



DISTRICT OF HIGHLANDS
MINUTES OF ELECTRONIC COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ken Williams
Councillor Leslie Anderson
Councillor Ann Baird
Councillor Gord Baird
Councillor Marcie McLean
Councillor Karel Roessingh
Councillor Rose Stanton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Administrative Officer Lorraine Hilton
Corporate Officer Deb Hopkins
Planner Laura Beckett

Public Observation: 12

Mayor Williams advised that the Corporate Officer, Ms. Hopkins, was leaving the District this week. He thanked her for her service to the Highlands and wished her well in her future endeavours.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: 146-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Anderson
That the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Bob McMinn, Highlands resident, advised Council that he was available for questions with respect to item 8.10.

Sally Gose, resident of Highlands, stated her opposition to prohibiting bow hunting in the District. Ms. Gose noted that human habituation was a more significant threat to wildlife than hunting. She stated that more public education is necessary to increase awareness of attractants. Ms. Gose commented that banning hunting was unfair to the hunters who do so legally.

Diana McMinn, Highlands resident, advised Council that she was opposed to banning bow hunting. She supports licensed bow hunting that includes careful planning and preparation. Ms. McMinn commented that she is concerned with illegal hunting activities occurring but also suggested that these activities will continue regardless of whether bow hunting is banned. She added that hunting is a component of a sustainable food system and asked that Council not punish all hunters due to bad behaviour from others. Ms. McMinn suggested that education regarding wildlife habituation be provided, that safety requirements for hunting be made more stringent, and that Council reconsider their recommendation to prohibit bow hunting in the Highlands.

Scott Richardson, resident of Highlands, commented that it was unfortunate that the District is unable to implement species specific bow hunting restrictions. He also addressed Council regarding challenges with the South Highlands Local Area Plan project including clarifying roles and responsibilities and finalizing the next survey. Mr. Richardson said that it was important to get the survey right and that appropriate teamwork and good facilitation can achieve a good outcome.

Rob Jirucha, Highlands resident, discussed the strong ethics held by responsible and legal hunters. He advised Council that the illegal hunting occurring in the District is problematic, but legal hunting is not. Mr. Jirucha suggested that if someone is hunting on a resident's property without permission then it is illegal and that prohibiting bow hunting was not required to make this determination. He asked that Council not prohibit bow hunting which will only serve to punish the legal hunters.

Doone Watson, resident of Highlands, said that her main concern is animal welfare and that the death of animals be as humane as possible. She expressed concern that the Highlands will become an increasingly more desirable place to hunt as a rare rural green space in the region in the coming years. Ms. Watson said that banning hunting will mean that any animal hunted in the Highlands will have been done so illegally and that it cannot be assumed that all hunters are ethical. She added that there are many non-residential areas nearby where hunting is permitted and wildlife is not habituated. Ms. Watson commented that the overall benefits of prohibiting bow hunting will outweigh the negative impacts to the small number of legal hunters.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1

Council Minutes – June 7, 2021

MOTION: 147-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird
That the minutes of the June 7, 2021 Council meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

Councillor Leslie Anderson

Heritage Select Committee, West Shore Parks and Recreation Society and Western Communities Policing Advisory Committee

Councillor Anderson reported that the West Shore Parks and Recreation Society held both a Board meeting and the AGM last week which included the presentation of the Annual Report and Financial Statements. She highlighted that the organization has identified that the WSPR Strategic Plan does not sufficiently address diversity and inclusion and that more work is planned over the next month to enhance this aspect of the Plan. Councillor Anderson also advised that WSPR were approached about hosting some events at their facilities in support of the 55+ B.C. Games to be held in Victoria. Participating in this would result in a small loss in revenues so the event organizers will be required to request financial support to make up the minimal lost revenue from each of the owner Councils. In addition, capital projects underway are going well. There is a delay in completing the JDF arena floor as anticipated because the boards are late arriving, and the childcare facility is almost complete.

Councillor Ann Baird

CRD Climate Action Committee and CRD Housing Trust Fund Commission

Councillor Gord Baird

CRD Regional Water Supply Commission & CRD JDF Water Distribution Commission

Councillor Marcie McLean

Coexisting with Carnivores Alliance, Greater Victoria Family Court Youth

Justice Committee, Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues and Sustainable Land Use Select Committee

Councillor Karel Roessingh

Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST), CRD Arts and Greater Victoria Public Library Board

Councillor Rose Stanton

Emergency Planning and Social Sustainable Committee

Mayor Ken Williams

Mayor Williams provided a CRD Board update. He advised that the Board received a presentation on June 9th from the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority highlighting the impacts of COVID, lack of cruise ships at the dock, and concerns regarding the current ban of cruise ships until the end of February 2022 with respect to the estimated \$3.8 million revenue losses last year. Work is still underway to address the reduction of GHG emissions from cruise ships starting with the shore power feasibility study to have ships powered from shore instead of burning contaminants for power.

The drinking water annual report was presented and is available on the CRD website.

Staff are preparing a report for the Board regarding the Family Court and Youth Justice Committee to transition the body into a CRD commission that will also benefit the body in terms of seeking grant funding.

The Pacheedaht, Ditidaht, and Huu-ay-aht First Nations announced a deferral on the old growth logging for two years to develop a forest management plan. This impacted the Board's Old Growth Logging resolution. There is interest in bringing forward an amendment to that resolution making it more focused to the Provincial Government.

5. RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1

From the Committee of the Whole Meeting, June 14, 2021

Council discussion on the matter included:

- Illegal hunting activities
- Revising mapping and clarifying zones in the bylaw
- Resident, pet, and park user safety
- Wildlife habituation
- Public education
- Perceived punishment of legal and ethical hunters
- Lack of flexibility in available approaches to implementing regulatory controls
- Sustainability and food security

MOTION: 148-2021

Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor McLean

That staff be directed to prepare a bylaw that prohibits the discharge of fire arms and bow hunting in the District of Highlands.

DEFEATED

With Councillors Ann Baird, Roessingh, Stanton and Mayor Williams opposed

6. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 7.1 Report, Planner, June 16, 2021 (DVP-02-21)
RE: DEVELOPMENT PERMIT WITH VARIANCE DVP-02-21 – 3935 BLUE VALLEY ROAD
- MOTION: 149-2021 *Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Stanton*
That Council issue DVP-02-21.
- CARRIED
- 7.2 Report, Planner, June 17, 2021 (6520.21)
RE: BUDGET AND TIMELINE UPDATE – SOUTH HIGHLANDS LOCAL AREA PLAN
- This matter was laid on the table by Council motion at the June 7, 2021 Council meeting.
- MOTION: 150-2021 *Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird*
That the motion relating to the South Highlands Local Area Plan Budget and Timeline Update be taken from the table.
- CARRIED
- MOTION: 151-2021 *Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Stanton*
That Council approve the updated Phase 2 Terms of Reference for the South Highlands Local Area Plan as indicated in the June 1, 2021 version and in this staff report (for the June 21, 2021 Council Meeting); that Council approve allocating up to \$45,000 of additional funds to complete the South Highlands Local Area Plan.
- CARRIED
With Councillors Ann Baird, Gord Baird, and McLean opposed
- 7.3 Report, Corporate Officer, June 16, 2021 (6520.21)
RE: SOUTH HIGHLANDS LOCAL AREA PLAN TASK FORCE TERMS OF REFERENCE
- MOTION: 152-2021 *Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Roessingh*
That Council rescind the motion (144-2021) from the June 7, 2021 Council meeting that referred the Memorandum from Councillor McLean dated June 6, 2021 to staff for review and to report back to Council on possible amendments to enhance the South Highlands Local Area Plan Task Force Terms of Reference.
- CARRIED
With Councillors Ann Baird, Gord Baird, and McLean opposed
- MOTION: 153-2021 *Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Stanton*
That Council direct staff to hold all correspondence submitted with respect to the South Highlands Local Area Plan for inclusion in the material to be considered once the draft Plan is presented to Council.
- CARRIED
With Councillors Ann Baird, Gord Baird, and McLean opposed

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Letter, Peninsula Streams Society, May 31, 2021 (1850.02)
RE: 2021 GRANT-IN-AID FOR PENINSULA STREAMS SOCIETY
- 8.2 Letter, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, June 1, 2021 (0360.06.02)
RE: RECREATIONAL WOLF HUNTING ON VANCOUVER ISLAND
- 8.3 Letter, Town of View Royal, June 2, 2021 (7500.20)
RE: COURT SYSTEM
- 8.4 Correspondence, City of Prince George, June 2, 2021 (0400.02)
RE: 2021 UBCM RESOLUTIONS
- 8.5 Letter, CRD Board, June 2, 2021 (0400.05.04)
RE: CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES
- 8.6 Correspondence, J. Fisher, June 3, 2021 (4520.27.01)
RE: O.K. INDUSTRIES QUARRY
- 8.7 Correspondence, C. Peters, June 4, 2021 (0110.20)
RE: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT TO FIGHT HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING
- 8.8 Correspondence, M. Burrell, June 5, 2021 (4520.27.01)
RE: MINING IN SOUTH HIGHLANDS
- MOTION: 154-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Roessingh*
That Council receive the correspondence for items 8.1 through 8.8.
CARRIED
- 8.9 Letter, City of Pitt Meadows, June 14, 2021 (0400.65)
RE: TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION 75
- MOTION: 155-2021 *Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird*
That Council direct that a letter be written to our Member of Parliament and Member of the Legislated Assembly with a copy to the UBCM in support of the Action 75 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action.
CARRIED
- MOTION: 156-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Stanton*
That the letter from the City of Pitt Meadows dated June 14, 2021 be received.
CARRIED

- 8.10 Letter, Greater Victoria Greenbelt Society and The Land Conservancy of BC, June 15, 2021 (1970.03)
RE: PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTION REQUEST FOR MARY LAKE NATURE SANCTUARY
- MOTION: 157-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird*
That Council approve a permissive tax exemption for the taxation years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 for the properties located at 1772 Millstream Road, 1760 Millstream Road, and 721 Lorimer Road.
DEFEATED
With Councillors Anderson, Ann Baird, McLean, Roessingh, Stanton, and Mayor Williams opposed
- MOTION: 158-2021 *Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Anderson*
That Council refer the request for Permissive Tax Exemption for 1772 Millstream Road, 1760 Millstream Road, and 721 Lorimer Road be referred to staff to report back at a future Council Meeting.
CARRIED

9. BYLAWS

10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1 Report, Chief Administrative Officer, June 7, 2021 (0640.20)
RE: 2020 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION
- MOTION: 159-2021 *Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Anderson*
That Council receive and approve the 2020 Statement of Financial Information.
CARRIED
- 10.2 Report, Corporate Officer, June 7, 2021 (0640.20)
RE: 2020 ANNUAL REPORT
- MOTION: 160-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor McLean*
That Council receive and approve the 2020 Annual Report.
CARRIED
- 10.3 Report, Corporate Officer, June 11, 2021 (8100.20)
RE: RYDER HESJEDAL'S TOUR DE VICTORIA – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021
- MOTION: 161-2021 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Roessingh*
That Council approve the 2021 Tour de Victoria event on District of Highlands roads subject to the Event Organizer entering into a Public Property Occupancy Agreement, substantially as shown attached to the report from the Corporate Officer dated June 11, 2021; and further that the Corporate Officer be authorized to execute such an agreement on behalf of the District of Highlands.
CARRIED

11. IN CAMERA

MOTION: 162-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Anderson
That Council move in camera in accordance with section 90 (1) (a) of the *Community Charter* to discuss items specific to personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee, or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality.

CARRIED

The Corporate Officer and Planner left the meeting at 9:08 pm and did not return.

The open meeting reconvened at 9:13 pm.

12. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA RESOLUTIONS

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 163-2021

Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Anderson
That the Council meeting of June 21, 2021 adjourn at 9:13 pm.

CARRIED

MAYOR

DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER

Adopted July 19, 2021