



TOWN OF LAKE COWICHAN

Minutes of a Regular meeting of Council
Held and transmitted electronically via the temporary Council Chambers located
at 38 King George Street, Lake Cowichan, BC
on Tuesday, March 28th, 2023.

PRESENT: Mayor Tim McGonigle, Chair
Councillor Carlyne Austin
Councillor Kristine Sandhu
Councillor Lorna Vomacka

REGRETS: Councillor Aaron Frisby
(with prior notice)

STAFF: Joseph A. Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer
Ronnie Gill, Director of Finance

PUBLIC: 8

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McGonigle called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm.

2. AGENDA

No. R.0021/23
Agenda

Moved: Councillor Vomacka
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the agenda be approved with the addition of the following:

NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Leave of absence for Councillor Frisby;
- (b) Budget meeting for April 4th, 2023.

CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No. R.0022/23
Regular Council

- (a) Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the minutes of the Regular meeting of Council held on February 28th,
2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

5. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

- (a) Rosalie Sawrie and Sandra Thompson, Social Planning Cowichan made a
video presentation on Social Planning's recent work and upcoming projects.

Ms. Sawrie reported that Social Planning Cowichan would be hosting
another neighbor-to-neighbor free store in Lake Cowichan on April 15th,
2023. She further advised that another two workshops were planned for
April 6th in Duncan and May 5th in Cobble Hill.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Action Items:**

No. R.0023/23
Referral

Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka
that staff be directed to report back on the correspondence item received
from the Union of BC Municipalities regarding inventory of provincial lands
for consideration for affordable housing lands at the next meeting.

CARRIED.

- (b) **Information or Consent Items**

None.

No. R.0024/23
Committee of
the Whole

7. REPORTS

(a) Council and other Committee Reports

- (i)** Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 14th, 2023, be approved, with the following:

1—Fire Department - Incident Report

that Council approve the Lake Cowichan Fire Department’s incident report in the amount of \$9,842.91 for January 2023;

2— Required Remedial Action - 63 Cowichan Lake Road

that the required remedial action for the property at 63 Cowichan Lake Road be undertaken using the following process:

- An on-site inspection of the property by the building and fire department, and if deemed appropriate by the RCMP;
- Staff reports with recommendations to follow, with the owner being provided an opportunity to undertake such remediation as is required;
- Should the owner fail to comply with the remedial requirements, council can declare the property as a nuisance and provide the Owner an opportunity to respond by requesting that council reconsider the Remedial Action Requirements;
- and failing a satisfactory response, the Town may take action in accordance with section 17 of the Community Charter and undertake any or all of the actions required by the Remedial Action requirement without further notice to and at the expense of the Owner.

3—Memorial Plaque – Darshan Singh Sangha

that Council approve the request by the BC Labour Heritage Centre for the placement of the Darshan Singh Sangha memorial plaque to be located at the Kaatza Museum;

4—Community Engagement Series

that Councillor Austin be authorized to attend the Community Engagement Series on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, in Duncan, BC.

CARRIED.

Cowichan Lake
Recreation Commission

- (ii)** Councillor Sandhu gave a verbal report on her attendance at the at the Cowichan Lake Recreation Commission meeting held March 23rd, 2023, with a delegation from the Kraken hockey team sharing its concerns on the player change rooms.

She advised that a special meeting of the Commission will be held on April 27th to review and discuss a staff report on the ventilation machine.

Vancouver Island
Regional Library

- (iii)** Councillor Austin gave a verbal report on her attendance at the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board meeting held on March 25th, 2023. She advised that the next hybrid meeting would be held on June 3rd, 2023.

Advisory Planning
Commission

- (iv)** Councillor Austin gave a verbal report on the Advisory Planning Commission meeting held on March 23rd, 2023. She reported on the discussion of the recent study on internet connectivity for the area which is estimated to cost \$500 per household plus monthly fees if the Town goes it alone to provide these services. She further reported that Robert Patterson, Chair of the APC, would like to make a presentation to Council to update them on this matter.

Community Forest Co-
operative

- (v)** Mayor McGonigle reported that preliminary discussions have begun for implementation of a new 5-year cut plan which will require public consultation in the future to ensure a sustainable forestry plan.

(b) Other Reports

Cowichan Valley
Regional District

- (i)** Councillor McGonigle gave a verbal report on his attendance at the Regional Board meeting which saw the 2023 budget finalized and adopted. He reported that he would be posting a schedule of what the Town contributes

and stated that there were some significant increases in the regional recreation budget which was the result of a referendum process. He further reported that the code of conduct was being reviewed at the regional level with an ethics commissioner to be appointed to deal with breaches of the said policy.

Community Outreach Team (ii) Councillor Austin gave a verbal report on her attendance at the Outreach Team meeting that was held on March 16th, 2023.

Councillor Austin further reported on her attendance at the recent Community Engagement Series held on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, in Duncan, BC.

Our Cowichan (iii) Councillor Sandhu reported that the May meeting date for Our Cowichan is yet to be determined.

Cowichan Watershed Board (iv) Councillor Sandhu reported that the Cowichan Watershed Board meeting was recently held where the hospital replacement project was reviewed.

She advised that the annual river cleanup was scheduled for August 27th, 2023. She further reported that weir will begin its control of water on April 1st with an immediate reduction of 20 cms.

The next meeting has been scheduled for April 27th, 2023.

No. R.0025/23
Development Permit
DP2023-01
Strata Lot 9, Plan VIS5120
#9 – 537 Point Ideal Drive

(c) **Staff Reports**
(i) Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that Council approve a Watercourse and Streamside Development Permit to the owner of #9-537 Point Ideal Drive, legally described as Strata Lot 9, District Lot 13, Cowichan Lake Land District, Plan VIS5120, Together with an interest in the common property in proportion to the unit entitlement of the strata lot as shown on Form V (PID:025-100-556) with the following conditions:
1) No additional construction of any buildings, structures, or hard surfaces within the SPEA delineated by a Qualified Environmental Professional; was permitted; and
2) Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the satisfactory completion of mitigation plantings within the SPEA in accordance with a plan prepared by a Qualified Environmental Professional is required.

CARRIED.

(ii) The Chief Administrative Officer’s staff report on the proposed rezoning for 149 Cowichan Lake Road was treated as information.

8. BYLAWS

No. R.0026/23
Subdivision Works and Services Bylaw
No. 1082-2022

(a) Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the “Town of Lake Cowichan Subdivision Works and Services Bylaw No. 1083-2022” be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

Council Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw
No. 1084-2022

(b) Councillor Sandhu moved a resolution to table adoption of the “Town of Lake Cowichan Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 1084-2022” to the April 25th, 2023, meeting to allow for Councillor Frisby to be present for the vote.

A vote was called despite the proposed motion not being seconded or the mover being recognized by the Chair. Without the mover being properly recognized or the motion being seconded, the motion then for all intents and purposes dies on the floor.

No. R.0027/23
Zoning Amendment
Bylaw No. 1087-2023 –
School District Properties
for Childcare Facility

(c) Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka
that the “Town of Lake Cowichan Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1087-2023”
be read a third time.

CARRIED.

No. R.0028/23
Zoning Amendment
Bylaw No. 1087-2023 –
School District Properties
for Childcare Facility

(d) Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that the “Town of Lake Cowichan Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1087-2023”
be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

Zoning Amendment
Bylaw No. 1088-2023 –
149 Cowichan Lake Road

(e) The “Town of Lake Cowichan Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1088-2023” was
not given third reading.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

No. R.0029/23
Leave of Absence

(a) Moved: Councillor Vomacka
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
that a leave of absence be approved for Councillor Frisby for this meeting of
Council.

CARRIED.

2023 Budget meeting

(b) Mayor McGonigle set the next budget meeting for Tuesday, April 4th, 2023 at
4:30 pm at the office’s current location.

10. **MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor McGonigle read out his Mayor’s report which he will provide quarterly
moving forward.

Mayor McGonigle’s spoke on the following:

- Council is currently reviewing and updating its Strategic plan;
- Council is also aware of emerging issues that may have arisen and need to be dealt with as well;
- Council and staff are working through the Budget process currently, and with the recent Provincial funding announcement, much needed infrastructure projects that have been delayed due to lack of fund are being proposed;
- Council members have been looking carefully at how the budget decisions will impact residents, considering the financial impacts of the Regional Recreation Referendum on our CVRD contributions, and the cumulative effects of Inflation, supply chain issues and project delays;
- Once Council has finalized the Budget, its impact and the already approved CVRD budget will be shared with the public;
- He wished to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers in our community, working tirelessly to better the communities;
- Many organizations suffered volunteer losses during the pandemic, including The Lake Days Society, and he hoped, as the restrictions on gatherings are eased, this important group could reconvene to bring the celebrations back for all to enjoy;
- He acknowledged gaps in services in our area and stated that Council will continue to lobby senior levels of Government to fill those needs;
- He personally wished to thank his fellow Council colleagues for their hard work and support as they all try to make Lake Cowichan a better place to live, work and play.
- In closing, he thanked the Town’s staff and employees who continue to support the decisions of the Mayor and Council.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. IN CAMERA

No. R.0030/23
Retire to In-Camera

Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka
that Council close the meeting to the public to deal with issues dealing with the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, law enforcement and negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages which falls under s. 90(1) (e), (f) and (k) of the Community Charter. (7:08 pm).

CARRIED.

14. ADJOURNMENT

No. R.0031/23
Adjournment

Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka
that the meeting arise without a report and be adjourned. (7:20 pm)

CARRIED.

Certified correct _____.

Confirmed on the _____ day of _____, 2023.

Mayor