



**DISTRICT OF HIGHLANDS
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023 @ 7:00 PM
COMMUNITY HALL, 729 FINLAYSON ARM ROAD**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ken Williams
Councillor Leslie Anderson
Councillor Ann Baird
Councillor Gord Baird
Councillor Marcie McLean
Councillor Karel Roessingh
Councillor Rose Stanton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Administrative Officer Lorraine Hilton
Municipal Planner Laura Beckett
Administrative Assistant Liz Condon

Public Observation: 12

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: 32-2023

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the agenda be approved with the addition of Mel Sangha, Terri Wood and Scott Richardson wishing to speak under Petitions and Delegations.

CARRIED

2. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

2.1

Mel Sangha, OK Industries Representative, spoke regarding item 7.1, the Draft South Highlands Local Area Plan, and expressed strong opposition to any OCP amendment that would include the January 2023 draft plan's policy direction.

2.2

Terri Wood, Millstream Industrial Park Representative spoke regarding item 7.1, the Draft South Highlands Local Area Plan, expressing concern with the potential significant changes to the Highlands OCP.

2.3

Scott Richardson, resident, spoke regarding item 7.1, the Draft South Highlands Local Area Plan, expressing concern with the changes from the draft version dated June 2022.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1

MOTION: 33-2023

Council – February 6, 2023

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird
That the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Council meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3.2

MOTION: 34-2023

Heritage Select Committee – November 9, 2023

Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Roessingh
That the minutes of the November 9, 2022 Heritage Select Committee meeting be received.

CARRIED

3.3

MOTION: 35-2023

West Shore Parks and Recreation Society – January 19, 2023

Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the minutes of the January 19, 2023 West Shore Parks and Recreation Society meeting be received.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

Councillor Leslie Anderson
West Shore Parks and Recreation Society, Te'Mexw Treaty Advisory Committee and Heritage Select Committee

Heritage Committee – Feb 8th

The Committee elected a Chair (Sally Gose), vice-chair (Allan Dobb) and a recording secretary (Daphne Allen). Discussions continue concerning potential actions to identify and potentially preserve the historical footprint of the lime kiln. Work is being undertaken to update several "Statements of Significance". The Committee is reviewing their 2022 workplan and will be proposing several revisions and updates for 2023.

Westshore Parks and Rec Board Meeting – Feb 9th

Skatepark update – the contractor, New Line Skateparks, has three crews working on the project and the concrete work has begun. The project remains on schedule.

Maintenance departmental presentation – Tristan Webb, maintenance supervisor, presented an overview of the maintenance department. He covered the levels of positions employed, the large scope and variety of responsibilities of the staff, and the skills sought. Tristan shared details on the complex mechanical equipment required to operate recreation facilities and how his team manages them. The presentation also covered how the maintenance crew continues to upgrade equipment, putting controls in place to reduce WSPR's environmental impact.

A progress update for the current 2021-2025 Strategic Plan was provided. Directors commented positively on the progress being achieved and milestones reached. Appreciation was also expressed for staff's continued relation of their work to the strategic plan.

Councillor Ann Baird
CRD Climate Action Committee and CRD Housing Trust Fund Commission

Councillor Gord Baird
CRD Regional Water Supply Commission and CRD JDF Water Distribution Commission, and Sustainable Land Use Select Committee

Councillor Marcie McLean
Coexisting with Carnivores Alliance and Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee

Councillor Karel Roessingh
Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST),
CRD Arts and Greater Victoria Public Library Board

Councillor Rose Stanton
Emergency Planning Committee, Inter-Municipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues, Western Communities Policing Advisory Committee and Social Sustainability Select Committee

Mayor Williams

Wed. Feb 8th, 2023 CRD Board Meeting

There were many delegations at the microphone, most were concerning a private company's proposal for a broadcasting tower antenna on Gordon Road, part of JDF's Sooke District Plan 42290. When item 8.1 came up there was a decision by Voting Block A to encourage further information discussions with the proponent. Note, that ultimately decisions on radio towers rest with the federal agencies.

Island Corridor

The CRD Board received a presentation from CEO Larry Stevenson of the Island Corridor Foundation regarding the upcoming court ordered rail decision on March 14th. They are seeing more enthusiasm from the province but the federal government response has been more "wait and see" thus far.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32426&GUID=937E0BA5-6CF0-41A8-A575-8A12DE4D6A50>

Wood Burning and Air Quality

This staff report on the ability to regulate wood burning on Salt Spring (Consent Agenda 6.2) was informative and may be of interest to Highlands residents.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32423&GUID=899AB783-6E63-4636-B7E4-E44E652698A4>

Evaluation of Passing Lane on Willis Point Road

Here is the staff report requested by the Environmental Services Committee last Sept:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32298&GUID=E60246A0-B4BC-411E-A88B-A29C5E3174DA>

Biosolids

By a 36 to 31 weighted vote of the municipalities that financially contribute to the wastewater treatment, the CRD Board has amended the long standing policy banning the land application of biosolids. This decision was not the recommendation of the Environmental Services Committee. CRD policy is now to allow non-agricultural land application of biosolids. Nanaimo Regional District has agreed to accept these biosolids and will meet provincial requirements.

Due to the extended operational difficulties of the cement facility (located on the mainland) to incinerate the biosolids, the CRD have been diluting the biosolids with sand and other materials and landfilling the product at Hartland. Not only has that capacity now been exceeded but the province does not consider landfilling biosolids a beneficial use. This controversial subject prompted a lengthy debate at the Board.

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32451&GUID=A8991524-C4A7-4411-93F9-CEF12235667E>

Code of Conduct

The CRD Board endorsed the development of a code of conduct to establish shared expectations of responsible conduct and behaviour of CRD Directors. Staff will report back to the Governance Committee with resources and examples to facilitate the development of the code of conduct.

Corporate Signage

The CRD Board approved the creation of new corporate signage guidelines as an initiative in 2019 as part of the 2020 service planning process. Implementation of the CRD signage guidelines is underway, most recently at Thetis Lake Regional Park which created much public outcry. Lake Regional Park and staff were asked to put this work on hold until the corporate sign guidelines could be brought forward to the Board. The Board directed staff to proceed with implementing the CRD signage guidelines, with the exception of the Regional Parks entry signs (portal signs), which are to be brought to the Regional Parks Committee for further consideration.

2 Bylaws Approved - Goose and Solid Waste Disposal Loan

On January 23, 2023, elector approval was obtained for Bylaw No. 4522 “Canada Goose Management Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 2022” and Bylaw No. 4515, “Solid Waste Disposal Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 1, 2022”. The Board received the Certificate of Results for both Alternative Approval Processes and adopted both Bylaws.

Fri. Feb 10th McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Site Visit

CRD Board members and staff donned safety boots, hard hats, gloves and safety glasses to tour the treatment facility. The concrete structure houses primary, secondary and tertiary treatment processes with sewage entering the plant on the north side and exiting at the outfall located 2 km into the ocean on the south side. Effluent is screened in tanks and sent through tanks where microorganisms grow and consume organic compounds.

Solids are removed and sent to the Residuals Treatment Facility at Hartland. Treated secondary effluent is sent to tertiary treatment tanks to be forced through 5 micron disk filters where further solids are removed and sent to Hartland before the remaining effluent reaches the outfall. Tours should be available to the public soon.

Wed. Feb. 15th, 2023 CRD Planning and Protective Services

The PPSC heard a report on the 2023 PPSC Terms of Reference:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32476&GUID=2FB>

[FE1AD-24F3-4E38-8F57-6245F21BEAAC](https://crd.ca/legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32477&GUID=D4E1470D-F345-4480-8DD6-79312008702F)

and Regional Growth Strategy Indicators:

<https://crd.ca/legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32477&GUID=D4E1470D-F345-4480-8DD6-79312008702F>

We also recommended to the CRD Board that the Central Saanich Regional Context Statement be accepted.

5. RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

6. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1

Report, Municipal Planner, February 7, 2023 (6520.21)

RE: DRAFT SOUTH HIGHLANDS LOCAL AREA PLAN

Evan Peterson, Barefoot Planning & Design, was in attendance and provided an overview of the draft South Highlands Local Area Plan to Council.

MOTION: 36-2023

Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird

That staff report back to Council at an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting encapsulating the following ideas from the February 21, 2023 Meeting:

1. Consider changing the name of the 'Environmental Stewardship' designation to 'Regenerative Development'.
2. Provide specific examples of possible land uses for the Environment Stewardship and Low Impact Development designations.
3. Clarify the differences between the Environmental Stewardship and Low Impact Development designations.
4. Provide definitions of 'net zero outcomes' and 'net positive outcomes' for evaluating land use applications in the Environmental Stewardship and Low Impact Development designations

CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1

Correspondence, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, February 10, 2023 (1855.44)

RE: FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

MOTION: 37-2023

Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird

That the correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs dated February 10, 2023 be received for information.

CARRIED

9. BYLAWS

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Report, Corporate Officer, February 9, 2023 (7900.03)
RE: COMMUNITY HALL SUBSIDY REQUEST – HIGHLAND HERITAGE PARK SOCIETY POTLUCK SUPPER AND SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE – MARCH 18, 2023

MOTION: 38-2023

Moved Councillor Stanton, Seconded Councillor Roessingh
That Council approve the request from the Highland Heritage Park Society for a rental waiver of \$175 for a half day event for the community hall for their Potluck Supper and Scottish Country Dance Event on March 18, 2023 with the applicant being responsible for the refundable security deposit (\$125), insurance (\$110) and cleaning fee (\$145).

CARRIED

10.2 Report, Chief Administrative Officer, February 13, 2023 (1700.27)
RE: FINANCIAL PLAN REVIEW SCHEDULE

MOTION: 39-2023

Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That Council approve the above Financial Plan Review Process Schedule and direct staff to give notice to District Committees and the public to enable public participation and consultation.

CARRIED

10.3 Report, Chief Administrative Officer, February 9, 2023 (0610.30)
RE: 2022 PERIOD THREE ACTIVITY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2022

MOTION: 40-2023

Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird
That the September 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 Activity Reports attached to the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.

CARRIED

11. NOTICE OF MOTION**12. MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA****13. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA RESOLUTIONS****14. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: 41-2023

Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the Regular Council meeting of February 21, 2023 adjourn at 8:59 pm.

CARRIED

MAYOR

DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER