



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 25th, 2025

PRESENT: Tim McGonigle, Mayor
Councillor Carolyne Austin
Councillor Aaron Frisby
Councillor Kristine Sandhu
Councillor Lorna Vomacka

STAFF: Mark Brown, Chief Administrative Officer (remotely)
Ronnie Gill, Director of Finance
Jas Sandhu, Superintendent, Public Works and Engineering Services
Dalton Smith, Manager, Cowichan Lake Education Centre
Roni-Lee Roach, Executive Secretary

PUBLIC: 1

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None.

3. AGENDA

No. R.0011/25
Agenda

Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the agenda be approved as amended as follows:

IN-CAMERA

Deletion of Item 9(1)(g) law enforcement.

CARRIED.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No. R.0012/25
Regular Council
Meeting Minutes

(a) Moved: Councillor Frisby
Seconded: Councillor Vomacka
that the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council held on January 28th, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED.

6. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

7. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

None.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Action Items:

(b) Information or Consent Items

Correspondence Sent from Mayor McGonigle as follows:

- The Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health re: Loss of Local Physicians in our Community;
- The Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health re: Lake Cowichan Resident – Charleigh Pollock;
- The Honourable Ravi Parmar, Minister of Forests re: Disposition of Lot A, Plan VIP20496 (AB Greenwell Site);
- The Honourable Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs re: Disposition of Lot A, Plan VIP20496 (AB Greenwell Site).



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9. REPORTS

(a) Council and other Committee Reports

No. R.0013/25
Committee of
the Whole

- (i) Moved: Councillor Frisby
Seconded: Councillor Austin
that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 14th, 2025, 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 \$8,236.58 for December, 2024.

2—Fire Department – Incident Report

that Council approve the Lake Cowichan Fire Department’s incident report in the amount of \$6,695.53 for January, 2025.

CARRIED.

Cowichan Lake
Recreation Commission

- (ii) Councillor Sandhu reported on the January 27th, 2025 meeting of the Cowichan Lake Recreation Commission.

Councillor Sandhu advised that the next Commission meeting would be held on March 31st, 2025.

Vancouver Island
Regional Library

- (iii) Councillor Vomacka reported on her attendance at the recent Vancouver Island Regional Library Board annual general meeting and new trustees’ orientation.

Advisory Planning
Commission

- (iv) The Advisory Planning Commission minutes for the meeting held on January 30th, 2025 were treated as information with the Commission recommendations noted and a request for a staff report on short term rentals and the opt-in ability on the matter.

Community Forest Co-
operative

- (v) Mayor McGonigle reported on the recent Forest Co-operative meeting held on February 20th, 2025.

(b) Other Reports

- (i) Mayor McGonigle reported on the current budget meetings held by the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board and the newly created monthly newsletter that will be distributed by the communications department of the Regional District.

He further reported on the Accessibility Advisory Committee that has been appointed to for the Regional District. He advised that the Town of Lake Cowichan had conveyed the Town’s accessibility needs to the Advisory Planning Commission for its action and input.

Community Outreach
Team

- (ii) Councillor Austin advised that the next meeting of the Outreach team would be held on Thursday, March 20th, 2025.

Our Cowichan

- (iii) No report for Our Cowichan.

Cowichan Watershed
Board

- (iv) Councillor Sandhu gave a verbal report on the recent Cowichan Watershed Board meeting held on February 24th, 2025.

Councillor Sandhu advised that World Water Day would be held at Saywell Park on March 22nd, 2025 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm with public tours of the weir being provided with a tour of the weir being provided to Council members prior to the event, if interested.



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The next meeting is scheduled for March 31st, 2025.

Ohtaki Twinning (v) Councillor Austin provided a verbal report on the group travelling to Ohtaki, Japan in July 2025. Councillor Frisby will attend the March 3rd, 2025 meeting to be introduced to those delegates travelling.

No. R.0014/25 Capital 2025 - Pre-Budget Approval Funding (c) **Staff Reports** (i) Moved: Councillor Austin Seconded: Councillor Vomacka that Council approve capital projects for completion and implementation prior to the approval of the 2025 financial budget as follows:
MacDonald Road water main and services upgrade – \$ 100,000 construction and engineering costs.
Sanitary Lagoon upgrades 1,500,000
Purchase of bear resistant ornamental garbage cans around Town 15,000
Purchase of bear resistant garbage and organic toters 80,000
CARRIED.

Mayor McGonigle stated that a strategic plan will be undertaken once the budget discussions for 2025 are finalized with Council input.

10. BYLAWS

No. R.0015/25 Sanitary Sewer Parcel Tax No. 1116-2025 (a) Moved: Councillor Sandhu Seconded: Councillor Frisby that the “Town of Lake Cowichan Sanitary Sewer Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1116-2025” may be read a first, second and third time.
Mayor McGonigle and Councillor Vomacka OPPOSED
CARRIED.

No. R.0016/25 Water Parcel Tax No. 1117-2025 (b) Moved: Councillor Austin Seconded: Councillor Vomacka that the “Town of Lake Cowichan Water Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 1117-2025” may be read a first, second and third time.
CARRIED.

11. NEW BUSINESS

None.

12. MAYOR’S REPORT

None.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

The matter of dates for budget and planning meetings was raised.

Direction to staff to look at available dates and times to undertake budget discussions with Council in the month of March.

14. QUESTION PERIOD

15. IN CAMERA

No. R.0017/25 Retire to In-Camera Moved: Councillor Vomacka Seconded: Councillor Austin



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that the Council close the meeting to the public to deal with issues dealing with labour relations or other employee relations which fall under s. 90(1) (c) of the Community Charter. (5:53 pm).

CARRIED.

16. ADJOURNMENT

No. R.0018/25
Adjournment

Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Frisby
that the meeting arise without report and be adjourned (6:19 pm).

CARRIED.

Certified correct _____.

Confirmed on the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Mayor