

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2008 AT 7:00 PM
IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT: Mayor McRae, Councillors Chopra, Mealey, Patterson and Solda.

EXCUSED: Councillors McLeman and Whiteman.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (including introduction of late items)

Mealey/Patterson

That the agenda be adopted as circulated with the deletion of item E.7 Women's Food and Water Initiative as Jen Fisher-Bradley will be attending the March 10, 2008 regular meeting to discuss this matter.

Carried

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Mealey/Patterson

That the minutes of the February 11, 2008 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried

C. DELEGATIONS

1. Ron Paulson, Chair, 2009 World Under – 17 Hockey Challenge

Ron Paulson provided an update on the planning and preparation of the 2009 World Under 17 Hockey Challenge event. The first ticket launch commences March 15 through *tickets.com*. The Island Coastal Economic Trust application is at Stage II and sponsorship is proceeding well. He thanked the City for their support.

2. Irene Towell, Manager, BC SPCA Alberni-Clayoquot Branch and Craig Daniell, CEO BC SPCA

Craig Daniell and Irene Towell requested an increase in the 2008 Animal Control and Pound Service by \$36,135. They outlined the need for the funding and offered to work with the City to implement the increase.

Chopra/Mealey

That Council for the City of Port Alberni refer the matter of SPCA funding to the March 4, 2008 Five Year Financial Plan Meeting.

Carried

3. Port Alberni Community Social Service Workers

Grace Todd requested Council's support for their program to increase public awareness of their work by proclaiming March 2008 as "Community Social Services Awareness Month" in Port Alberni.

Chopra/Mealey

That Council for the City of Port Alberni proclaim March 2008 as "Community Social Services Awareness Month" in Port Alberni.

Carried

4. Elizabeth Fielden, 2308 Royal Canadian Army Cadets

Elizabeth Fielden provided an outline of the 2308 Royal Canadian Army Cadets. The program is available free of charge to youth ages 12 – 18 years old. It helps to develop skills and fitness and provides many activities and opportunities. The parents committee fund raises for the program and always appreciates assistance. Master Corporal Harley read the Army Cadets honour code.

5. Brent Ronning and John Rampanen

Brent Ronning presented the Community Satisfaction Survey results. They are now available to the Public at City Hall. He suggested that Council establish a broad base committee to review the results and develop strategies of response. Council agreed to consider this further when all of Council were in attendance.

6. Canadian Cancer Society Vancouver Island Region

Nancy Falconer provided a presentation on behalf of the Canadian Cancer Society requesting the regulation of Chemical Pesticide use.

Chopra/Mealey

That staff be directed to investigate the establishment of a regulating bylaw for Chemical Pesticide use.

Carried

D. PROCLAMATIONS NIL

E. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

1. Mayor David Miller, City of Toronto

Mealey/Patterson

That the letter received February 12, 2008 encouraging all Canadian municipalities to participate in Earth Hour, a global World Wildlife Fund lights-out event, be received.

Carried

2. Tseshah First Nation

Patterson/Mealey

That the letter dated February 8, 2008 expressing concerns about the China Creek mudslide be received and the City refer the report regarding the slide event to the Tseshah.

Carried

3. CanWest CanSpell

Chopra/Solda

That Council for the City of Port Alberni provide a letter of support for the CanWest CanSpell initiative to School District No. 70.

Carried

4. Bear Aware Program

Mealey/Patterson

That Council for the City of Port Alberni appoint Scott Smith, City Planner, and Charles Mealey, Councillor as liaisons to the Port Alberni Bear Working Group.

Carried

5. BC Community Forests Association

Chopra/Mealey

That the registration form sent to invite a Council member to attend the 2008 BCCFA Conference and AGM in Sechelt on May 30 – June 1, 2008 be received and Councillor McLeman be authorized to attend as the City's representative.

Carried

6. KUU-US Crisis Line Society

Mealey/Patterson

That Council for the City of Port Alberni grant the request of the KUU-US Crisis Line Society to sell raffle tickets at Sterling Field during the 2008 Salmon Festival.

Carried

F. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

1. Ministry of Economic Development and Minister Responsible for the Asia Pacific Initiative and the Olympics

Letter dated February 5, 2008 providing information about the BC-Canada Pavilion located close to the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square in Beijing.

- 2. Ministry of Community Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors' and Women's Issues**
Letter dated February 4, 2008 from Minister Chong providing information on her recent trip to China to advance consideration of local government twinning or sister cities opportunities.
- 3. Abashiri – Port Alberni Sister City Society**
Letter dated January 25, 2008 from Ryuya Endo, President of the Society, thanking the City for the hospitality provided to the Abashiri North Stars during their recent visit to Port Alberni.
- 4. Legal Services Society**
Letter dated February 8, 2008 providing copies of their brochure "Legal Aid a necessity, not a luxury", which provides information about legal aid renewal.
- 5. Ministry of Small Business and Revenue and Ministry Responsible for Regulatory Reform**
Letter dated February 12, 2008 providing a News Release regarding the success of the pilot mobile business license program in the Okanagan-Simikameen area.
- 6. District of Sooke**
Copy of a letter to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities providing a resolution for consideration at the 2008 AVICC spring conference for seniors to continue to receive the full "additional Home Owners Grant" though some do not meet all the requirements.
- 7. Vancouver Island Health Authority**
Letter dated February 11, 2008 stating their Smoke Free Premises Policy that will be in place effective March 1, 2008.
- 8. Cariboo Regional District**
News Release dated January 18th, 2008 stating that the 2008 BC Rural Summit Registration is now open for the 5th Annual BC Rural Communities Summit to be held March 13-15, 2008 in 100 Mile House, BC.
- 9. Community Futures Alberni**
Memo dated February 19, 2008 outlining the January 21 – February 20, 2008 Program activities highlights.
- 10. Alberni Valley Wrestling Club**
Thank you card from Travis Cross thanking the City of Port Alberni for the continued support for the 2008 Olympics.
- 11. Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Letter dated February 7, 2008 advising that the City's application for funding through Phase 2 of the Community Tourism granting program is approved in the amount of \$30,000. (Funds are for the Tall Ships Festival.)

12. **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Notice dated February 8, 2008 advising that the UBCM President's Committee has undertaken a review of UBCM participation in the Fire Services Liaison Group and has decided to no longer participate in the working group.
13. **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Circular dated February 8, 2008 advising that 101 local governments in BC have now signed or declared their intention to sign the BC Climate Action Charter.
14. **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Copy of an email dated February 15, 2008 regarding the Renewed Fisheries Act being reintroduced.
15. **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Copy of an Invitation dated February 15, 2008 to all Local Governments affected by Treaty. Notice on the Treaty Knowledge Exchange (TKE) Dialogue Program.
16. **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Circular dated February 13, 2008 providing excerpts from the Throne Speech which are of particular interest to local government.
17. **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)**
Circular dated February 19, 2008 on the BC Provincial Budget 2008.

Mealey/Patterson

That Informational Correspondence items numbered 1 through 17 be received and filed.

Carried

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS NIL

H. BYLAWS

1. City Clerk – Public Hearing Report

Mealey/Chopra

That the report of the Public Hearing held February 11, 2008 be received and filed.

Carried

2. “Zoning Amendment No. 66 (3915 – 10th Avenue – Courtney), Bylaw No. 4686”

Mealey/Solda

That the report from the City Planner regarding adoption of Bylaw No. 4686 be received and filed.

Carried

Mealey/Chopra

That “Zoning Amendment No. 66 (3915 – 10th Avenue – Courtney), Bylaw No. 4686” be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the corporate seal and numbered 4686.

Carried

I. REPORTS

1. Accounts

Chopra/Mealey

That the certification of the Director of Finance dated February 25, 2008 be received and the cheques numbered 99482 to 99687 inclusive, in payment of accounts totalling \$1,739,244.52 be approved.

Carried

2. Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission

Patterson/Chopra

That the minutes of the Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission meeting held February 6, 2008 be received.

Carried

3. Climate Change Committee

Mealey/Patterson

That the minutes of the Climate Change Committee meetings held February 6 and 13, 2008 be received.

Carried

Mealey/Patterson

That Council for the City of Port Alberni delete reference to “without significant cost” in the terms of reference for the Climate Change Committee.

Defeated

Mealey/Patterson

That Council for the City of Port Alberni request reinstatement of the public transit route between Nanaimo and Duke Point.

Carried

4. City Clerk – Bear Aware Program

Mealey/Solda

That Council receive the summary of Bear Hazard Assessment recommendations and endorse the 2008 Bear Aware application to implement the public education components of the recommendations.

Carried

5. City Clerk - Save Our City Committee

Report dated February 18, 2008 from the City Clerk addressing the revitalization of Uptown Port Alberni with six recommendations for the consideration of Council.

Solda/Mealey

That Council agree in principle to new property maintenance standards as outlined in the proposed property maintenance bylaw.

Carried

Solda/Chopra

That Council refer the topic of Revitalization Tax Exemption bylaws (RTE) to a Special Meeting of Council.

Carried

Solda/Mealey

That Council direct staff to meet with representatives of the Uptown Merchants Association and students to receive feedback on the property maintenance standards proposed.

Carried

Solda/Mealey

That Council direct staff to seek legal advice on the proposed property maintenance bylaw from the City solicitor following input from the Uptown Merchants Association and the Save Our City Committee.

Carried

6. Current Status Report

Chopra/Solda

That the Current Status Report be received.

Carried

7. Mayor's Report - Ken McRae

The Mayor reported on recent activities and matters of current interest.

Mealey/Patterson

That the Mayor's report be received.

Carried

8. Councillor Chopra - General Government Services Report

9. Councillor Solda - Health and Protective Services Report

10. Councillor Mealey - Planning, Environmental Services and Library Report -

Mealey/Patterson

That the monthly report from the Director of Parks and Recreation providing information about current departmental operations be received.

Carried

Mealey/Solda

That the monthly report from the Economic Development Manager providing information about current departmental operations.

Carried

11. Councillor Patterson - Heritage, Culture and Education Report

Patterson/Chopra

That the monthly report from the Director of the Alberni Valley Museum providing information about current departmental operations be received.

Carried

12. Councillor McLeman - Transportation, Utilities and Forestry Report

13. Councillor Whiteman - Community Services, Economic Development & Tourism Report

J. QUESTION PERIOD

The public and the press were provided the opportunity to ask questions of the Mayor and Council. There were none.

K. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS NIL

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mealey/Patterson

That the meeting adjourn at 9:15 pm.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk