

Village of Queen Charlotte

October 6, 2008

Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Village of Queen Charlotte held on Monday, October 6, 2008 at the Queen Charlotte Village Office, Queen Charlotte, B.C.

Adopted

PRESENT:

Council:

Mayor C. Kulesha
Councillor G. Martin
Councillor E. Ross
Councillor K. Olsen

Regrets:

Councillor G. Noddin

Staff:

D. Uliana, Chief Financial Officer
S. Brown, , Legislative/Financial Clerk

Regrets:

A. Yeates, Chief Administrator Officer

Public:

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor C. Kulesha called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda:

R2008/40/02 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

Public Participation:

Bonnie Olsen representing Living and Learning School – request for tax exemption.

Minutes:

a) Village of Queen Charlotte Council Minutes, September 15, 2008

R2008/40/03 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross to adopt the Village of Queen Charlotte Council Minutes, September 15, 2008 as circulated.

CARRIED

Correspondence:

For Information:

a) Edwards & Associates Logging Ltd. – update

b) Moresby Island Management Committee – Minutes September 10th, 2008

R2008/40/04 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross to receive and file a) Edwards & Associates Logging Ltd. – update and b) Moresby Island Management Committee – Minutes September 10th, 2008.

CARRIED

For Action:

- a) Senior Citizen Branch 101 – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Healthy Humans program, Masset Branch to host the Seniors games in 2009, request letter of support

R2008/40/05 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to send a letter of support to Senior Citizen Branch 101 – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Healthy Humans program, Masset Branch to host the Seniors games in 2009.

CARRIED

- b) Village of Masset – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy Fund program, \$40,000.00 to upgrade Howard Philips Community Hall kitchen and Major Infrastructure program, \$75,000.00 for the Northwest Drive road extension and sewer connection, request letter of support

R2008/40/06 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to send a letter of support to Village of Masset – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy Fund program, \$40,000.00 to upgrade Howard Philips Community Hall kitchen and Major Infrastructure program, \$75,000.00 for the Northwest Drive road extension and sewer connection.

CARRIED

- c) Village of Masset – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy Fund program, \$20,000.00 to upgrade the Junior Rangers meeting/storage space used by the program, request letter of support

R2008/40/07 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Martin to send a letter of support to Village of Masset – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy Fund program, \$20,000.00 to upgrade the Junior Rangers meeting/storage space used by the program.

CARRIED

- d) Northern savings Credit Union – Re: Business and Workplace Successes Through Innovation and Co-operation program, proposal to set up an operational structure that manages and disburses the proposed Child Care Benefit Fund, request letter of support

R2008/40/08 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to send a letter of support to Northern savings Credit Union – Re: Business and Workplace Successes Through Innovation and Co-operation program, proposal to set up an operational structure that manages and disburses the proposed Child Care Benefit Fund.

CARRIED

- e) Village of Masset – Re: replacement of the GMDC recreation centre, seeking \$7 million from various agencies at the Federal, Provincial and local levels, request letter of support

R2008/40/09 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to send a letter of support to Village of Masset – Re: replacement of the GMDC recreation centre, seeking \$7 million from various agencies at the Federal, Provincial and local levels.

CARRIED

- f) Haida Heritage and Forest Guardians – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Major Contributions program, \$75,000.00 Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to gather baseline data, request letter of support

R2008/40/10 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to send a letter of support to Haida Heritage and Forest Guardians – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Major Contributions program, \$75,000.00 Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to gather baseline data.

CARRIED

- g) Laskeek Bay Conservation Society (LBCS) – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy Fund program, \$10,000 to host a symposium to celebrate LBCS 20th anniversary in 2009, request letter of support

R2008/40/11 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross to send a letter of support to Laskeek Bay Conservation Society (LBCS) – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy Fund program, \$10,000 to host a symposium to celebrate LBCS 20th anniversary in 2009.

CARRIED

- h) Laskeek Bay Conservation Society (LBCS) –Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Culture As It Relates to Tourism program, \$5000.00 branding merchandise to promote Queen Charlotte as an eco tourism draw, request letter of support

R2008/40/12 MOVED by Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Olsen to send a letter of support to Laskeek Bay Conservation Society (LBCS) –Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Culture As It Relates to Tourism program, \$5000.00 branding merchandise to promote Queen Charlotte as an eco tourism draw.

CARRIED

- i) Queen Charlotte Islands Arts Council – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy program, \$12,050.00 to present Haida Gwaii Film Festival 6th-8th March 2009, request letter of support

R2008/40/13 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Martin to send a letter of support to Queen Charlotte Islands Arts Council – Re: Gwaii Trust October 15th – Legacy program, \$12,050.00 to present Haida Gwaii Film Festival 6th-8th March 2009.

CARRIED

j) Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) – Re: population Levy Allocation 2009

R2008/40/14 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross that The Queen Charlotte Village Council approves amending the funding formula for the Vancouver Island Regional Library on a one time basis for 2009 by recording Campbell River at the level indicated by a BC STATS regular estimates and prorating both Comox Valley and Strathcona Regional District up to the level indicated by BC STATS regular estimates.

CARRIED

Resolution:

a) Appointment of Representative and Alternate Representative for the Vancouver Island Regional Library 2009 – # R2008/40/12

R2008/40/15 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to appoint Councillor Noddin as Representative and Councillor Martin as the Alternate Representative for the Vancouver Island Regional Library 2009.

CARRIED

Bylaws:

A Bylaw to Define the Areas Exempted from Taxation Pursuant to Section 224 of the Community Charter, Bylaw No.29-2008 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

R2008/40/16 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 1st reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw NO. 29-2008, A Bylaw to Define the Areas Exempted from Taxation Pursuant to Section 224 of the Community Charter.

CARRIED

R2008/40/17 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 2nd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw NO. 29-2008, A Bylaw to Define the Areas Exempted from Taxation Pursuant to Section 224 of the Community Charter.

CARRIED

R2008/40/18 MOVED by Councillor Martin, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 3rd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw NO. 29-2008, A Bylaw to Define the Areas Exempted from Taxation Pursuant to Section 224 of the Community Charter.

CARRIED

Reports of Council Members and Staff:

a) Mayor & Council

Mayors Report October 06 2008

UBCM

The conference had many forums and we did our best to keep up. We concentrated on meeting with Ministers and senior staff to bring forward our issues. Below is a condensed schedule as some of these meetings meant one with Minister and later others with senior staff.

We met with Minister of Communities the Honourable Blair Lexstrom, his staff and Min of Environment and Min of Transportation staff to ask their assistance in managing our Honna watershed. We may apply for a planning grant under the Min of Communities for watershed planning. We need also to determine if extending the municipal boundaries might offer more protection and if there would be agreement with all parties including CHN and the private lands. The impact of forestry roads and the need to upgrade, in particular the QC Main, was also discussed.

We spoke with ILMB regarding releasing provincial land for a variety of development options:

- Recycling centre, organic waste, municipal yard
- Commercial/industrial park
- Residential housing of a variety of sizes and prices
- Barge landing site
- And the need for surveys

We were in contact with BC Housing supporting investment in a men's shelter with a NH program attached, The island needs on island addiction programming and we gave our support towards those programs to be established as residential on island.

In regards to the south end hospital we asked the Min of Health where we were on the capital planning list. We are noted as a priority of NH and the NWRHD but the list has yet to be prioritized.

We spoke to the Premier about the carbon tax and he replied similarly as his speech at the close of UBCM in that he believes the tax is revenue neutral, not the cause of the spike in fuel prices but is a commitment of his gov't to our children and grandchildren and that he intends to stay the course. On the other hand the premier noted the difficulties of remote communities and that he was looking into the problems such communities face – from cell phone service to fresh vegetables. We added mail service to the list. We promoted a northern or remote living allowance and felt he was not adverse to the idea.

BC FERRIES

We met one evening and again the next day. We discussed the rationalization of the tariff structure which contains items such as overweight rates for the roofless Kwuna and a variety of charges for the same vehicle on different routes. We supported BCF in their ideas for similar rate structure on all routes, a BC resident rate and a small fee for bicycles and proportional fee for motorcycles (3 equal one car). Overheight is really over size and that needs to be reflected in the rate structure if the vehicle is wider than a normal lane and can only be parked in limited areas. Visitors and residents traveled less

last year and after the financial crisis in stock markets and real estate especially south of the border we may find the same or worse next season.

CANADA POST

Kitkatla, Hartley Bay and Port Simpson have virtual daily seaplane mail delivery while Oona River with a population of 37 has seaplane mail delivery every couple of days.

What happened to Haida Gwaii!

Air Canada Cargo asked for a raise in fees including fuel surcharges, Canada Post took the position of no increase in fees without additional services. The two intransigent behemoths did not move from their positions and Air Canada Cargo cancelled its contract, giving its minimum required notice and refused to supply service to the islands. I have had a couple of conversations with Issie Berish municipal relations Ottawa and various other senior staffers – such as the national transportation manager. Their attitude is most distressing. They do not seek solutions but simply wish to support a decision hastily made. Their latest statement that reviewing other options such as Pacific Coastal Airlines or North Pacific Seaplanes (who serves the other SQCRD rural areas) would “only increase our costs”! They refer back to “remote community” standards imposed upon us at an unknown time and though never in effect (as they are not in effect for Hartley Bay, Kitkatla, Port Simpson or Oona River) is now their excuse for decreased inferior service. When I suggested that not serving us at all would be even cheaper, there was silence.

Here on island we are all impacted. From HIV drug supplies to delivery of Christmas presents I believe that we will feel the lack of service. At the Sandspit airport I met people (and I was one of them) who were carrying mail with us on the plane to Vancouver in order to send off time sensitive documents. There is a post office in the bottom level of the terminal.

I would ask that people document and let me know how the “5 day” service is working or not and how the diminished service impacts their lives. We are in election mode but that ends on October 14 and I can use the island communities’ support in speaking to federal government.

BC RURAL AND REMOTE HEALTH RESEARCH NETWORK

I attended their annual general meeting remotely. This network contains both researchers, community members and health professionals looking to promote and assist research relevant to rural and remote health issues. Betsy Cardell has been a member.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Small towns cannot function without the aide and assistance of volunteers. Later this year we intend to honour them and would like your help in nominating those who give and are often unrecognized.

One whom I would like to mention right now is Steve Collinson from Skidegate whom we all know as our wharfinger. Well Steve also drives our roads at night looking after teens that move between communities and is quick to report trouble when he sees it. In fact is very presence often prevents those acting outside the law. Thank you Steve- from the Village of Queen Charlotte.

Councillor Ross:

The Islands have had daily mail since the late 1940’s or early 1950’s. Not having this service now is not acceptable. Still noting loose dogs in the back of trucks.

Councillor Martin:

Attended 16 of the 17 meetings at the Union of BC Municipalities conference. Talked with BC Ambulance Service representatives re. recruitment and allowing for adequate administration time and training issues. Had a meeting to discuss the options for a micro-hydro installation. Received news that two applications for employment supplement grants for our community have been approved.

Councillor Olsen:

I am now a member at large for the Queen Charlotte Recreation Committee. Hope to hear back soon about the funding for a training project.

Adjournment:

R2008/40/19 MOVED by Councillor Olsen to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm
Next meeting Monday, October 20th, 2008

Mayor C. Kulesha

D. Uliana, Recording