



**DISTRICT OF HIGHLANDS
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 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
Corporate Officer Melisa Miles
Fire Chief / Emergency Coordinator Dean Ford

Public Observation: 2

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: 53-2023

*Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the agenda be approved as presented.*

CARRIED

2. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1

MOTION: 54-2023

Council – March 6, 2023

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

CARRIED

3.2

MOTION: 55-2023

Sustainable Land Use Select Committee – June 1, 2022

*Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Roessingh
That the minutes of the June 1, 2022 Sustainable Land Use Select
Committee meeting be received.*

CARRIED

3.3

MOTION: 56-2023

West Shore Parks and Recreation Society – February 9, 2023

*Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird
That the minutes of the February 9, 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

Westshore Parks and Recreation

The Board met on March 9, 2023 – highlights of the discussion include:

- Parks departmental presentation – Bryan Wood, parks supervisor, presented an overview of the parks department (staffing and the diverse inventory of facilities that the crew services and maintains). The board had particular interest in the flora and fauna which includes some protected species onsite and how the Society could better inform the public of these.

- Major User Group Statistics – An annual report updating the facility use statistics was provided. In both hours of use and dollars spent, drop-in admission users continue to be the greatest users of the Society's facilities. Juan de Fuca Soccer continues to be the largest sports organization in terms of hours used and Juan de Fuca Minor Hockey in terms of dollars spent.
- Tennis Clubs of Canada Proposal – Staff reported on their meeting with the Tennis Clubs of Canada (TCC) who are interested in a partnership with the Society, where they provide and operate an air inflated structure over the outdoor tennis courts during the winter months which would expand the courts' playing season, providing increased service to the community. Staff commented that upon making contact with a current TCC partner municipality in Ontario that the partnership has been successful, revenue positive for the municipality and appreciated by the community. The board has directed staff to continue discussion with TCC regarding this potential opportunity.
- BC Growing Communities Fund – Discussion around requesting funds from each member municipality's portion of the recently announced BC Growing Communities Fund be earmarked for WSPR's future needs, such as pickleball courts, twinning the JDF Arena or upgrades to the pool. The board directed staff to provide their top choices for the board to consider, allowing a joint request of their councils.
- Skatepark update – Staff reported that the project is two weeks behind due to snowfall preventing some concrete work and the contractor losing two key concrete shapers. The contractor is working hard to make up this time. The grand opening will be scheduled for late May, however the park will be available for public use prior to that date.

Councillor Ann Baird
CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force 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

CRD regional Water Supply – February 15 2023

The CRD Regional Water Supply received several reports for information including:

- Greater Victoria Watershed Area Wildfire Management
 - Update on the Once Through Cooling Rebate Program
 - Water Quality Report for the Greater Victoria Drinking Water System
- Additionally, the commission considered an update to the CRD RWS Capital Plan regarding costs associated with NSERC research focused on enhancing wild fire resilience and forest health. Reports can be found on the agenda [link](#)

JDF Water Distribution Commission – March 7 2023

The Commission received its annual update on the capital projects underway with this years budget at \$26.8 million. Seven project

account for 70% of the budget including:

- Goldstream Water Main
- Rocky Point Water Upgrades
- South Skirt Mountain (DCC project)
- Sun River Reservoir
- Development Cost Charge Bylaw Update (updated every 5 years)
- Asbestos Cement Pipe Replacement Program (ongoing)
- East Sooke Coppermine Pump Station

Report can be accessed through [link](#).

SLUSC - March 8 2023

SLUSC business consisted of electing chair and vice chair, and considering the Secondary Suites file that was referred to them. Allan Roger was elected Chair, Ingo Lambrecht elected as Vice Chair. This is the first time the committee has met in person since before Covid and the first time the committee has had the opportunity to consider the Secondary Suites topic. They recognized that due to the length of the process, several iterations of draft policy, and the significance of such a policy to the Highlands, that they needed more time to consider the information. They tentatively plan to reconvene April 26th.

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. Mar. 8th, 2023 CRD Board Meeting

Victoria Airport Authority Presentation

The CRD Board received a presentation from President and CEO of the Victoria Airport Authority, Geoff Dickson. He provided an update on the ongoing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32558&GUID=3BEA5A42-7AE2-4DC4-9D91-5FAA77D2768F>

5.1 Presentations:

There were many objections from presenters to a subdivision application within the ALR for lot B Section 110 Sooke District.

Capital Regional District Investment Portfolio Holdings and Annual Performance Update

The CRD, CRHC, and CRHD Boards received a report providing an update on their investment portfolios for information:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32528&GUID=0DE7D34E-8A55-4513-94DA-F26280D0DC7F>

2022 Solid Waste Stream Results

The CRD Board received the 2022 Solid Waste Stream Composition Study Results for information. Since 1990, the Capital Regional District has commissioned waste composition studies to assess the composition of waste being landfilled at Hartland Landfill. Staff will use results from the study to inform future waste diversion initiatives:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32479&GUID=CEC70141-4B3C-4C75-B7D6-C154BDB81564>

2023-2026 Board Priorities

The Board approved the five high-level priorities to address over its four-year term: Transportation, Housing, Climate Action & Environment, First Nations, and Governance:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32575&GUID=69F0525D-FA09-4CEC-944B-77088BE42602>

Check out CFO Nelson Chan's Highlights of the provincial budget:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32570&GUID=E81ACAA4-FE25-4F0A-937A-96BE45517A00>

Biosolids Update - March 2023

The CRD Board received a report providing an update on developing contingency short-term biosolids management options:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=32574&GUID=3A36231A-2B1E-41F5-A324-6CBCF8985F3D>

Thurs. March 9th, 2023 Colwood Meeting with Dr. Eileen Pepler

Colwood Mayor Doug Kobayashi invited all the Westshore Mayors plus Esquimalt Mayor Barb Desjardins and RCMP Superintendent Preston to a presentation of the work of Dr. Eileen Pepler at the Colwood Municipal Office. Dr. Pepler is an expert in the study of data analytics. She demonstrated her work in how analytical facts can maximize the impact of local government and provincial government funding, not only in health care, but other social needs as well. Mayor Desjardins noted how these studies persuaded the province for a more focused funding of Esquimalt's actual needs.

Tues. March 14th Meeting with Royal Roads University President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Philip Steenkamp

Dr. Philip Steenkamp and staff made a visit to our community hall to give me and our CAO an update on the new campus being built in downtown Langford. The building permit has been issued for the five story net zero emission structure. The university will collaborate with UVIC and Camosun to provide a four year undergraduate course not only for Westshore students but for those living outside our region. This will dramatically reduce travel time and GHGs for students residing in our area. The curriculum is planned to be modern and integrate in a socially and environmentally resilient way with local businesses.

Wed. March 15th, 2023 CRD Special Budget Board Meeting

A marathon meeting of the CRD Board debated whether or not to double

a CRD requisition to municipalities to create a land banking fund to build even more affordable housing. Many municipalities experiencing potential double digit increases in property taxes voiced concern for the property taxpayers. There is potential for other solutions that came forth and ultimately the decision (Bylaw 4357) is at second reading with an amendment passed, supporting removal of the potential 3.6 million dollar increase in the CRD Budget this year. Third reading will take place March 29th. I'd love to provide a direct link, but a technical glitch is preventing that, probably because of the humongous size of the document. Please try the

March 15th Agenda Item 4.1. 23-073 here:

https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/capitalregionaldistrictboard/20230315/2023-03-15agendapkqrb.pdf?sfvrsn=a88a57ce_5

Take note that the budget overview presentation by Nelson Chan is excellent and worth looking at. Budget implications for Highlands (before the now potentially defeated 3.6 million) is charted in Appendix J page 14.

5. RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1

Memorandum, Fire Chief, March 8, 2023 (0540.23)

RE: DOH HAZARD RISK VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS REPORT

MOTION: 57-2023

Moved Councillor Stanton, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird
That the 2023 Hazard Risk Vulnerability Analysis be approved.

CARRIED

6. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1

Correspondence, Help Cities Lead and Climate Caucus, March 7, 2023 (0630.30.01)

RE: HELP CITIES LEAD – REPORT BACK TO SUPPORTING COUNCILS

MOTION: 58-2023

Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird
That the correspondence from the Help Cities Lead and Climate Caucus dated March 7, 2023 be received for information.

CARRIED

8.2

Correspondence, Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST), March 15, 2023 (0510.20)

RE: CAPITAL REGION'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM - UPDATE

MOTION: 59-2023

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor McLean
That the correspondence from the CREST dated March 15, 2023 be received for information.

CARRIED

9. BYLAWS

9.1 Report, Corporate Officer, March 13, 2023 (3900.445)
RE: SEWER FEES BYLAW - 2023

MOTION: 60-2023 *Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Roessingh*
That "Rivers Crossing Area Sewer System Establishment and User Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 373, 2015, Amendment No. 7, Bylaw No. 445, 2023" be read a first time.
CARRIED

MOTION: 61-2023 *Moved Councillor Ann Baird, Seconded Councillor Roessingh*
That "Rivers Crossing Area Sewer System Establishment and User Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 373, 2015, Amendment No. 7, Bylaw No. 445, 2023" be read a second time.
CARRIED

MOTION: 62-2023 *Moved Councillor Stanton, Seconded Councillor Anderson*
That "Rivers Crossing Area Sewer System Establishment and User Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 373, 2015, Amendment No. 7, Bylaw No. 445, 2023" be read a third time.
CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Report, Corporate Officer, March 10, 2023 (0361.01)
RE: ACCESSIBLE BC ACT – MUNICIPAL REQUIREMENTS

MOTION: 63-2023 *Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Anderson*
That in response to the Provincial requirement to establish an accessibility committee by September 1, 2023, the municipality participate in a joint sub-regional accessibility committee – the Capital West Accessibility Advisory Committee – comprising the City of Colwood, the Township of Esquimalt, the District of Highlands, the City of Langford, the District of Metchosin, the District of Sooke, and the Town of View Royal; and
That District of Highlands contribute \$5,000 to retain a consultant to prepare a joint accessibility plan which member municipalities will apply to their own accessibility initiatives; and
That District of Highlands allocate nominal annual operating funds for joint committee expenses; and
That the draft committee terms of reference, provided as Attachment "D" to this report, be adopted; and
That a joint accessibility advisory committee ad be placed seeking members for this committee; and
That District of Highlands establish an email address to receive public comments as set out in the legislation.

CARRIED

11. NOTICE OF MOTION

12. MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

**13. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA
RESOLUTIONS**

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 64-2023

*Moved Councillor Gord Baird, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird
That the Regular Council meeting of March 20, 2023 adjourn at
7:51 pm.*

CARRIED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

DRAFT