the Comox Valley Regional District on the Town's behalf.*

(2019.172) -- CARRIED

**8. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**a. Bob Wells, Chair (Comox Valley Regional District) Single Use Plastic Bag Ban**

**Single-Use Plastic Bags**

*That the May 3, 2019 letter from Bob Wells, Chair of the Comox Valley Regional District, encouraging the Town of Comox to undertake their own action in support of checkout bag and other single-use plastic restrictions, be received and filed for information.*

(2019.173) -- CARRIED

**b. Mayor Mike Hurley (City of Burnaby) Expanding Investment Opportunities**

**Investment Opportunities**

*That the May 2, 2019 letter from Mayor Mike Hurley of the City of Burnaby, asking for Council's support in their initiative to expand asset class investment opportunities, be received and filed for information.*

(2019.174) -- CARRIED

**c. Minister Selina Robinson (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing) Increase the supply of affordable housing in our community**

**Affordable Housing Funding Opportunities**

*That the May 7, 2019 letter from Minister Robinson of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, summarizing partnership opportunities for municipalities in increasing the availability and affordability of housing, be received and filed for information.*

(2019.175) -- CARRIED

**d. Mayor Leslie Baird (Village of Cumberland) Request for revenue sharing arrangement with Shares Casino revenue**

**Host Financial Assistance Agreement**

*That the May 6, 2019 letter from Mayor Leslie Baird of the Village of Cumberland to Mayor Bob Wells of the City of Courtenay, requesting that the City of Courtenay give serious consideration to a Casino revenue sharing arrangement with other local governments, be received and filed for information.*

(2019.176) -- CARRIED

**e. Various correspondence regarding a climate emergency**

**Climate Emergency**

*That the following items of correspondence be received and filed for information:*

- April 19, 2019 email from Barbara Berger supporting the declaration of a climate emergency
- April 23, 2019 email from Terry Choquette supporting the declaration of a climate emergency
- May 1, 2019 letter from Helen Boyd & Betty Tate supporting the declaration of a State of Climate Emergency
- May 4, 2019 email from Bruce Martin supporting the recognition of the current global climate emergency
- May 6, 2019 email from Tom Collins advising that the pursuit of actions, such as those related to a state of climate change emergency, should not be top of mind for Council
- May 7, 2019 letter from Wendy Prothero encouraging Council to advance progress in combating climate change
- May 7, 2019 letter from the Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship Board of Directors asking Council to formally declare a State of Climate Emergency.

(2019.177) -- CARRIED

**9. LATE ITEMS: NIL**

**10. DELEGATIONS: NIL**

**11. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:**

**a. Councillor McGowan**

Councillor McGowan advised that she:

- attended the opening of the 27th annual Farmer's Market,
- attended the signing ceremony for the MOU between DND and the K'omoks First Nation,
- attended the Comox Valley Social Planning Society's AGM,
- participated in the McHappy Day event, and
- attended the Project Watershed green infrastructure kayak tour.

**b. Councillor Swift**

Councillor Swift advised that she:

- attended the signing ceremony for the MOU between DND and the K'omoks First Nation,
- participated in the McHappy Day event, and
- attended the Regional District sewer, water and committee of the whole meetings.

**c. Councillor McKenna**

Councillor McKenna advised that he:

- participated in the McHappy Day event,
- attended a housing conference in Campbell River,
- attended a meeting with the Nautical Days' Coordinator David Stevenson, and
- attended the Cumberland Wetlands Forest Conference.

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**d. Councillor Minions**

Councillor Minions advised that she:

- attended an environmental rally on Climate Change,
- participated in the McHappy Day event, and
- attended a cost of living wage workshop.

**e. Councillor Grant**

Councillor Grant advised that he:

- participated in the McHappy Day event,
- participated in the inaugural Rotary Ryder Cup golf tournament, and
- attended the Regional District sewer, water and committee of the whole meetings.

**f. Councillor Bissinger**

Councillor Bissinger advised that she researched climate energy information and advised that Bike to Work week was coming up on May 27, 2019.

**g. Mayor Arnott**

Mayor Arnott advised that he attended:

- the RCMP boot camp graduation ceremony,
- a Coffee with the Mayor event at Berwick,
- attended the signing ceremony for the MOU between DND and the K'omoks First Nation,
- attended a meeting with a Comox resident, and
- participated in the McHappy Day event.

**14. EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC:**

**a. Exclude the Public**

**Exclude the Public**

*That, pursuant to section 127 of the Community Charter, notice is hereby given that the Public be Excluded from the In-Camera Meeting on Wednesday May 15, 2019, pursuant to the following sub-sections of the Community Charter:*

*90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations.*

(2019.178) -- CARRIED

**THE MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 7:14 P.M.**


**THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:20 P.M.**


**Adjournment:**

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct pursuant to Section 97(1)(b) of the Community Charter

  
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MAYOR

  
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CORPORATE OFFICER