



TOWN OF SIDNEY

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, November 23, 2020
Council Chambers
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor C. McNeil-Smith
Councillor S. Garnett
Councillors: S. Duncan, B. Fallot, T. O’Keeffe, C. Rintoul & P. Wainwright (*electronically*)

Staff: R. Humble, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Hicik, Director of Corporate Services
J. Clary, Director of Engineering (*electronically*)
A. Verhagen, Senior Manager of Current Planning (*electronically*)
S. Nelson, Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor respectfully acknowledged that this evening’s meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the WSÁNEĆ First Nations.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2020.53.657 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the agenda be approved with the following amendments:

1. addition to item 11 - as part of Councillor Fallot’s report - letter from VIRL dated November 23, 2020; and
2. addition of item 12a - Minutes of COVID-19 Recovery Task Force Meeting of November 12, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. A. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD (*maximum 20 minutes*)
(*Written submissions, if any, to be read aloud*)

There were no registered speakers.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

C. PRESENTATIONS

i. Arts Update and CRD Arts & Culture Service Program

Kirsten Norris, Communications Coordinator of ArtSea Community Arts Council, advised of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on their programming and initiatives and that they have had to revise the budget to reflect changes to revenues (projected \$204,838; reduced to \$78,773) and expenses (projected \$191,403; reduced to \$62,258). She advised ArtSea was able to adapt quickly to deliver new or adopted programs, but recently had to close the Gallery in Tulista Park. With respect to arts funding, Ms. Norris advised ArtSea suggests the Town consider taking a hybrid approach - support the regional arts with a financial contribution to the CRD Arts & Culture Support Services Program and support a locally administered grant program that provides fair and equitable funding opportunities for local arts and culture programs and initiatives on the Peninsula.

Council members expressed appreciation for their ability to adapt and continue to provide services during the pandemic, and had questions regarding their suggested hybrid approach - providing funding regionally (via CRD Arts Program) and locally, through a grant administered program.

5. A. BYLAWS

i. Bylaw No. 2202 - Tree Preservation, Amendment No. 2

2020.53.658 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that Bylaw No. 2202 - Tree Preservation, Amendment No. 2, be introduced and given first reading.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.53.659 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that Bylaw No. 2202 - Tree Preservation, Amendment No. 2, be given second reading.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.53.660 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that Bylaw No. 2202 - Tree Preservation, Amendment No. 2, be given third reading.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. DEVELOPMENT PERMITS & DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMITS

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a. Regular Council Meeting - November 9, 2020

2020.53.661 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor C. Rintoul, that Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 9, 2020, be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. BUSINESS NOT COMPLETED AT A PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES (for information only)

a. Regular Council In-Camera - November 9, 2020

i) Lease of School District Property - 9751 Third Street

Resolution: that the proposed Lease Modification Agreement (for 9751 Third Street) between the Town and School District 63 for a new 5 year term be approved.

Resolution: that options for increasing monthly parking pass fees or converting Lot F to a pay lot be brought forward before the completion of the 19-month rent-free period.

9. PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor advised the following:

1. Nov 11 - attended Remembrance Day wreath laying ceremony with ML A. Olsen, Mayor G. Orr and MP E. May in attendance; event was hosted by the Mary Winspear Centre and broadcast live.
2. Nov 14 - with Councilors Duncan, Fallot and Garnet attended Sidney's 1st Tree Appreciation Day; Town staff worked with Greater Victoria Green Team to organize event at Rathdown Park - gave out free tree saplings and planted 20 trees in the Park; and Councillor C. Rintoul distributed tree saplings and care guides to Sidney Elementary Grade 2 students.
3. Peninsula News Review article on Nov 19 - clarified an inaccuracy regarding the Town's tax policy - Sidney Council did not make business tax cuts permanently, but rather instructed staff to use the 2020 tax rate as a starting point for finalizing the 2021 tax rates.
4. Nov 16-20 - South Island Prosperity Project (SIPP) hosted Rising Economy Week, which was extremely well attended.

11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- a. **Councillor S. Garnett** - provided an update on the Sidney Museum & Archive Society, noting their focus on developing outreach kits to provide curriculum programs off-site and virtually; attendance was down 35% by the end of September and noted difficulty in recruiting volunteers; was able to adapt and implement COVID-19 safety protocols to continue to provide services; and recommended the public see the "Snapshots of Canada" exhibit.
- b. **Councillor B. Fallot** - advised of the following:
1. ArtSea Community Arts Council – was able to adapt and implement COVID-19 safety protocols to continue to provide services; the Gallery at Tulista Park has closed; and the Board is meeting virtually and recruiting for new members.
 2. Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee - advised the CRD has completed their review and have some suggested changes/restructuring; and that the Committee, at their AGM, will be looking at their Strategic Plan 2021-2024.
 3. Vancouver Island Regional Library - advised all branches (except for 3) remain open with COVID-19 safety protocols in place; and that VIRL has written a letter (dated November 23, 2020) to the Premier requesting Libraries be declared as an essential service (will also be brought forward to AVICC and UBCM). Referring to item 16.3, stated was disappointed the writer feels that Sidney has a "third-rate" library.

7:30 p.m. - ArtSea was able to make their presentation - see item 4c.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. COVID-19 Recovery Task Force - November 12, 2020

2020.53.662 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor S. Garnett, that Minutes of the COVID-19 Recovery Task Force Meeting of November 12, 2020, be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. STAFF REPORTS

a. Weather Protection for Outdoor Seating & Lineup Areas

2020.53.663 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot:

1. That Development Permit fees and Building Permit fees associated with constructing weather protection for outdoor seating and lineup areas for a commercial business be waived for a one-year period, at which point staff will report back to Council on the relative successes and challenges of this initiative.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.53.664 Moved by Councillor P. Wainwright, seconded by Councillor C. Rintoul:

2. That staff bring forward an amendment to Sidewalk Café and Roadside Café Regulations Bylaw No. 2177 to allow temporary and permanent shelter structures for sidewalk cafes and roadside cafes, subject to conditions, and to waive associated fees for a one-year period.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.53.665 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot:

3. That staff bring back Bylaw No. 2198, an amendment to the Sidewalk Café Regulations and Licencing Bylaw, which allow roadside cafes, in November 2021 for consideration of rescinding the bylaw.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. 2021 Sidney Street Market

2020.53.666 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor S. Garnett:

1. That staff be directed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Westcoast Impressions to allow them to independently organize the Sidney Street Market in an alternate location for the 2021 Market season; and
2. That the Town offer Westcoast Impressions a two year extension on the existing Sidney Street Market Operating Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Update on Speed Limit Reduction Pilot Project

2020.53.667 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor S. Duncan:

1. That staff be directed to participate with the District of Saanich in submitting an application to reduce the default speed limit to 40km/h on streets without a continuous directional dividing line to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for a pilot project under Part 13 of the *Motor Vehicle Act* when the application period for Phase 2 opens; and
2. That staff be directed to bring back a formal resolution to participate in the Pilot Project at the appropriate time.

**OPPOSED: Councillors: B. Fallot & T. O'Keefe
MOTION CARRIED 5:2**

d. Proposed Use of COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant

2020.53.668 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot:

1. That \$650,000 of the Town's Safe Restart Grant be allocated to make up for lost revenues and costs incurred in 2020.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.53.669 Moved Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot:

2. That \$550,000 be tentatively set aside to maintain the current level of tax reductions for 2021 with a final decision to be made at 2021 budget deliberations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.53.670 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot:

3. That the remainder of the Safe Restart Grant funds be set aside for consideration during the 2021 budget process.

**OPPOSED: Councillor T. O'Keefe
MOTION CARRIED 6:1**

2020.53.671 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot:

4. That the Property Tax Distribution Policy Review be put on hold until after the 2021 tax rates have been set.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Monthly Building Permit Report - October 2020

2020.53.672 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor S. Duncan, that the Monthly Building Permit Report for October 2020 be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. CORRESPONDENCE

a. COVID-19 Impacts and Response

2020.53.673 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor C. Rintoul, that the letter from the Shaw Centre for the Salish Sea, dated November 12, 2020, advising of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to the Centre and their safety response, be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. NEW BUSINESS

a. Council Meetings for December

2020.53.674 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the Regular Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, December 21st be cancelled and a Special Council Meeting be held on Monday, December 14th.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

2020.53.675 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor C. Rintoul, that the following correspondence be received for information:

1. Email from Allbay Road Safety Concerned Citizens, requesting "No parking" zone, dated November 2, 2020. Reply dated November 13, 2020.
2. Email from AVICC advising cancellation of in-person Convention scheduled for April in 2021.
3. Email from R. Quaintance, regarding the Sidney/North Saanich library, dated November 12, 2020. Reply dated November 13, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. NOTICES OF MOTION

18. MOTION TO GO "IN-CAMERA" (CLOSED MEETING)

19. ADJOURNMENT

2020.53.676 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER