



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, March 22nd, 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 6:15 pm.

2. AGENDA

No. R.028/22
Agenda

Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle
that the agenda be approved as amended with the following addition under:

REPORTS – STAFF REPORTS

(1) Chief Administrative Officer re: Active Transportation Fund – Upgrade of Ohtaki Footbridge.

CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No. R.029/22
Regular Meeting

(a) Moved: Councillor Vomacka
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that the minutes of the Regular meeting of Council held on February 22nd, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

5. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Action Items:

(1) The correspondence item from Ayako Shishido, Date City Hall regarding a proposed Ohtaki delegation was referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

Staff was directed to arrange an Ohtaki Committee meeting with members and stakeholders to discuss the matter prior to the Committee of the Whole discussions.

(b) Information or Consent Items

(1) The correspondence item received from the Union of BC Municipalities regarding the approval of the 2022 CRI FireSmart Community funding and supports was treated as information.

Mayor Day conveyed his congratulations to staff and the Lake Cowichan Fire Department on its successful application for funding.

7. REPORTS

No. R.030/22
Committee of
the Whole

(a) Council and other Committee Reports

- (i)** Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held electronically on March 8th, 2022, be approved with the following:

1-Lakeview Park Beach Access

that the Lakeview Park Beach access gate be opened to the public from March 1st to October 31st with the provision of a port-a-potty to be made available for public use during Lakeview Park Campground's off-season.

CARRIED.

Cowichan Lake
Recreation
Commission

- (ii)** Mayor Day advised that the Cowichan Lake Recreation Committee did not hold a meeting due to lack of agenda items.

Vancouver Island
Regional Library

- (iii)** Councillor Vomacka reported on the rotating strike at various Regional Library facilities and advised that this does not impact our branch at this time.

She further reported that the next meeting would be held on April 9th, 2022.

Councillor Vomacka requested consideration be given to including a welcome and recognition of where the meetings are being held by the Ts'uubaa-asatx within the new hall design plans.

Advisory Planning
Commission

- (iv)** Councillor Austin reported that the Commission would be meeting on Thursday, March 24th, 2022, to discuss short-term vacation rentals and the Town's bylaws with ongoing discussions on climate change and ways to reduce greenhouse gases.

Community Forest
Co-operative

- (v)** Councillor McGonigle reported that an announcement would be forthcoming from the Forest Co-op on the funding applications from the Kinsmen for the Duck Pond and the Elder Care Society.

He stated that once finalized, he could report on these projects moving forward.

(b) Other Reports

Cowichan Valley
Regional District

- (i)** Councillor Sandhu reported on her attendance at the Committee of the Whole and Board meetings held on February 23rd, 2022, and the Special meeting of the Board convened for February 24th, 2022.

Community Outreach
Team

- (ii)** Councillor Austin reported on her attendance at the Outreach Team meeting held on March 17th, 2022.

She advised that the next meeting will be held on April 21st, 2022,

Our Cowichan

- (iii)** Councillor Sandhu reported that the next Our Cowichan meeting would be held on April 14th, 2022.

Cowichan Watershed
Board

- (iv)** Councillor Sandhu reported on her attendance at the Cowichan Watershed meeting held on February 28th, 2022.

She advised that Tom Rutherford would be stepping down from his position on the Board.

The next meeting will be held on March 28th, 2022, with the Annual General meeting of the Watershed Society to be held on March 31st, 2022.

Island Coastal
Economic Trust

- (v) Mayor Day reported on his recent meeting of the Island Coastal Economic Trust and his appointment as Vice-Chair for the remainder of term to June, 2022.

Mayor Day spoke on the funding awarded to the Kaatza Station Museum and its partnership with the Ts'uubaa-asatx Nation with the project to be completed by the summer of 2022.

He further encouraged that staff look at applying to the Trust for a qualifying project.

(c) **Staff Reports**

No. R.031/22
Active Transportation
Fund – Ohtaki
Footbridge

- (i) Moved: Councillor McGonigle
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that Council supports a grant application by the Town of Lake Cowichan to the federal Active Transportation Fund for the design cost and capital expenditures related to the refurbishment of the Ohtaki footbridge; and

that Council supports its own funding of a 40% contribution of up to \$280,000 for an estimated total cost of up to \$700,000 for the refurbishment of the Ohtaki Footbridge.

CARRIED.

8. BYLAWS

No. R.032/22
Official Community Plan
Amendment
Bylaw No. 1070-2022

- (a) Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1070-2022" be read a third time.

CARRIED.

No. R.033/22
Official Community Plan
Amendment
Bylaw No. 1070-2022

- (b) Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1070-2022" be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

No. R.034/22
Sanitary Sewer Parcel
Tax
Bylaw No. 1071-2022

- (c) Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Sanitary Sewer Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1071-2022" be reconsidered and adopted.

Councillor McGonigle Against
CARRIED.

No. R.035/22
Water Parcel Tax
Bylaw No. 1072-2022

- (d) Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Water Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1072-2022" be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

9. NEW BUSINESS

No. R.036/22
COVID-19 Funding –
Strengthening
Communities' Services

- (a) Moved: Councillor McGonigle
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that Council for the Town of Lake Cowichan endorse an application for an amount up to \$50,000 under the COVID-19 Restart and Strengthening Communities Services program to improve the health and safety of unsheltered homeless persons living in public or private spaces.

CARRIED.

No. R.037/22
Federation of Canadian
Municipalities
Conference

- (b)** Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka
that Council approve the attendance of Councillors Austin, McGonigle and Sandhu at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference to be held June 2nd to 5th, 2022 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

CARRIED.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT

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

- Highlighting the strategic priorities for the current year as documented in the Town's Strategic Plan which included:
 - Extension of the Town's sewer system to Greendale Road,
 - Active Transportation Plan, planning and implementation,
 - Assess future staff needs,
 - Renewal of Protocol Agreement with Lake Cowichan First Nation,
 - Prepare for the 2022 municipal election,
 - Orientation of the new Council and review of the Strategic Plan,
 - Revision of the subdivision bylaw and servicing standards,
 - Consideration and review of the Poverty Reduction Strategy,
 - Playground upgrades to Riverside Park, Stone Park, Sahtlam Park,
 - Kasapi Park upgrades,
 - North Shore Pathway construction
- Importance of review of the Town's Strategic Plan to keep focus on the goals set for the community;
- The office and municipal council chambers renovation is well underway with seismic upgrades under the existing structure with plans to move onto construction of the Council chambers and a lobby area for the public with more efficient office space for staff;
- Approval by Council to make a grant application for the final phase of our wastewater treatment plant upgrade which will support the growth and vitality of the Town for decades to come;
- Several multi-year projects being undertaken in North Cowichan which included the new RCMP station, Cowichan High School and Cowichan District Hospital with expectation of the construction of the new weir on the Cowichan Lake;
- In closing, he stated that Spring was upon us and the public works and parks staff were busy cleaning up the streets, parks and campgrounds to get ready to enjoy the warm summer season in our beautiful town.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

None.

13. IN CAMERA

None.

The Mayor conveyed his appreciation to members of Council for their attendance at the recent celebration of Life for a community member, Kristal Mayo and the walk event in her honor to raise funds for the Kinsmen Duck Pond project.

14. ADJOURNMENT

No. R.038/22
Adjournment

Moved: Councillor Vomacka
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the meeting be adjourned. (7:32 pm).

CARRIED.

Certified correct _____.

Confirmed on the _____ day of _____, 2022.

Mayor