



The Village of
PORT CLEMENTS
"Gateway to the Wilderness"

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council, Tuesday, September 8th, 2020

Present:

Mayor Daugert

Councillor Cumming via teleconference

Councillor Falconbridge REGRETS

Councillor Gould via teleconference

CAO Ruby Decock

Members of the Public and Press: Marilyn Bliss and Bev Lore

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05 PM

Mayor Daugert: I call to order this meeting of the Council of the Village of Port Clements being held on the traditional territory of the Haida People.

1. ADOPT AGENDA

2020-09-173—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould

THAT the September 8th, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted with the addition of BA-2 – Rise and Report from August 17th, 2020 In-Camera Council Meeting and addition of G-5-Vibrant commission Budget request

CARRIED

2. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & OPENING OF SEALED TENDERS

3. MINUTES

M-1—August 17th, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

2020-09-174—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould

THAT the September 17th, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

M-2—August 24th, 2020 Special Council Meeting Minutes

2020-09-175—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould

THAT the August 24th, 2020 Special Council Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BA-1—Rise & Report – Special Council Meeting August 24th, 2020

THAT Council has appointed Kelly Whitney-Gould, Wayne Nicol, Joan Hein, and Christine Cunningham as members of the Vibrant Community Commission.

BA-2 – Rise & Report – August 17th, 2020 In-Camera Meeting

THAT Shirley Weigum is the successful bidder for the Custodial Contract.

5. ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE

C-1—August Board Highlights – NCRD

2020-09-176—Moved by Councillor Gould, seconded by Councillor Cumming
THAT Council receives the August Board Highlights from the North Coast Regional District.
CARRIED

C-2— Seeking Representative for PTAC - NCRD

2020-09-177—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council receives the request for PTAC representative from the North Coast Regional District.
CARRIED

C-3—Request to Renovate Community Park Washrooms - Linda Berston

2020-09-178—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council receives the request for Community Park Washroom from Linda Berston.
CARRIED

2020-09-179—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould

THAT staff puts out an RFP to establish the cost involved in finishing of the community park washroom as per the reports.

CARRIED

C-4—Request to fence off Community Park Public Works Storage – Linda Berston

2020-09-180—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council receives the request for fencing off Community Park Public Works Storage from Linda Berston.

CARRIED

6. FINANCE

7. GOVERNMENT

G-1—Housing Needs Assessment Report – Final Draft

2020-09-181—Moved by Councillor Gould, seconded by Councillor Cumming
THAT Council tables the Housing Needs Assessment Report to the next Council Meeting.
CARRIED

G-2—2019 Annual Report

2020-09-182—Moved by Councillor Gould, seconded by Councillor Cumming
THAT Council approves the 2019 Annual Report.
CARRIED

G-3—Schedule Meetings for UBCM

2020-09-183—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council receives the verbal report from CAO Decock.
CARRIED

G-4—Public Notice

2020-09-184—Moved by Councillor Gould, seconded by Councillor Cumming
THAT, until the Haida Gwaii Observer resumes its distribution of its weekly newspaper, Council considers posting notice to the municipality's legal posting spot, on the outside of the Multiplex Building, and on the Village's website and Facebook page to be reasonably equivalent to giving notice via newspaper publication for the purposes of section 94 of the *Community Charter*.
CARRIED

G-5 – Vibrant Commission Budget –

2020-09-185 – Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council endorses the recommendation from the Vibrant Communities Commission to use up to \$4000 from the Tourism Budget to complete the work to install the two benches.

CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. REPORTS & DISCUSSIONS

R-1—COVID-19 Update – Verbal Report – Mayor Daugert

Mayor Daugert COVID-19 Update: Since our last Council Meeting the Provincial State of Local Emergency has ended and there have been no new cases of COVID-19 on Haida Gwaii. This has resulted in the municipal governments withdrawing completely from the Essential Worker and Returning Resident permitting process under explicit direction from the Province. While this has been taken with understanding by much of Haida leadership, there is still resentment among some that Municipal governments are not doing their share to protect Haida Gwaii. Hopefully this will not spill over into our planned activities. The Province has just announced further restrictions in Victoria on bars and clubs, etc, because of rising cases with labour day weekend. So, we are not sure how much longer this little release from the pressure will last.

Mayor Daugert: The last weekend of August was very busy with a Unified Command Meeting, a Protocol Table Meeting, a Leadership Table meeting with the Province. As well, I had a zoom meeting with representative of Habitat Financial, a firm that does financial consulting, to such entities as Gwaii Trust regarding the Misty Isles Economic Development Society. While the report was generally good, the bookkeeping system was seen as overly complex and not well suited for the recording for a non-profit society. It was suggested that MIEDS employ a certified accountant to reorganize the books into a more representative format and fully utilize the abilities of the accounting software to do all the reporting, track invoices, receipts and projects and save staff time.

I had a meet and greet with Northern Health last week where I stressed our concerns with patient transport and getting people off-island now that there are no scheduled air services. On a second call with Northern Health it was focused on the COVID-19 response and the overdose crisis response. Ciro Panessa described how Northern Health is positioning to maintain full healthcare services even if there are sporadic cases of COVID-19 this fall and winter. The overdose crisis was discussed with representatives from several Northern communities to describe the impacts even in smaller communities such as Smithers and Vanderhoof as well as Prince George and Fort St. John. It was an interesting call, the overdose crisis is actually costing more lives in BC than COVID-19. This is seen as a crisis equal to COVID-19 in many cases.

Councillor Cumming: Coast Guard meeting postponed.

Councillor Gould: Vibrant Community Commission had the first meeting on September 2, 2020. Kelly Whitney-Gould was elected chair and Wayne Nicol voted vice-chair. Getting the group familiar with the terms and conditions of a Commission is and what it can and cannot do. Broad discussion on vision and starting a conversation on the Vibrant grant we received from Gwaii Trust for Tourism that originally had a strong St. Marks element on it which will need to be reconsidered. If they want to do different elements on it, then we would have to resubmit to the Gwaii Trust to approve the changes. We just had a basic conversation to bring everyone up to speed and we are having another meeting a week from tomorrow. It is nice to have a group that wants to work together.

CAO Decock: Getting caught up on everything, working on interviews and hiring for the public works assistant, and contract with new custodian and chief elections officer. Working on continuity with EOC Director, our current EOC Director will be leaving due to prior commitments and dealing with hiring and exit interviews.

2020-09-186—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council receives the verbal reports from Council and CAO Decock.

CARRIED

10. ACTION ITEMS

A-1- Action Items List

A51—Rainbow Wharf Update

A53—Digital Access for Council Meetings

A54-- Staff to investigate quick solution on fencing for the public works equipment at the community park and provide the information to Council.

A55 – CAO to draft a letter to the SD50 to identify that there are children that are willing to attend PCES. Home schooling is their only option; however, they would happily bring their children to PCES.

2020-09-187 Moved by Mayor Daugert, seconded by Councillor Cumming

THAT staff select a social media platform for holding public meetings such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams that is readily accessible to the general public, investigate what equipment such as cameras and microphones would make it most productive and transparent to the public and report back to Council with the objective of holding public Council meetings accessible through electronic media in October 2020

CARRIED

11. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESS

Question – Marilyn Bliss: Council Meeting minutes are not on the website, only up to June currently available.

Answer: Staff will investigate this and update the website with the approved minutes since June.

Question – Bev Lore: Is it necessary to wear masks in Council Chambers if you are 6 feet apart?

Answer: We cannot control everyone to ensure physical distancing, but if people are respectful of distancing then people can remove masks. However, when items are being passed out and people are moving into position, physical distancing cannot be maintained. There is no known COVID-19 on Island right now, but it could come back. If people are not comfortable with wearing masks or coming into the meetings, maybe the teleconference information could be provided.

Question – Bev Lore: What is a Councillor's position? What their job is? Is there a written description? People need to know exactly what is expected of them.

Answer: Yes, we have pamphlets that talks about the Councillor role that can be disseminated.

Question – Bev Lore: This is not totally about the Village Council, but it is about the Village. 2 years ago, they decided to cancel our bussing program that brought children to our school and into our community. So they are taking kids out of community but not bringing any in. Last year we had 18-19 kids in our school. We have two

teachers and principle and a support staff. One of the teachers will be going to Skidegate one day a week to work as there is not enough kids in the school to keep them all busy. So, two years ago when this happened it seemed to slide under the radar and it suddenly became a thing. In Tlell there are approximately 8 children that should be coming on the bus to Port Clements. Most of them are Homeschooling, not due COVID, as the bus route takes them all the way into Charlotte, to the highschool, and then back to Skidegate. The return day is 9 hours for a small child to catch the bus to go from Tlell. Our community needs to say something for those children, the kindergarten and grade 1, as they should be coming to Port Clements. If they were, then we would probably have enough kids to teach and not have to go to another community. I am going to talk with Julia, but I feel that it is not healthy for our community that these kids are not coming to our school when they want to come here but they don't get support for driving. The school district should give financial support, they said they would, but they never did. This is a serious thing for our community. 8 kids would be a third of our school.

Answer: This matter was brought up a few months ago by Councillor Falconbridge. He identified that the issue was regarding the cost of the second bus. He presented a school run to the school board, but it was not accepted. So, it would probably take direction from the School Board to investigate or get a report on this matter to get any action or movement. We are not sure what the way is to influence the School Board. They do have meetings in Port Clements, rotating through all the schools and district, and there is a Trustee we could invite to a Council Meeting to explain the issue. The Village could also appear as a delegation to a School Board Meeting. Council have staff to draft a letter to submit to our Trustee to identify the issue, the desire for children to come to Port Clements, and the need for effective use of our facility. Staff will get back to Council with more information as well.

12. IN-CAMERA

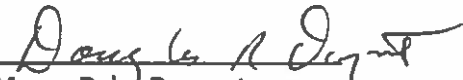
90(1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;

2020-09-188—Moved by Councillor Cumming, seconded by Councillor Gould
THAT Council moves to In-Camera as per section 90(1)(a)(c) and (j) at 8:14 PM.
CARRIED

13. ADJOURNMENT

2020-09-189—Moved by Councillor Cumming
THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:08 PM.
CARRIED


Mayor Doug Daugert


CAO Ruby Decock