

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, October 28, 2024 @ 2:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers & Via Video-Conference
4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

Present: Mayor S. Minions
Councillor D. Dame
Councillor D. Haggard
Councillor C. Mealey
Councillor T. Patola

Regrets: Councillor C. Solda

Staff: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Darling, Director of Corporate Services
W. Thorpe, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
K. Orchiston, Manager of Asset Management Initiatives
P. Deakin, Economic Development Manager
J. Pelech, Information Services Manager

Gallery: 25

A. CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the agenda be amended to include items under 'New Business' L.7 | BCNPHA Conference and K.1 | Council Reports. The agenda was then adopted, as amended.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the minutes of the Special meeting and Regular Council meeting of October 15, 2024 be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

1. Officer in Charge | R.C.M.P

Inspector K. Bruce provided introductions as the new Officer in Charge for the City of Port Alberni R.C.M.P. Detachment.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E. STAFF REPORTS

F. BYLAWS

1. Parks, Recreation and Culture Fees and Charges Bylaw

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to engage in a discussion with the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District regarding equitable regional contributions for recreation services.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-326

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council refer the following motions to a Committee of the Whole for further discussion:

- *THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct that the proposed “Parks, Recreation and Culture Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 5106, 2024” be amended to include a separate rate structure for the Echo Sunshine Club to meet the rate increases [plus CPI] via a scaled approach over a 4-year term.*
- *THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct that the proposed “Parks, Recreation and Culture Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 5106, 2024” be amended from a 5 percent annual fee increase to reflect an annual increase based on the prior years Consumer Price Index [CPI] rate.*
- *THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct that the proposed “Parks, Recreation and Culture Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 5106, 2024” reflect the following in relation to youth practices, games and tournaments:*
 - *Sports field rates of zero dollars;*
 - *Echo Parks Fieldhouse rental rates amended from \$198/day to \$100/day;*
 - *Concession rental rates amended from \$250/day to \$100/day when rented and operated by a youth sports society.*
- *THAT Council introduce and complete three readings of “Parks, Recreation and Culture Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 5106, 2024”, effective September 1, 2025, with the recommended changes.*
- *THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni provide staff direction regarding developing a policy on waiving rental fees for any particular participant demographic or event type.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-327

2. Municipal Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni repeal “City of Port Alberni Revitalization Tax Exemption Program, Bylaw No. 4824”.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-328

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni repeal “City of Port Alberni Commercial Revitalization Tax Exemption Program, Bylaw No. 4898”.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-329

3. **2024 Permissive Tax Exemptions**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 5115, 2024" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5115.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-330
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 5090-1, 2024" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5090-1.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-331
4. **Animal Control and Pound Bylaw No. 5117, 2024 | Amendment**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Animal Control and Pound Bylaw No. 5117, 2024" be now introduced and read a first time.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-332
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Animal Control and Pound Bylaw No. 5117, 2024" be read a second time.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-333
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Animal Control and Pound Bylaw No. 5117, 2024" be read a third time.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-334

G. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

1. **Vancouver Island Regional Library**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT pursuant to the Library Act, Council appoints Councillor Patola as the City of Port Alberni's representative to serve on the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board of Trustees for a term ending December 31, 2025.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-335
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT pursuant to the Library Act, Council appoints Councillor Haggard as the City of Port Alberni's alternate representative to serve on the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board of Trustees for a term ending December 31, 2025.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-336
2. **Stolen Child BC Productions Inc.**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize an exemption to the 'Noise Control Bylaw 2009, No. 4718" to permit the filming of 'The Stolen Child' on Golden Street on October 28, November 1, 4, 8, 12 and 14, 2024 until 10:30 pm.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-337
3. **Alberni Valley Food Security Society**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to prepare a letter of support to the Alberni Valley Food Security Society to accompany their grant application to the federal government "Local Food Infrastructure Fund" in order to purchase an AgriKit to be situated on City-owned lands known as the 'Community Garden' presently leased by the Society, subject to the City not incurring any associated financial costs and that the initiative meets zoning regulations.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-338

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. Christian Heritage Month

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the letter from the Christian Music Festival requesting a proclamation

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-339

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The Director of Corporate Services summarized correspondence to Council as follows:

- a. Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District | Invites Public Input on Waste Reduction Plan
- b. Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District | Keeping you Connected September 2024
- c. Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District | Sarita River Washout
- d. Various Ministry Letters | Follow up to the 2024 UBCM Convention Meetings
- e. Advisory Planning Commission Meeting Minutes | January 18 & June 20, 2024

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the items of correspondence for information, as presented.

CARRIED

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

K. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Council and Regional District Reports

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Council reports outlining recent meetings and events related to the City's business, be received.

CARRIED

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Long Shot Events Inc.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to prepare a letter of support to Long Shot Events Inc. for their proposed Alberni Shores event.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-340

2. Coastal Restoration Society

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to prepare a letter of support to Coastal Restoration Society for construction of a vessel recycling facility subject to the Society receiving endorsement from the Tseshaht and Hupacasath First Nations.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-341

3. **City Involvement in Local Events**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to move the First Night and Polar Bear Swim events to the collaborative event category for 2024 and further, that staff engage with the appropriate organizations to begin planning.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-342

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to contact each event organizer to outline their corresponding category classification starting in 2025.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-343

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to bring forward recommendations to permit operational approvals of up to five years for local events where staff deem it appropriate and where there is support from the event provider.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-344

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to prepare a report recommending potential changes to the Community Investment Program Terms of Reference including exploring multi-year approvals and a provision that for-profit or private organizations organizing local fundraising events where proceeds will provide community benefit will have the same access as non-profit organizations to the Community Investment Program.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-345

4. **Interim Housing Needs Report**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni receive the Interim Housing Needs Report in accordance with section 585.31 of the Local Government Act, and ahead of the January 1, 2025 deadline set by the B.C. Ministry of Housing.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-346

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to develop the 2042 Official Community Plan in consideration of the Interim Housing Needs Report as required by section 473.1(2) of the Local Government Act.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-347

5. **UBCM Grant | 2024 Asset Management Planning Program**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council support the application to the UBCM 2024 Asset Management Planning program to enhance the integration of asset management planning with long-term financial planning.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-348

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend "City of Port Alberni 2024 - 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024" by allocating \$15,000 towards the UBCM Asset Management Planning program in 2024 from Other Common Services – 21259.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-349

6. **Grant Application | Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve the City as an applicant to the Economic Capacity stream of the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program [REDIP].

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-350

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend "City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024" by allocating \$50,000 from Economic Development in 2025 and 2026 to be utilized as matching funds for a grant request of \$100,000 from the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program [REDIP].

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-351

7. **BC Housing Central Conference**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize Councillor Dame to participate in the BC Housing Central Conference taking place November 18 – 20, 2024 in Vancouver, BC.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-352

M. QUESTION PERIOD

J. VanDusen | Echo Sunshine Club

Requested clarity regarding the proposed Parks, Recreation and Culture Fees and Charges Bylaw as it pertains to the Echo Sunshine Club.

L. Johnson

Inquired regarding the proposed Parks, Recreation and Culture Fees and Charges Bylaw as it relates to the Aquatic Centre and requested an update on Aquatic Centre staffing challenges.

D. Steinhauer

Inquired regarding the potential for re-opening the Aquatic Centre on Sundays.

M. Shelton

Inquired regarding the proposed Parks, Recreation and Culture Fees and Charges Bylaw as it relates to the Aquatic Centre.

B. Randalls

Inquired regarding the reduction in Aquatic Centre operational hours.

J. Leskosek

Inquired regarding the Question Period process, Quay to Quay Pathway maintenance and crosswalk timing at the Tebo Avenue and Johnston Road intersection.

N. Anderson

Commented on the increase in public participation at Council meetings.

N. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 4:32 p.m.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT


Mayor


Corporate Officer