



## **TOWN OF LAKE COWICHAN**

Minutes of a Regular meeting of Council

Held and transmitted electronically via Council Chambers, located at 39 South Shore Road, Lake Cowichan, BC on Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bob K. Day, Chair  
Councillor Carlyne Austin  
Councillor Tim McGonigle  
Councillor Kristine Sandhu  
Councillor Lorna Vomacka

**STAFF:** Joseph A. Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jas Sandhu, Superintendent, Public Works and Engineering Services  
Ronnie Gill, Director of Finance

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Day called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. AGENDA**

No. R.012/22  
Agenda

Moved: Councillor Vomacka  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the agenda be approved as amended with the following additions under:

**NEW BUSINESS**

(a) Councillor Vomacka re: Leave of Absence from March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting;  
(b) Councillor Sandhu re: Verbal from Staff on update of Town Hall;  
and  
(c) Mayor Day re: meeting format going forward

**MAYORS REPORT**

(b) Councillor Austin re: Variety Show of Hearts Event

CARRIED.

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

No. R.013/22  
Regular Meeting

(a) Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle  
that the minutes of the Regular meeting of Council held on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**5. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS**

None.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Action Items:**

(b) **Information or Consent Items**

**7. REPORTS**

(a) **Council and other Committee Reports**

No. R.014/22  
Committee of  
the Whole

(i) Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held electronically on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be approved with the following:

**1-Leave of Absence**

that Council approve a leave of absence for Councillor McGonigle for the meeting held this day.

CARRIED.

No. R.015/22  
Committee of  
the Whole

- (ii) Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held electronically on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, be approved with the following:

**1-Sewer – Five-Year Fund**

that Council approve the Sewer Utility Fund Financial Plan for 2022-2026, as presented in Option 2;

**2- Water – Five-Year Fund**

that Council approve the Water Utility Fund Financial Plan for 2022-2026, as presented;

**3- Funding Request**

that Council table the matter of providing financial support to the Lake Cowichan Fire Department for its restoration of Engine #1 to June 2022;

**4—General Fund – 2022**

that Council approve the General Fund Financial Plan for 2022 as presented, reflecting a 4.5% municipal tax increase;

**5—General – Five-Year Fund**

that Council approve the General Fund Financial Plan for 2022-2026, as presented.

CARRIED.

No. R.016/22  
Committee of  
the Whole

- (iii) Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held electronically on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, be approved with the following:

**1-Leave of Absence**

that Council approve a leave of absence for Councillor Sandhu from the meeting held this day;

**2- Arts and Culture Event**

that the Town of Lake Cowichan approve, in principle, the Cowichan Lake Arts & Culture Society's "Art Bombing" event to be held April 9<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022;

**3- Fire Department Incident Report**

that Council approve the Lake Cowichan Fire Department's incident report in the amount of \$10,031.17 for December 2021;

**4—Water Consumption Plan**

that Council endorse the updated 2022 Water Conservation Plan to ensure that its water resources are always used in an environmentally sustainable manner that should result in reductions in liquid waste and the use of energy;

**5—Utility Leak Policy**

that Council approve the Water Utility Leaks Policy, as presented;

**6—Community Garden Agreement Renewal**

that Council enter into a further 5-year agreement term with the Community Garden, effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

CARRIED.

- Cowichan Lake Recreation Commission (iv) Mayor Day reported on his recent attendance at the Cowichan Lake Recreation Committee held on Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Vancouver Island Regional Library (v) Councillor Vomacka reported on the Annual General Meeting that was held electronically on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.  
She further reported that in-branch programming would be begin soon and that some services would continue with no vaccine passport requirements.
- Advisory Planning Commission (vi) Councillor Austin reported on highlights of the January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting which included climate change targets, the "Adopt a Park" concept, access to water at Lakeview Park, and review of a letter from Minister Rob Fleming on the matter of speed limits.  
The next meeting will be held Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, to discuss climate change further, the matter of the 200-year flood plain and development approvals and the approvals process review.
- Community Forest Co-operative (vii) Councillor McGonigle reported that the Forest Co-op was currently reviewing funding applications presented by the Kinsmen for the Duck Pond and the Elder Care Society.  
He further reported that logging was currently occurring within the 2<sup>nd</sup> growth area while the strategic review of old growth forest management is being considered.
- Cowichan Valley Regional District (b) **Other Reports**  
(i) Councillor McGonigle reported on the Regional District's Board meeting held on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Community Outreach Team (ii) Councillor Austin reported on her attendance at the Outreach Team meeting held on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022.  
She advised that the next meeting will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022,
- Our Cowichan (iii) Councillor Sandhu reported that the next Our Cowichan meeting would be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Cowichan Watershed Board (iv) Councillor Sandhu reported on her attendance at the Cowichan Watershed meeting held on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.  
She advised that the next meeting will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Sheltering of Unsheltered Residents (v) Council reviewed the memorandum from Mayor Day on the matter of sheltering of unsheltered residents.  
Mayor Day afforded each member of Council to share his or her views on the matter.
- No. R.017/22 Placement of Shelters for Unsheltered Residents Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that Council direct staff to inform Cowichan Housing Association that the Town of Lake Cowichan will not be moving forward with the placement of the available six sleeping cabins and one washroom unit due to lack of support services in our community; and that the Town of Lake Cowichan is requesting that funds be allocated to the gaps and services for mental health and addiction services in our community.

CARRIED.

**(c) Staff Reports**

No. R.018/22  
Final Phase of  
Wastewater Treatment  
Plant

- (i)** Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that staff submit an application for grant funding for the Final Phase of Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Environmental Quality; and

that Council supports the project and commits to its share of \$2,702,738 for the project, as well as cost overruns.

CARRIED.

No. R.019/22  
Agricultural Land  
Commission –  
Application for Non-  
farm Use

- (ii)** Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that Council of the Town of Lake Cowichan support the Non-farm Use application to the Agricultural Land Commission for use of a 3.1 ha portion of the former AB Greenwell school site for a Public Works Facility (indoors), Public Works Yard (outdoors), a Fire Department Safety Practice Area, and a Collector Street along the entire northern edge of the property.

CARRIED.

**8. BYLAWS**

No. R.020/22  
Sign Regulation  
Amendment  
Bylaw No. 1068-2021

- (a)** Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Sign Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1068-2021" be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

No. R.021/22  
Election Bylaw  
Bylaw No. 1069-2021

- (b)** Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Election Bylaw No. 1069-2021" be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

No. R.022/22  
Official Community Plan  
Amendment  
Bylaw No. 1070-2022

- (c)** Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1070-2022" be read a first and second time.

CARRIED.

No. R.023/22  
Sanitary Sewer Parcel  
Tax  
Bylaw No. 1071-2022

- (d)** Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Sanitary Sewer Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1071-2022" be read a first, second and third time.

Councillor McGonigle Against  
CARRIED.

No. R.024/22  
Water Parcel Tax  
Bylaw No. 1072-2022

- (e)** Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Water Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1072-2022" be read a first, second and third time.

CARRIED.

Council took a 5-minute break (7:30 pm).

The meeting resumed at 7:35 pm.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a)** The Cowichan Housing Association report regarding the "It Takes a Village" Project which is a partnership between Cowichan Housing Association and Lookout Housing and Health Society was treated as information.

No. R.025/22  
Leave of Absence

- (b) Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that Council approve a leave of absence for Councillor Vomacka at the Committee of the Whole meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

CARRIED.

- (c) The Chief Administrative Officer gave a verbal update on the seismic upgrades that are currently underway.
- (d) Mayor Day brought up the matter of the meeting format going forward due to the municipal hall upgrades.

It was noted that the transmission capacity of the computer network of the Town's telecommunication system be considered.

No. R.026/22  
Virtual Meeting Format

Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka  
that the Town of Lake Cowichan continue to hold its Council, Committee and Commission meetings on a virtual platform until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, with the matter to be reassessed at that time.

CARRIED.

Staff was directed to investigate the provision of higher bandwidths at its municipal buildings; namely the Fire Hall and municipal office with a report back on the matter.

- (e) Councillor Austin reported on the Variety Show of Hearts, a fundraising event for the BC Children's Hospital. She advised that it will be held February 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> and televised on February 26<sup>th</sup> on the Global network.

Councillor McGonigle spoke on the Lake Cowichan Kraken Junior "B" hockey team and its season which recently ended. He conveyed thanks to the volunteers, sponsors, and contributors for the successful inaugural year of the local team.

**10. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Day gave his Mayor's Report for February 2022 which included the following:

- budget discussions for 2022 were winding down;
- presentation of the financial bylaws to Council soon;
- he reported on where the Town is currently with the COVID-19 pandemic and how our community will look;
- community events are starting to slowly return and that volunteer organizations will start up again soon;
- there are signs of this pandemic moving to the endemic stage; and
- in closing, he acknowledged the Kristal Mayo Memorial Cancer Walk which will take place on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, with registration starting at 9:30 am with all funds raised to help towards the revitalization of the Duck Pond playground.

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

**12. QUESTION PERIOD**

None.

**13. IN CAMERA**

None.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

No. R.027/22  
Adjournment

Moved: Councillor Vomacka  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the meeting be adjourned. (7:56 pm).

CARRIED.

Certified correct \_\_\_\_\_.

Confirmed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor