

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, January 26, 2026 @ 2:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers & Via Video-Conference
4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

Present: Councillor D. Dame (Chair)
Councillor D. Haggard
Councillor C. Mealey
Councillor T. Patola
Councillor C. Solda
Councillor T. Verbrugge

Regrets: Mayor S. Minions

Staff: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Smith, Director of Development Services/Deputy CAO
S. Darling, Director of Corporate Services
A. McGifford, Director of Finance
P. Deakin, Manager of Economic Development
K. Bodin, Director of Human Resources
M.C. Massicotte, Manager of Community Safety & Social Development
B. McLoughlin, Manager of Planning
K. Motiuk, Deputy Director of Corporate Services (Recording Secretary)
F. Guevara, Software Analyst

Gallery: 39

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Chair Dame expressed appreciation to Mike Fox, Chief Administrative Officer, for his dedicated service to the City and extended best wishes as he begins his next chapter with the District of North Vancouver.

A. CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM.

Notice of Motion – Councillor Haggard

Councillor Haggard provided Notice of Motion directing Administration to coordinate Council site visits to supportive housing locations, ensuring Council has the necessary information to inform a lease agreement with BC Housing for the proposed supportive housing project on 2nd Avenue.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the minutes of the Special and Regular meetings of Council held on January 12, 2026 be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Quarterly Departmental Reports

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the Q4 Quarterly Reports from the Economic Development, Human Resources and Corporate Services departments for the period October 1 – December 31, 2025 as information.

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-20

2. Nuisance Abatement Working Group | Quarterly Report

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the report 'Nuisance Abatement Working Group – Quarterly Report' for the period October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025 as information.

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-21

3. Approval of Audit Minutes

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve the November 25, 2025 Audit Committee minutes.

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-22

F. BYLAWS

1. Municipal Office Building Purchase Loan Authorization, Bylaw No. 5142, 2026

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Municipal Office Building Purchase Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 5142, 2026" be now introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-23

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Municipal Office Building Purchase Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 5142, 2026" be read a second time.

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-24

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "Municipal Office Building Purchase Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 5142, 2026" be read a third time.

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-25

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend "City of Port Alberni 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5138" as follows:

- a. In 2026, Add new Revenue Account – Planning & Engineering Building – add \$94,710*
- b. In 2026, Line 21254 – Planning & Engineering Building - \$94,710*
- c. In 2027, Planning & Engineering Building Revenue – add \$199,070*
- d. In 2027, Line 21254 – Planning & Engineering Building – add \$324,714*
- e. In 2028, Planning & Engineering Building Revenue – add \$202,177*
- f. In 2028, Line 21254 – Planning & Engineering Building – add \$326,268*
- g. In 2029, Planning & Engineering Building Revenue – add \$202,177*
- h. In 2029, Line 21254 – Planning & Engineering Building – add \$326,268*
- i. In 2030, Planning & Engineering Building Revenue – add \$202,177*
- j. In 2030, Line 21254 – Planning & Engineering Building – add \$326,268*

CARRIED| Res. No. 26-26

2. **2026 – 2030 Financial Plan | Third Reading**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "City of Port Alberni 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5138" be read a third time.
CARRIED | Res. No. 26-27

G. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. **Alberni Valley Chapter Canadian Council of the Blind**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of Alberni Valley Chapter Canadian Council of the Blind, proclaim the week of February 2 – 7, 2026 as 'White Cane Week' in Port Alberni.
CARRIED | Res. No. 26-28
2. **Kinsmen Club of Port Alberni**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of the Kinsmen Club of Port Alberni, proclaim February 20-27, 2026 as Kinsmen and Kinette Week in Port Alberni.
CARRIED | Res. No. 26-29
3. **Heritage BC**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of Heritage BC, proclaim the week of February 16 – 22, 2026 as 'Heritage Week' in Port Alberni.
CARRIED | Res. No. 26-30

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

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

- a. District of Highlands | Bill M216 – *Professional Reliance Act*
- b. Various Ministry Letters | Follow up to the 2025 UBCM Convention Meeting
- c. AVICC | 2026 AVICC AGM & Convention – 3rd Call for Resolutions
- d. Ministry of Health | Update on Decriminalization Pilot Program
- e. Traffic Advisory Committee | October 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- f. Alberni Valley Heritage Commission | December 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to forward information regarding student attendance at the AVICC Convention to eligible schools in Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-31

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the January 26, 2026 correspondence summary as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-32

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

1. Council released for public consumption direction to authorize \$10,000 from the Reconciliation Fund towards a museum summer [Tseshah] student employment position, should the grant application to the Canadian Museum Association not be successful.

2. Council released for public consumption support for an application to the Agricultural Land Reserve to remove land [5355 Cherry Creek Road] given the application is prepared by Community Futures and approved by the city.
3. Council released for public consumption execution of a Contract of Purchase and Sale between the City of Port Alberni and Libberock Holdings Inc for 4835 Argyle Street, Lots 10,11 and 12, Block 41, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan 197B (PIDS: 009-251-243, 009-251-260 and 009-251-308) in the amount of \$3,400,000.

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 | Res. No. 26-33

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Community Investment Program | 2026 Recommendations**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve the 2026 Community Investment Program Committee recommendations as outlined in the staff report dated January 12, 2026 and further direct Administration to return with an updated Terms of Reference.
CARRIED | Res. No. 26-34
2. **Temporary Use Permit | 3868 Wood Avenue**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council postpone discussion on Temporary Use Permit No. 24-01 at 3868 Wood Avenue to February 23, 2026 in order to obtain a written legal opinion on the matter.
CARRIED | Res. No. 26-35
3. **Temporary Use Permit | 3723 Redford Street**

Chair Dame invited members of the public forward to speak to Temporary Use Permit No. 25-02 at 3723 Redford Street.

H. Singh Rai, owner of the property in question, spoke in support of Temporary Use Permit No. 25-02.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council not issue Temporary Use Permit No. 25-02 at 3723 Redford Street.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-36

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct the Community Safety and Social Development department to not enforce the Zoning Bylaw at 3723 Redford Street until July 1, 2026 to allow tenants to find alternate accommodation.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-37

4. Temporary Use Permit | 2907 3rd Avenue

Chair Dame invited members of the public forward to speak to Temporary Use Permit No. 25-04 at 2907 3rd Avenue.

A. Pontbriand, CFO of Coulson Group of Companies spoke in support of Temporary Use Permit No. 25-04 at 2907 3rd Avenue.

M. Stabler spoke in support of Temporary Use Permit No. 25-04 at 2907 3rd Avenue.

C. Zanette, Uptown Merchants Association, spoke in support of Temporary Use Permit No. 25-04 at 2907 3rd Avenue.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council not issue Temporary Use Permit No. 25-04 at 2907 3rd Avenue.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-38

5. Release of In-Camera Resolutions | 2025 Annual Disclosure

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive 'Release of In Camera Resolutions | 2025 Annual Disclosure' dated January 26, 2026 as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-39

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve updated Policy No. 3002-6 "Release of In Camera Resolutions" dated January 26, 2026.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-40

6. Notice of Motion provided January 19, 2026 | Cllr. Solda

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a report outlining potential city-led program options to support businesses experiencing challenges related to crime and disruption stemming from social disorder, including resources for security enhancements and support for community collaboration initiatives.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-41

M. QUESTION PERIOD

R. Doiron inquired about the opportunity for the public to speak to development application matters.

L. Hogdin inquired about safety measures in the uptown district.

M. Wright inquired about zoning changes in the uptown district.

B. McLean inquired about opportunities for the public to speak to non-zoning issues.


C. Jaskin inquired about collaboration with community groups on City owned properties.

G. Hughes expressed thanks to outgoing CAO M. Fox for his leadership during his tenure with the City.

N. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 4:24 p.m.

CARRIED



Mayor

Corporate Officer