

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD MONDAY,
DECEMBER 8, 2008 AT 7:00 PM IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT: Mayor McRae, Councillors Chopra, Douglas, McLeman, Patterson, Solda and Whiteman

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

Patterson/Whiteman

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Solda/McLeman

That the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 24, 2008 and Inaugural Council Meeting held December 1, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

C. DELEGATIONS

1. Fire Chief

Tim Pley, Fire Chief introduced the new Deputy Fire Chief, Chris Jancowski.

2. Ken Rutherford, Heritage Commission Chair

Ken Rutherford made a presentation recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Industrial Heritage Society. Commemorative pins were presented to the Mayor and Council.

3. Ron Paulson, 2009 World Under - 17 Hockey Challenge

Ron Paulson provided an update regarding preparations for the event.

D. PROCLAMATIONS

1. Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon

Chopra/Whiteman

That the letter from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon dated November 25, 2008 requesting that February 2009 be proclaimed as "Heart and Stroke Month" in Port Alberni, be received and the month proclaimed as requested.

Carried

2. Gyro Club of the Albernis

Chopra/Patterson

That the letter from the Gyro Club of the Albernis received December 3, 2008 requesting that January 1, 2009 be proclaimed as "Gyro Polar Bear Day" in Port Alberni, be received and the day proclaimed as requested.

Carried

E. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

1. Automotive Industries Association of Canada

Chopra/Solda

That the email dated November 25, 2008 expressing concerns that sixty percent of car companies that sell vehicles in Canada refuse to make repair software, tools and training commercially available to the independent service and repair industry, and requesting that municipalities contact their MPs and request that they ensure that access to tools and technology is made available to independent auto service and repair businesses, be received and Council concur with the request.

Carried

2. The Naval Officers' Association of Canada

Chopra/Patterson

That the letter from the Naval Officers' Association of Canada dated November 18, 2008 inviting the City to sponsor the Canadian Navy Centennial Essay Contest and Educational Resource with a \$1000 contribution, be received.

Carried

3. Glen Simpson, BC Hockey League

Chopra/Whiteman

That the email from Glen Simpson, BC Hockey Leagues dated November 28, 2008 requesting that the City place an ad in the special collector's edition of "Smart Hockey" focusing on the 2008-09 All Star Gala, be received.

Carried

4. Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon

McLeman/Chopra

That the letter from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon dated November 27, 2008 requesting permission to use City streets for the "Heart & Stroke Big Bike" event on June 1, 2009 from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm, and advising that the route begins and ends at Roger Creek Park, be received and the request endorsed by Council subject to the event assuming full responsibility, including liability insurance, for the event.

Carried

5. Island Corridor Foundation

Chopra/Solda

That the email from the Island Corridor Foundation dated December 3, 2008 providing copies of media coverage of the campaign to revitalize rail on Vancouver Island and requesting support for the campaign by writing to the MLA and Premier, be received and Council concur with the request.

Carried

6. Council of Tourism Associations of BC

Whiteman/

That the email from the Council of Tourism Associations of BC dated December 3, 2008 requesting support by donation of an item for their annual fundraising auction, be received and referred to the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Carried

F. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

1. Jen Fisher-Bradley

Email dated November 24, 2008 advising of her letter to the Attorney General's office questioning whether Council's October 27 resolution to write a letter of support to Mr. Dennis Galloway was legal, and attaching the Assistant Deputy Attorney General's response stating that Council had not broken any law.

- 2. Echo Village Residents' Council**
Copy of a letter to the Office of the Ombudsman dated November 13, 2008 expressing concerns about how the reduction in funds has impacted the quality of care at the facility.
- 3. Vancouver Island Health Authority**
News Release dated November 21, 2008 announcing that a CT (computed tomography) Scanner will be installed at West Coast General Hospital and become operational by spring 2009.
- 4. Vancouver Island Health Authority**
News Release dated November 24, 2008 regarding the study examining health as it relates to socio-economic status confirms that, "the better a person's socio-economic status, the more likely they are to have good health".
- 5. Port Alberni Port Authority**
Letter dated November 18, 2008 congratulating Council members on their election to City Council.
- 6. Ministry of Small Business & Revenue and Minister Responsible for Regulatory Reform**
Letter dated November 19, 2008 providing an update on the Mobile Business Licence project.
- 7. Ministry of Health Services**
Letter dated November 24, 2008 regarding discussions at the September 2008 UBCM Convention relating to health services and primary care facility models.
- 8. Premier Gordon Campbell**
Letter dated November 17, 2008 congratulating Mayor McRae on his re-election.
- 9. Vancouver Island Health Authority**
News release dated November 26, 2008 announcing the launch of their website "viha.ca/surgery" that provides information on preparing for and recovering from surgery in the Vancouver Island Health Authority.
- 10. Make Children First Network**
Minutes of the "Make Children First Network" meeting held November 13, 2008.
- 11. Municipal Finance Authority**
Fall Update, dated December 1, 2008.
- 12. Federation of Canadian Municipalities**
Members' Advisory dated November 26, 2008 relating to infrastructure and the economy.

13. **Scott Fraser, MLA (Alberni Qualicum)**
Congratulating Council on their success in the municipal election and welcoming an opportunity to meet with Council to discuss issues and priorities.
14. **Vancouver Island University**
Letter dated November 26, 2008 congratulating Mayor McRae on his re-election.
15. **Vancouver Island Health Authority**
News Release dated December 2, 2008 announcing award of a contract to Pacific Companion to provide non-emergency patient transportation services for the Central and North Island, freeing up ambulances to focus on emergency and medical transport.
16. **Richard Neufeld, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum**
Email dated December 2, 2008 congratulating Mayor McRae on his re-election and appreciated the support of the offshore and mining agendas.

*Chopra/Patterson
That Scot Fraser, MLA (Alberni Qualicum) be invited to attend a Regular Council Meeting.*

Carried

*Patterson/Solda
That Informational Correspondence items numbered 1 through 16 be received and filed.*

Carried

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(from November 24, 2008 meeting)

1. Economic Development Manager - Coordinator for Cruise Ship Shore Excursion Packages

*Whiteman/Chopra
That the following resolution be lifted from the table:*

That the report dated November 24, 2008 from the Economic Development Manager requesting Council's approval for releasing funds from the Economic Development Manager's contract services fund for hiring a coordinator to ensure quantity and quality of cruise ship excursion packages, be tabled in order that further information be obtained from Port Alberni Port Authority regarding their negotiations with the CBSA.

Carried

Whiteman/Patterson

That Council for the City of Port Alberni endorse the Economic Development Manager's recommendation to provide \$15,000 for the 2008 consulting services to the Port Alberni Port Authority for a coordinator's position for 2009 cruise shop preparation.

Carried

H. BYLAWS

1. City Planner – Advisory Planning Commission

Summary report of the November 20, 2008 Advisory Planning Commission meeting.

Solda/Chopra

That Council for the City of Port Alberni proceed with the necessary Development Variance Permit to vary Zoning Bylaw #4395 as follows:

Vary Section 7.7 Required Amount of Parking from - "Off-street parking shall be provided as follows: Shopping Centre (containing more than 10 stores) 1 per 17 m² (183 ft²) of gross leaseable floor space" to "Off-street parking shall be provided as follows: Shopping Centre (containing more than 10 stores) 1 per 23 m² (248 ft²) of gross leaseable floor space" for the property at 3550 Johnston Road (Lot 1, District Lot 14, Alberni District, Plan VIP63601 - PID 023-476-842).

And that Council give notice of intent to consider the issuance of a Development Variance Permit for 3550 Johnston Road (Lot 1, District Lot 14, Alberni District, Plan VIP63601 - PID023-476-842).

Carried

Solda/Whiteman

That Council for the City of Port Alberni proceed with an amendment to Schedule A (map) of the Zoning Bylaw to rezone 2633 – 7th Avenue (Lot B, Block 135, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan 197B DD EP77518) from R2 – One and Two Family Residential District to R3 – Small Lot Single Family Residential District and as part of the development process the applicant be required to receive a Preliminary Layout Approval for the proposed subdivision from the City of Port Alberni's Approving Officer before final adoption of the bylaw.

Carried

McLeman/Whiteman

That Council for the City of Port Alberni direct the City planner to write to the developer of the property at 3550 Johnston Road and encourage them to consider no angle parking and no concrete abutments.

Carried

2. “Zoning Amendment No. 71 (2633 7th Ave - Porter), Bylaw No. 4708”

Solda/Chopra

That “Zoning Amendment No. 71 (2633 7th Ave – Porter), Bylaw No. 4708”, be now introduced and read a first time.

Carried

Solda/Whiteman

That “Zoning Amendment No. 71 (2633 7th Ave – Porter), Bylaw No. 4708”, be read a second time.

Carried

3. Setting Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 4708

Solda/Patterson

That “Zoning Amendment No. 71 (2633 7th Ave – Porter), Bylaw No. 4708” be advanced to a Public Hearing on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 6:15 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Carried

4. “5 Year Financial Plan Bylaw 2008-2012, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 4709”

Chopra/Solda

That “5 Year Financial Plan Bylaw 2008-2012, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 4709” be now introduced and read a first time.

Carried

Chopra/Solda

That “5 Year Financial Plan Bylaw 2008-2012, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 4709” be read a second time.

Carried

Chopra/Patterson

That “5 Year Financial Plan Bylaw 2008-2012, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 4709” be read a third time.

Carried

5. "Sign Repeal Bylaw No. 4675"

Solda/Chopra

That "Sign Repeal Bylaw No. 4675" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with corporate seal and numbered 4675.

Carried

I. REPORTS

1. Accounts

Chopra/Patterson

That the certification of the Director of Finance dated December 8, 2008 be received and the cheques numbered 103292 to 103508 inclusive, in payment of accounts totalling \$700,103.08, be approved.

Carried

2. Director of Finance – Audit Committee Minutes

Chopra/Solda

That the minutes of the November 24, 2008 Audit Committee Meeting, and the financial statements ending October 31, 2008, be received.

Carried

3. City Clerk – 2008 Municipal Election Results

Chopra/McLeman

That the report from the City Clerk dated November 28, 2008 providing a copy of the Official Results of the City of Port Alberni Municipal Election held on November 15, 2008, be received.

Carried

4. City Manager – Mayor and Council Remuneration Survey

Chopra/Solda

That the report from the City Manager dated December 1, 2008 providing a comparison of remuneration rates for Council members from 20 BC municipalities with populations between 10 and 25 thousand, be received.

Carried

5. City Clerk - 2009 Arena Parcel Tax Court of Revision for 2009

Chopra/Solda

That Council for the City of Port Alberni establish that the 2009 Court of Revision, to deal with complaints respecting the assessment roll and authentication of the assessment roll for the Arena Parcel Tax, meet at 10:00 am, March 9, 2009 in the Council Chambers at 4850 Argyle Street.

Carried

Chopra/Solda

That Council for the City of Port Alberni appoint Councillors Solda and Patterson with Councillor Whiteman as alternate to the 2009 Court of Revision, Chaired by Raymond Kwok.

Carried

6. City Clerk – Commercial Vehicle Licenses

Chopra/Whiteman

That the report from the City Clerk dated December 3, 2008 be received and Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to prepare a bylaw to terminate the Commercial Vehicle Licensing program.

Carried

7. Current Status Report

Council requested that the Franklin River Road report be maintained on the list as a low priority.

Chopra/Solda

That the report from the City Manager dated December 4, 2008 regarding longstanding items on the Status Report be received and staff move forward with completion of the tasks identified therein as expeditiously as possible.

Carried

8. Mayor's Report

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

Solda/McLeman

That the Mayor's report be received.

Carried

9. Councillor Chopra

10. Councillor McLeman

McLeman/Solda

That the monthly report from the City Engineer providing information about current departmental operations, be received.

Carried

11. Councillor Douglas

12. Councillor Patterson

Patterson/Solda

That the minutes from the December 3, 2008 Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission Meeting, be received and filed.

Carried

13. Councillor Solda

Solda/Patterson

That the monthly report from the City Planner providing information about current departmental operations, be received.

Carried

Solda/Patterson

That the monthly report from the OIC RCMP providing information about current departmental operations, be received.

Carried

Solda/Chopra

That the monthly report from the Fire Chief providing information about current departmental operations, be received.

Carried

14. Councillor Whiteman

Whiteman/Solda

That Theresa Kingston provide a review of Human Resources Policies applicable to the Mayor and Council.

Carried

J. QUESTION PERIOD

Gerri Pavan expressed concern for the use of the former RCMP building on 6th Avenue for the homeless and their support services.

K. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Patterson/Solda

That a letter be sent to the Buffalo Lodge thanking them for their contribution to local charities and organizations.

Carried

L. ADJOURNMENT

Whiteman/Patterson

That the meeting adjourn at 8:37 pm.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk