

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, February 9, 2026 @ 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
Councillor C. Solda
Councillor T. Verbrugge

Staff: A. McGifford, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Smith, Director of Development Services/Deputy CAO
S. Darling, Director of Corporate Services
M. Owens, Fire Chief
R. Macauley, Director of Finance
J. MacDonald, Director of Infrastructure Services
L. Dauphin, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
P. Deakin, Manager of Economic Development
B. McLoughlin, Manager of Planning
K. Motiuk, Deputy Director of Corporate Services (Recording Secretary)
J. Pelech, Manager of Information Services

Gallery: 8

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 approved as circulated.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. *MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the minutes of the Special meeting and Regular Council meeting held on January 26, 2026 be adopted, as presented.*
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

1. **Introduction | Business Development and Property Advisor & Deputy Director of Finance**
The Manager of Economic Development introduced the City's new Business Development and Property Advisor, Dave Osborne, and the Chief Administrative Officer introduced the new Deputy Director of Finance, Tamara Nelson.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Quarterly Departmental Reports

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the Q4 Quarterly Reports from the Development Services, Finance, Fire, Infrastructure Services, and the Parks, Recreation & Culture departments for the period October 1 – December 31, 2025 as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-42

F. BYLAWS

1. 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan | Adoption

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT "City of Port Alberni 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5138" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5138.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-43

G. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

1. Ridge View Health & Performance | McLean Mill 10K

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize Ridge View Health & Performance access to McLean Mill National Historic Site on Sunday, March 29, 2026 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm for the purpose of a 10K running event starting at the McLean Mill and following the route as outlined in the attached map subject to:

- *the notification of emergency services and BC Transit;*
- *consultation with all affected businesses/residents;*
- *provision of a Traffic Safety Plan completed by a certified professional, including qualified Traffic Control personnel as required;*
- *provision of standard liability insurance in the amount of \$5M; and*
- *review by event organizers of the [Report of the Study Commission of Inquiry into Community Events Safety](#) dated June 26, 2025.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-44

2. Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique | Francophonie Flag Request

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize the request from the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique to raise the Francophonie flag at City Hall from March 1-31, 2026 in support of the francophone community in Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-45

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. BC Epilepsy Society

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of the BC Epilepsy Society, proclaim March 26, 2026 as 'International Purple Day®' in Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-46

2. Vancouver Island Down Syndrome Society

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of Vancouver Island Down Syndrome Society, proclaim March 21, 2026 as 'World Down Syndrome Day' in Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-47

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

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

- a. UBCM President | Forestry Industry and Sustainable Fibre Resolution Endorsement
- b. BC Ferries | Response to City letter re: BC Ferries Booking Changes
- c. Central Vancouver Island Crime Stoppers | 2025 Summary Report
- d. Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport | Follow up to the 2025 UBCM Convention Meeting
- e. City of Kamloops | Copy of 2026 Resolution regarding review of the *Heritage Conservation Act*

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council receive the Council Correspondence Summary as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-48

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

The following motions previously passed by Council during a Closed meeting, were released to the public, pursuant to Section 117 of the Community Charter.

August 11, 2025

- Authorization to execute a lease agreement between the City of Port Alberni and the Canadian Mental Health Association – Port Alberni, for a six-year term for City parks caretaker residences located at Roger Creek Park, Russell Park, Williamson Park, Blair Park, Klitsa Park and Paper Mill Dam Park; to include decommissioning of the Papermill Dam Park caretaker house once vacant.

January 26, 2026

- Direction for Administration to prepare a response to the Town of View Royal's December 4, 2025 letter, expressing Council's potential interest in joining a coalition of British Columbia municipalities and regional districts to evaluate and potentially pursue a coordinated Judicial Review of provincial housing legislation, including Bills 44, 47, 13, 15, and M216, subject to additional information.

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 as information.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-49

L. NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Dame left the meeting at 2:25 p.m. declaring a conflict of interest as it relates to the subject property sharing a boundary line with his personal business' leased property.

1. Notice of Motion provided January 26, 2026 | Cllr. Haggard

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct 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 Council amend the motion to remove reference to the 2nd Avenue supportive housing lease agreement.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-50

Councillor Dame returned to the meeting at 2:57 p.m.

Main Motion as Amended

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct Administration to coordinate Council site visits to supportive housing locations.

CARRIED | Res. No. 26-51

M. QUESTION PERIOD

N. Anderson

Inquired about annual increases in staffing, the selection of comparable supportive housing operations chosen for Council to tour, and lease negotiations with BC Housing for supportive housing.

R. Doiron

Inquired about supportive housing lease options and models including low barrier housing.

B. Kangeisser

Inquired about trail counter statistics referenced in the Parks quarterly report, projected staff increases, and building bylaw licensing fines.

Councillor Patola recused himself from discussion declaring a conflict of interest with respect to his position on the CMHA Board of Directors at 3:38 p.m.

L. Walerius

Inquired about the process and renewal of the Caretaker residence agreements between the City and the Canadian Mental Health Association – Port Alberni.

Councillor Patola returned to the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

N. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:51 p.m.

CARRIED



Mayor



Corporate Officer