

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

An information report summarizing the Regular meeting of Council held February 12, 2024.
This is not the official minutes. For more information, please contact the Corporate Services department at 250.723.2146 or email: corp_serv@portalberni.ca.

■ UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Five Year Financial Plan Q&A Summary

The Director of Finance presented a summary of questions and responses as it relates to the 2024-2028 Financial Planning process. Discussions on the Plan will continue at the next Committee of the Whole meeting on Tuesday, February 20th at 6 pm in City Hall, Council Chambers. To participate electronically register at <https://www.portalberni.ca/council-agendas-minutes>.

■ BYLAWS

Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 5086-1, 2024 was postponed to the February 26th Regular meeting of Council to permit additional information to be brought forward related to Development Cost Charges.

Fees and Charges Bylaw, Amendment No. 5, Bylaw No. 5100, 2024 was introduced and given three readings. The bylaw upon adoption will reflect the revision of existing fees, elimination of fees that are no longer required and the inclusion of credit card transactions, a new feature that will be made available to residents as an option in the payment of utilities and property taxes.

“City of Port Alberni 2024-2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024” was introduced and read a first time. While first reading formally introduces the bylaw, a number of meetings have been scheduled over the next few months for Council to deliberate and receive public input. Please visit <https://portalberni.ca/budget> to view the draft financial plan and to find opportunities on how to participate in the process.

“Zoning Bylaw Amendment | 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue” was rescinded to allow staff to complete statutory notice requirements in alignment with the recently announced changes to the *Local Government Act* Bill-44 which requires public notice to be given prior to consideration of first reading.

“Official Community Plan Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5084” and **“Zoning Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5085”** were adopted. The bylaws will enable construction of a single detached dwelling.

■ CORRESPONDENCE

Alberni Athletics Soccer Club | Upper Island Soccer Association Mini World Cup

Council directed staff to prepare a letter of welcome addressed to the athletes of the tournament and for staff to work with the Alberni Athletics Soccer Club to ensure fields are in tournament ready condition.

Council further appointed Councillor Haggard to participate in the Upper Island Soccer Association Mini World Cup opening ceremony taking place on April 27, 2024.

Coastline Endurance Running | Trail Running Series

Council authorized Coastline Endurance Running access to City streets/trails on Saturday, June 1, 2024 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for the purpose of a trail running event.

Wounded Warrior Run BC

Council authorized Wounded Warrior Run BC access to City streets on Thursday, February 29, 2024 for the purpose of a Wounded Warrior Run from Hwy 4 [Johnston Rd.] to Gertrude St. to Roger St. to Victoria Quay, ending at the Port Alberni Legion Branch #293. The event raises awareness and provides program funding for veterans, first responders and their families.

Ridge View Health & Performance | McLean Mill 10K

Council authorized Ridge View Health & Performance access to McLean Mill National Historic Site on Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm for the purpose of a 10K running event.

Tseshah First Nation | Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy

Council supported the draft Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy as prepared by the Tseshah First Nation in collaboration with many partners in the Alberni Valley. <https://tseshah.com/alberni-valley-toxic-poisoned-drugs-opioid-crisis-strategy-draft/>

Council postponed consideration of further steps with respect to implementation and advocacy for resourcing the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy through a smaller

political working group/action team and provision of a letter of support and declaration of commitment to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to permit additional time to review the Strategy.

Council also received their correspondence summary which included letters from:

- a. Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills | Follow up letter Re: 2023 UBCM Convention Meeting
- b. Pacific Rim School District | Appointment of City Representatives
- c. Regional District of Nanaimo | Legislative Reform Initiative Update
- d. Okanagan Basin Water Board | B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence Program
- e. Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction | Follow up letter Re: 2023 UBCM Convention Meeting and Local Community Accessibility Grant Program
- f. Forest Enhancement Society of BC | 2023 Accomplishments Report www.fesbc.ca
- g. Prime Minister | Responding to Council's January 2, 2024 letter calling for a ceasefire in Gaza
- h. District of Sicamous | Support for Bill-34
- i. City of Abbotsford | Seeking support for proposed UBCM Resolution Re: Detox Centres
- j. Ministry of Municipal Affairs | Condolences for former Councillor Helen Poon
- k. Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation | 2024 – 2029 Forest Stewardship Plan
- l. Wildsafe BC Alberni Valley | Annual Report 2023
- m. Advisory Planning Committee | Minutes of December 21, 2023
- n. Vancouver Island Economic Alliance | State of the Island Economic Report 'Focus on the Alberni Valley'

■ **PROCLAMATIONS**

BC Epilepsy Society

Council proclaimed March 26, 2024 as 'International PURPLE DAY' in Port Alberni.

Parkinson Society British Columbia

Council proclaimed the month of April 2024 as 'Parkinson's Awareness Month' in Port Alberni.

■ **REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA**

Council released for public consumption authorization for the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute an agreement between Libberock Holdings Inc. and the City of Port Alberni to lease a portion of the upper floor of 4835 Argyle Street, in the amount of \$4,222 per month inclusive of utilities & taxes for one year, with the option to either renew at \$5,000 per month for a further five-year term [2025-2028] or alternatively, purchase the building.

Council released for public consumption Notice of its Intent to lease City owned property at 3100

Kingsway Avenue, Port Alberni to Twin City Brewing Company Ltd. for the operation of a year-round craft brew pub and restaurant for a ten-year term at a rate of \$2,200 per month plus GST, in consideration of a maximum of \$184,440 contributed by the tenant in capital improvements, for a term of 10 years with the option to renew the lease for a further 5 years, subject to the advertised Notice of Intent to lease receiving no objections.

■ **NEW BUSINESS**

Justice for Dontay [Lucas]

Council to begin the process of engaging with Dontay's family to find a space dedicated to celebrating Dontay Lucas' life.

School District 70 | Social Justice12

Council, pending the blessing of Indigenous elders, supported the painting of an Indigenous crosswalk, and further directed that funding for the project be included in the Financial Plan.

Asset Retirement Obligations Policy

Council approved Policy 3009-4 'Asset Retirement Obligations'. Informed by the Public Sector Accounting Standards, the policy outlines financial treatment of Asset Retirement Obligations to assist local governments in the consistent reporting of financial considerations for assets and their related liabilities.

Broombusters Invasive Plant Society

Council directed staff to bring back a proposal to coordinate a joint City-wide Broombusting event with Broombusters Invasive Plant Society.

Service Fees and Development Cost Charges

Council directed staff to review all user fees ensuring cost recovery, review Development Cost Charges and work towards ensuring that all residents of the Alberni Valley pay appropriately for services.

FCM | 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show

Council directed administration to amend *Travel Policy 3009-2* with regards to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities annual conference to permit Council to consider authorization of any Councillors expressing interest in attending versus the present policy which permits the attendance of the Mayor and one member of Council.

Port Alberni CAT Blueprint Strategies | Toxic Drugs

Council postponed consideration to endorse the Port Alberni Community Action Team document entitled 'Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia' to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to permit additional time to review the document.

Motorized Vehicles on Municipal Lands | Parks and the Log Train Trail

Council directed administration to review all current signage and barriers on the Log Train Trail in order to ensure that the trail remains free of motorized vehicles; and further directed administration to prepare a letter to the Ministry

of Transportation and Infrastructure and Mosaic Forest Management stating that the City does not support motorized vehicles on the Log Train Trail and that the City portion of the trail will remain for hikers/bikers only.

■ QUESTION PERIOD

E. Frood

Requested Council consider the crosswalk in front of the Overdose Prevention Site at 3699 3rd Avenue for the Indigenous painting project to honour the life of the woman involved in the pedestrian accident at that location.

N. Anderson

Inquired about language used in describing tax impacts, Quay to Quay costs to date and clarification on eligible projects within the Growing Communities Fund.

R. Smith

Requested clarification on the proposed tax rate as it relates to previous Quay to Quay funding and intent of the City's lease for 4835 Argyle Street.

■ COUNCIL MEETINGS

The City of Port Alberni is now offering hybrid Council and Committee of the Whole meetings.

We encourage you to remain informed on City business and community topics through the following options:

- Attend in-person in City Hall, Council Chambers, located at 4850 Argyle Street
- Livestream @ www.portalberni.ca
- Join online or by phone using MS Teams

Regular Council meetings are held at 2:00 pm on the second and fourth Monday of each month. All meeting recordings are posted on the City website for viewing.

Complete Council agendas including all correspondence and reports are available at portalberni.ca. Generally, these are posted the Friday before each Regular Council meeting and are archived on the site.

The Council Summary is prepared following each regular Council meeting and posted on the City's website. You can also visit the City website and sign up to receive summaries delivered directly to your inbox.

For more information related to Council meetings, including how to participate, please visit www.portalberni.ca/council. You may also contact the Corporate Services department at 250.723.2146 or email corp_serv@portalberni.ca.

■ MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Thursday, February 15th

CANCELLED | 12:00 pm – Advisory Planning Commission
Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 20th

6:00 pm – Committee of the Whole
2024 – 2028 Financial Plan
Council Chambers

Monday, February 26th

2:00 pm – Regular Council
Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 27th

9:30 am – Audit Committee
Council Chambers