

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held in the Board Room, located at 175 Ingram Street, Duncan BC on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 9:31 AM.

PRESENT: Chair M. Wilson
Director H. Abbott
Director S. Acton
Director K. Deck
Director R. Douglas
Director C. Istace
Director C. Justice
Director B. Maartman
Director J. McClinton<after 9:35 am>
Director I. Morrison
Director A. Nicholson
Director K. Segall
Director M. Staples*
Director M. Calijouw
Director M. Stevens
Alternate Director L. Vomacka

ALSO PRESENT: D. Myles Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Boyd, Deputy Corporate Officer
T. Bowen, Chief Financial Officer*
B. Mohan, General Manager, Corporate Services Department
A. Kjerulf, General Manager, Land Use Services Department
J. Elzinga, General Manager, Community Services Department
N. Forrest, Manager - Asset Systems, Corporate Services Department
C. Breen, Manager, Planning - Strategic Initiatives
B. O'Riordan, Manager Economic Development Division
A. Garnett, Planning Coordinator, Strategic Initiatives
R. Barnhouse, Secretary III
C. Convery, Systems Support Technician

*Participated Electronically

ABSENT: Director T. McGonigle

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

M1 Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 25, 2024

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 25, 2024, be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

R1 Verbal Report from the Asset Management Division Re: Asset Management Maturity Assessment and Roadmap, received for information.

R2 Report from the Asset Management Division Re: Asset Management Policy Revision

It was moved and seconded that the newly revised Asset Management Policy be approved.

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended by adding collaboration throughout the Policy where appropriate.

MOTION CARRIED

Voting resumed on the main motion as amended

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board that the newly revised Asset Management Policy be approved with the addition of collaboration throughout the Policy where appropriate.

MOTION CARRIED

10:22 AM The Committee of the Whole meeting recessed at 10:22 AM.

10: 30 AM The meeting resumed at 10:30 AM.

R3 Report from the General Manager, Land Use Services Department Re: Regional Growth Strategy

It was moved and seconded:

That it be recommended to the Board on October 9, 2024:

1. That the Staff Report to Committee of Whole of October 9, 2024, on the topic of Regional Growth Strategy be referred to the City of Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan, Town of Ladysmith, and Town of Lake Cowichan and that the municipalities be asked to:
 - a. Appoint a representative to the Regional Growth Strategy Steering Committee;
 - b. Consider potential additional matters in the development of a Regional Growth Strategy, including but not limited to:
 - i. Potential municipal incorporation and boundary changes to accommodate future growth and servicing objectives;
 - ii. The future of the Island Rail Corridor and its connectivity with adjacent regional districts; and
 - iii. Cooperation with the Regional District of Nanaimo on future growth of lands in the vicinity of the Nanaimo Airport and Cassidy Aquifer.

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended to remove “be recommended to the Board on October 9, 2024”, and add “be recommended to the next Board meeting of October 30, 2024”.

MOTION DEFEATED

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended to include a referral to the Electoral Area Services Committee Directors for point of reference.

MOTION CARRIED

Voting resumed on the main motion, as amended

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board on October 9, 2024:

1. That the Staff Report to Committee of Whole of October 9, 2024, on the topic of Regional Growth Strategy be referred to the City of Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan, Town of Ladysmith, Town of Lake Cowichan and Electoral Area Services Committee Directors and that the municipalities be asked to:
 - a. Appoint a representative to the Regional Growth Strategy Steering Committee;
 - b. Consider potential additional matters in the development of a Regional Growth Strategy, including but not limited to:
 - i. Potential municipal incorporation and boundary changes to accommodate future growth and servicing objectives;
 - ii. The future of the Island Rail Corridor and its connectivity with adjacent regional districts; and
 - iii. Cooperation with the Regional District of Nanaimo on future growth of lands in the vicinity of the Nanaimo Airport and Cassidy Aquifer.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

2. That staff resources for a Regional Growth Strategy project be funded by requisition through the Function 100 (General Government) budget, with equivalent reduction in the Function 325 (Electoral Area Planning) budget, beginning in 2025.

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended to add the word “requisition” between equivalent and reduction.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended to replace the word “project” with “planning”.

MOTION CARRIED

Voting resumed on the main motion, as amended

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board on October 9, 2024:

- 2. That staff resources for Regional Growth Strategy planning be funded by requisition through the Function 100 (General Government) budget, with equivalent requisition reduction in the Function 325 (Electoral Area Planning) budget, beginning in 2025.**

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded:

- 3. That the 2025 budget for Function 100 – General Government include \$50,000 to conduct a Regional Planning Service Feasibility Study, funded by requisition.**

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended to remove the words “funded by requisition”.

MOTION CARRIED

Voting resumed on the main motion, as amended

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board on October 9, 2024:

- 3. That the 2025 budget for Function 100 – General Government include \$50,000 to conduct a Regional Planning Service Feasibility Study.**

MOTION CARRIED

11:15 AM The Committee of the Whole meeting recessed at 11:15 AM.

11:22 AM The meeting resumed at 11:22 AM.

R4 Report from the Economic Development Division Re: Cowichan Tech & Innovation Ecosystem Project Funding Options

Director S. Acton declared a perceived conflict of interest for herself, Director R. Douglas and Director M. Staples as members of Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET).

It was moved and seconded that it be recommended to the Board on October 9, 2024, that:

- 1. Staff apply for \$500,000 in funding from the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program and \$62,500 from Island**

Coastal Economic Trust's Capital and Innovation Program to support the implementation of the Cowichan Tech & Innovation Ecosystem Project;

2. If the CVRD is unsuccessful in securing ICET funding, then \$62,500 be allocated to the project from Function 121 operating reserves; and
3. Letters of support for the project be requested from the Town of Ladysmith, City of Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan and Town of Lake Cowichan.

MOTION CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION

11:28 AM It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1)(k) – Negotiations and Section 90(1)(e) Acquisition/Disposition of Land.

MOTION CARRIED

RISE FROM CLOSED

12:02 PM It was moved and seconded that the Committee rise without report and return to the Open portion of the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

12:02 PM It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 12:02 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____