



## TOWN OF LAKE COWICHAN

Minutes of a Regular meeting of Council  
Held electronically at Lake Cowichan, BC as per Ministerial Order M-192  
on Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Bob K. Day, Chair  
Councillor Carlyne Austin  
Councillor Tim McGonigle  
Councillor Kristine Sandhu  
Councillor Lorna Vomacka

STAFF: Joseph A. Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer  
Ronnie Gill, Director of Finance  
Jas Sandhu, Superintendent, Public Works, and Engineering Services

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Day called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. AGENDA**

No. R.020/21  
Agenda

Moved: Councillor Vomacka  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

No. R.021/21  
Regular Meeting

**(a)** Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle  
that the minutes of the Regular meeting of Council held on January  
26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

CARRIED.

No. R.022/21  
Special Meeting

Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the minutes of the Special meeting of Council held on February  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 be adopted.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**5. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS**

George Park and John Horn, GP Rollo and Associates and Cowichan  
Housing Association gave a presentation on the Town of Lake  
Cowichan Housing Needs Assessment.

**6. VERBAL COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC ON A SUBSEQUENT  
ITEM ON THE AGENDA**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a) Action Items:**

None.

**(b) Information or Consent Items**

None.

**8. REPORTS**

**(a) Council and other Committee Reports**

No. R.023/21  
Finance and  
Administration

- (i) Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held electronically on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved with the following:

**1- Fire Department Incident Report**

that the Lake Cowichan Fire Department's incident report in the amount of \$7,427.29 for December 2020 be approved

CARRIED.

No. R.024/21  
Public Works and  
Environmental  
Services

- (ii) Moved: Councillor Vomacka  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the minutes of the Public Works and Environmental Services Committee meeting held electronically on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED.

No. R.025/21  
Parks, Recreation and  
Culture

- (iii) Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the minutes of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee meeting held electronically on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED.

No. R.026/21  
Sustainable Planning

- (iv) Moved: Mayor Day  
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle  
that the minutes of the Sustainable Planning Committee meeting held electronically on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED.

Cowichan Lake  
Recreation  
Commission

- (v) Mayor Day reported that Thor Repstock has been named Chair of the Commission and Michelle Davis has been named Vice-Chair, both by acclamation. There are few programs running at the arena, though Minor Hockey is still holding practices.

Vancouver Island  
Regional Library

- (vi) Councillor Vomacka reported that at the Annual General Meeting and Trustees meeting held on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Mayor of Port McNeill, Gaby Wickstrom was named Chair.

She further reported that 12,000 new members had registered since the start of the pandemic and that the Library's social media had had 1.4 million visits in 2020.

Councillor Vomacka reported that the Town of Lake Cowichans Library would be having remedial flooring work done in 2021.

Advisory Planning  
Commission

- (vii) Councillor Austin reported that at the Advisory Planning Commission meeting held on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Darlene Ector was elected Chair. New members Lynn Klein and Janice New were welcomed. She also reported that the Zoning Bylaw is almost ready to be presented to Council. She reported that there would be a zoom open house in the future regarding the Active Transportation Plan. The next meeting will be held February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Community Forest  
Co-operative

- (viii) There was no report for the Community Forest Co-operative.

**(b) Other Reports**

Cowichan Valley  
Regional District

- (i) Councillor McGonigle gave a verbal report on the meetings held for the Special Corporate Services and the CVRD Budget discussions. He noted that Schedule "E" reflects the impact to the Town of Lake Cowichan and the public can access the budget on the Regional District's website. Lake Cowichan is facing a 2.56% increase in the Regional District tax requisition.

A meeting will be held February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 between the CVRD and the Cowichan District Hospital Board.

Community Outreach  
Team

- (ii) Councillor Austin spoke on the Community Outreach Team meeting that was held on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. She reported that advertising will be displayed when the Covid-19 vaccine clinics are announced. Community Services is currently short of Counsellors, though counselling is available via zoom. The soup kitchen is still operating from Monday to Thursday. There is an increase in new people accessing the free market. Community Services is also offering free tax returns for those in need. The Ministry of Poverty Reduction has been trying to help the homeless in Lake Cowichan, but it is having a hard time connecting with residents in need. She also reported that Fit for Life is occurring at the Cowichan Lake Sports Arena as well as Public skating.

Our Cowichan

- (iii) There was no report for Our Cowichan. The next meeting will be held March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via Zoom.

Cowichan Watershed  
Board

- (iv) Councillor Sandhu reported that the Board held its meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Councillor Sandhu reported that new member Linda Higgins, Representative from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans was welcomed. The Board is sending a letter to Mosaic requesting a pause in logging operations near the Koksilah ancient forest. The Annual General Meeting of the Cowichan Watershed Society will be held February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Councillor Sandhu will continue as a member on the Board of Directors for 2021.

**(c) Staff Reports**

No. R.027/21  
Development Variance  
Permit Application for  
Rem. Lot. A, Plan  
VIP64669. District Lot  
13, Cowichan Lake  
Land District

- (a) Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that a decision on the Development Variance Permit for Rem. Lot. A, Plan VIP64669, District Lot 13, Cowichan Lake Land District be referred to the Finance and Administration meeting with an updated staff report to be provided.

CARRIED.

**9. BYLAWS**

No. R.028/21  
Fees and  
Charges for  
Services Bylaw  
No. 1047-2021

- (a) Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Fees and Charges for Services Bylaw No. 1047-2021" be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

No. R.029/21  
Sewer  
Regulations  
and Rates  
Bylaw No.  
1048-2021

- (b) Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Sewer Regulations and Rates Bylaw No. 1048-2021" be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED.

No. R.030/21  
Zoning  
Amendment  
Bylaw No.  
1049-2021

Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1049-2021" be read a first and second time.

CARRIED.

No. R.031/21  
Property  
Maintenance  
and the  
Prohibition of  
Unsightly  
Premises Bylaw  
No. 1050-2021

Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Property Maintenance and the Prohibition of Unsightly Premises Bylaw No. 1050-2021" be read a first, second and third time.

CARRIED.

No. R.032/21  
Zoning  
Amendment  
Bylaw  
No. 1051-2021

Moved: Councillor McGonigle  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1051-2021" be read a first and second time.

CARRIED.

No. R.033/21  
Animal Control  
Amendment  
Bylaw  
No. 1052-2021

Moved: Councillor Vomacka  
Seconded: Councillor McGonigle  
that the "Town of Lake Cowichan Animal Control Amendment Bylaw No. 1052-2021" be read a first and second time.

CARRIED

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

No. R.034/21  
RCMP Contract  
Committee  
Nomination

Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that Councillor McGonigle's name be forwarded as a nominee for the RCMP Contract Committee.

CARRIED.

**11. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Day gave his Mayor's Report for February, 2021 which included the following:

- Attended a meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 of the Weir Advisory Committee;
- Attended the Circular Economy Zoom Virtual Lunch and Learn meeting along with Councillor Sandhu on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021;
- Attended the Mayors and Chairs Covid-19 Provincial updates on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021;
- Attended the Cowichan Leadership Group on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 where Dr. Shannon Waters discussed Covid-19 issues in the Cowichan Valley;
- Attended the Poverty Reduction Strategy Group meetings along with Councillor Austin on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021;
- Attended the LGLA meetings virtually with Councillor Sandhu on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 and February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021;
- Attended the orientation meeting for the ICET Committee on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021; and
- Mayor Day thanked Council for their time and energy. He also thanked staff for the dedication, care and respect, especially during Covid-19.

**12. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Mayor Day would like to have a discussion on creating Select Committees for Housing and Tourism.

**13. QUESTION PERIOD**

**14. IN CAMERA**

No. R.035/21  
Retire to In-Camera

Moved: Councillor Sandhu  
Seconded: Councillor Austin  
that Council close the meeting to the public to deal with issues relating to the following under s. 90(1) of the *Community Charter*:

- section (c) labour relations; and
- section (f) legal matters; and
- section (k) negotiations relating to the pursuit of municipal service.

(8:07pm)

CARRIED.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

No. R.036/21

Moved: Councillor Austin  
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu  
that the meeting arise without report and adjourn (9:43 pm).

CARRIED.

Certified correct \_\_\_\_\_.

Confirmed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor