

**Village of Queen Charlotte**

**April 21, 2008**

**Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Village of Queen Charlotte held on Monday, April 21, 2008 at the Queen Charlotte Village Office, Queen Charlotte, B.C.**

**Adopted**

**PRESENT:**

**Council:**

Mayor C. Kulesha  
Councillor G. Noddin  
Councillor K. Olsen  
Councillor E. Ross (7:37pm)

Regrets:

Councillor G. Martin

**Staff:**

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

**Public:** 6

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**Agenda:**

R2008/16/02 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to adopt the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

**Minutes:**

a) Village of Queen Charlotte Council Minutes, April 7, 2008

R2008/16/03 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to adopt the Village of Queen Charlotte Council Minutes, April 7, 2008 as circulated.

CARRIED

**Delegate - Karen McMurray, QCI Recreation Coordinator Re: programming**

Karen McMurray and Beth Newton presented a report of activities planned for the coming year and gave an invitation to the 2008 QCI Recreation AGM on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Cacillia's Bed and Breakfast. Past programs have included fitness classes, dancing, karate, walking groups, badminton, basketball, art classes, indoor soccer, babysitter courses, 1<sup>st</sup> aid courses as well as the summer youth programs and swimming. Some new programs will include funding from Legacy 2010 to expand the 2008 Summer Program. A needs assessment for teen programs is being carried out to help with future offerings. The QCI Recreation workers help with coordinating volunteers in the communities for

the activities and courses. They also act as intermediary between user groups and the schools, invoicing for fees, providing insurance coverage, advertising and communication.

#### **4. Correspondence:**

##### **For Information:**

- a) Moresby Island Management Committee (MIMC) – Re: Minutes of March 12th, 2008, April 11, 2008

R2008/16/04 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to receive and file Moresby Island Management Committee (MIMC) –Re: Minutes of March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008

CARRIED

- b) Dr. Ian Walker, Associate Professor Department of Geography, UVic – Re: climate change report released, March 19, 2008  
c) Northern Health – Re: NH marks med lab tech week with call for students to take part in education programs, April 10, 2008  
d) Corporation of Village of Valemount – Re: Carbon Tax Legislation, April 7, 2008  
e) Province of BC, Premier Gordon Campbell, minister Ida Chong, FCGA – Re: signing the British Columbia Climate Action Charter, April 10, 2008

R2008/16/05 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to receive and file b) Dr. Ian Walker, Associate Professor Department of Geography, UVic – Re: climate change report released, March 19, 2008, c) Dr Northern Health – Re: NH marks med lab tech week with call for students to take part in education programs, April 10, 2008, d) Corporation of Village of Valemount – Re: Carbon Tax Legislation, April 7, 2008 and e) Province of BC, Premier Gordon Campbell, minister Ida Chong, FCGA – Re: signing the British Columbia Climate Action Charter, April 10, 2008.

CARRIED

- f) Hecate Strait Streamkeepers – Re: Charlie Hartie Creek Assessment Report, 2007/2008

R2008/16/06 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to send a letter of thanks to Hecate Strait Streamkeepers for their work.

CARRIED

##### **For Action:**

- a) Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 21-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 8-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Water Supply and Distribution System Service

R2008/16/07 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 21-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 8-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Water Supply and Distribution System Service.

CARRIED

R2008/16/08 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to give 2nd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 21-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 8-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Water Supply and Distribution System Service.

CARRIED

R2008/16/09 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to give 3rd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 21-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 8-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Water Supply and Distribution System Service.

CARRIED

b) Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 22-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 9-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Sewage Collection And Disposal Service

R2008/16/10 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 22-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 9-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Sewage Collection And Disposal Service.

CARRIED

R2008/16/11 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 2nd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 22-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 9-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Sewage Collection And Disposal Service.

CARRIED

R2008/16/12 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 3rd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 22-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Bylaw No. 9-2006, A Bylaw To Establish A Local Area Sewage Collection And Disposal Service.

CARRIED

c) Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 23-2008, A Bylaw To Authorize The Borrowing Of The Estimated Cost Of Constructing Improvements To The Water System

R2008/16/13 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 23-2008, A Bylaw To Authorize The Borrowing Of The Estimated Cost Of Constructing Improvements To The Water System.

CARRIED

R2008/16/14 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 2nd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 23-2008, A Bylaw To Authorize The Borrowing Of The Estimated Cost Of Constructing Improvements To The Water System.

CARRIED

R2008/16/15 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 3rd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 23-2008, A Bylaw To Authorize The Borrowing Of The Estimated Cost Of Constructing Improvements To The Water System.

CARRIED

d) Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 24-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 138-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter

R2008/16/16 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 24-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 138-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter.

CARRIED

R2008/16/17 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 2nd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 24-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 138-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter.

CARRIED

R2008/16/18 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 3rd reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 24-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 138-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter.

CARRIED

- e) Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 25-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 146-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter

R2008/16/19 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 25-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 146-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter.

CARRIED

R2008/16/20 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 25-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 146-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter.

CARRIED

R2008/16/21 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to give 3<sup>rd</sup> reading to the Village of Queen Charlotte Bylaw No. 25-2008, A Bylaw To Amend Skeena- Queen Charlotte Regional District, Bylaw No. 146-1984, A Bylaw To Impose A Tax on Frontage On Owners Of Land Under The Provisions Of Sections 200, 201 And 202 Of The Community Charter.

CARRIED

- f) A Bylaw to establish the Financial Plan for the Village of Queen Charlotte for the years 2008-2012, Bylaw No. 26-2008 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

R2008/16/22 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Financial Plan for the Village of Queen Charlotte for the years 2008-2012, Bylaw No. 26-2008.

CARRIED

R2008/16/23 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 2nd reading to the Financial Plan for the Village of Queen Charlotte for the years 2008-2012, Bylaw No. 26-2008.

CARRIED

R2008/16/24 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 3rd reading to the Financial Plan for the Village of Queen Charlotte for the years 2008-2012, Bylaw No. 26-2008.

CARRIED

- g) A Bylaw for the Levying of Rates for Municipal, Debt, Hospital, Regional District Purposes for the year 2008, Bylaw No.27-2008 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd Reading.

R2008/16/25 MOVED by Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 1<sup>st</sup> reading to the Levying of Rates for Municipal, Debt, Hospital, Regional District Purposes for the year 2008, Bylaw No.27-2008.

CARRIED

R2008/16/26 MOVED by Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 2nd reading to the Levying of Rates for Municipal, Debt, Hospital, Regional District Purposes for the year 2008, Bylaw No.27-2008.

CARRIED

R2008/16/27 MOVED by Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Olsen to give 3rd reading to the Levying of Rates for Municipal, Debt, Hospital, Regional District Purposes for the year 2008, Bylaw No.27-2008.

CARRIED

- h) School District No. 50 and Literacy Haida Gwaii – Re: Development of a Joint School District and community Literacy Plan

R2008/16/28 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Olsen to receive and file School District No. 50 and Literacy Haida Gwaii – Re: Development of a Joint School District and community Literacy Plan.

CARRIED

Note: Councillor Olsen has a package coming and will report back.

### **Reports of Committee, COTW and Commissions:**

#### Village of Queen Charlotte Committee of the Whole Minutes April 11, 2008

R2008/16/29 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Ross to adopt the Village of Queen Charlotte Committee of the Whole Minutes April 11, 2008 as circulated.

CARRIED

### **Resolution**

#### a) Innovation Fund Grant Application

R2008/16/30 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to direct staff to apply for a grant under the Innovation Fund program for the Stanley Lake/Honna River Water Project.

CARRIED

b) Community Emergency Grants

R2008/16/31 MOVED by Councillor Olsen, seconded by Councillor Noddin to direct staff to forward \$2,000 representing the 2008 Community Grant Allowance to the Emergency/Christmas Hamper Fund Committee who will act on behalf of Council to receive and approve requests from the public as needed and to be replenished to a maximum of \$2,000 in each future budget year until amended.

CARRIED

**Policies:**

a) Street Lighting

R2008/16/32 MOVED by Councillor Noddin, seconded by Councillor Ross to adopt the Village of Queen Charlotte Street Lighting policy.

CARRIED

**Reports of Council Members and Chief Administrative Officer and Manager of Corporate Financial Services:**

a) Mayor & Council

Mayors Report April 21 2008:

**SQCRD**

Met in QC for the April meeting. On the agenda was Island Solid Waste with members of the committee and concerned public attending the meeting. The call for proposals was clarified to be open for all for operation and maintenance of the system. The budget shortfall of over \$200,000 and the complaints regarding quality of service demonstrates that another mode of operating needs to be considered.

Island recreation was also in attendance and there was a good discussion as to what the other communities felt was a lack of communication and value for their tax dollars. More meetings are to be scheduled.

**WATER REPORT**

Estimated timeline for referendum – the borrowing bylaw is given 3 readings tonight and tomorrow it is sent to receive approval from the inspector of Municipalities (by May 12<sup>th</sup>), advertise date and place of referendum May 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, and be able to hold the vote on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June. Adopting the bylaw and completing the 30 day quashing period brings us to July 28<sup>th</sup>. With certificate of approval from the Ministry of Community Services we would then be able to move forward.

The exact dates when we will be able to work in the river are dependent on our intake design, water levels and fish concerns. We will plan the work with our local Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

**CELL PHONE SERVICE**

Another step forward towards service has been accomplished as Minister Coleman has signed an exemption to the Part 13 area for hydro right of way. It has been a long process but with everyone's cooperation we continue to move ahead.

## PROTOCOL MEETING

Represented Queen Charlotte at the Sandspit signing and presented the community with a gift album for documenting their achievements and Director Glassman with our new glass mug with logo – soon to be much coveted.

## BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Council desires to meet our responsibilities, plan for the future and be financially prudent. We have 3 different budgets: Water, Waste Water (Sewer) and General. We give the budget 3 readings and approval in open public meetings and hold a public finance meeting as well in order to report to you.

Waste water – revenue for sewer is raised basically through user rates. This year we must add sewer line cleaning, upgrade to the outfall, sewer pump maintenance and some additional fencing. With no changes to rates we can accomplish the above but will be unable to transfer any funds to reserves (savings).

Water – this is our most problematic budget. Revenue is from frontage taxes and water rates. This year we eliminated the property tax (\$18,800) that was assigned originally for a study grant and covered the entire municipality, including Skidegate Landing. We still need those funds and so they have been added to the frontage tax which applies only to those within the water service area and as well water user rates were raised 7.5% for the rest of the year (\$8,462). We applied for a Canada/BC Infrastructure grant (for generators). The project costs \$150,000, \$100,000 paid for by the grant and \$50,000 will be our share. \$26,500 is required for other capital projects such as alarm upgrades, fencing, flushing equipment and an additional \$15,707 is needed just to meet the operating and maintenance expenses. This \$92,207 will be taken from the water reserves. As well the administration of water, which includes such items as clerical staff, share of shop and building costs though over \$80,000 we will keep it at \$50,000, same as last year, the thinking being that it is the major water projects that we have now have increased the time staff needs to spend on water and this will decrease after our projects are over Needless to say we are unable to save any money to reserves (savings).

General budget – revenue is by application for grants, grants from provincial and federal properties, a Small Community Grant from the province and levying a general property tax. This year our budget needs to include an overall 2.5% increase in costs, \$7000 for election (the November province wide election), \$7000 referendum expense (for permission to borrow monies to move the water intake), payroll & asset management software and staff training. Successful applications to Gwaii Trust for staff training and equipment helped our budget with an addition of \$10,800.

We also need to plan for the future. In 2010 we are responsible for our roads so we have earmarked \$50,000 to be moved into a “roads reserve” as we build an account for when we take over our side roads after 2010. We have also put funding aside for a new public works truck. The 2 we have are inadequate for the job (one is vintage 1996 and is increasingly expensive to keep on the road, the other 2004 and neither is 4x4 which would allow us to access our sites year round). We have been offered the opportunity by the highways contractor to train our staff for snow clearing and sanding of the side roads. If an appropriate vehicle is found we will be reimbursed by the contractor for the work (\$4-20,000 depending on snow fall) over the next 2 years while determining our capability and our capacity for the job.

In order to accomplish the duties described Council has opted to keep the tax rate the same as last year. The tax ratio between business and residential will also remain a competitive 1:3. Your tax itself will depend on your property assessment. The municipality does not value properties; Property assessments are the purview of BC Assessments and though there has been a general increase, it will vary greatly. In 2007 we raised \$216,000 and in 2008 we will raise \$246,000 through the tax levy. In a 2006 survey we had the lowest tax rate of 17 communities of similar populations. We will do the same survey this year as soon as the statistics are in place. The increase in assessed value of properties throughout the community will allow for the increased revenue to cover the above needs.

Councillor Noddin: Attended the Sandspit Protocol signing and the SQCRD meeting in Queen Charlotte.

Councillor Olsen: Attended the budget meetings, Protocol signing in Sandspit as well as the SQCRD meeting in Queen Charlotte.

CAO: Thanks go to the Council for their work at the budget meetings and the legislative work by the staff. The information required by the Province has been sent away and we have a good shot at meeting the fish window. Public Works has completed servicing the fire hydrants. Work has also been carried out on the bypass tank at the water treatment plan. Work continues with Highways including work with ditching, culverts and drainage issues. Operator training programs are ongoing for both our senior and junior operators. The APC committee is close to a final draft of the Official Community Plan with another meeting tomorrow. The mapping is being put together with Forestry participating and the next step will be presenting the draft to Council and public participation in early May. The next part of the process includes the Community Sustainability Plan, required before Gas Tax funds can be applied. Work continues with ILMB for a future light industrial site. Brian Eccles is doing work with the Boat Launch Committee.

CFO: Much time has gone into the budget planning process. Once the bylaws are passed we will be forwarding them to the Province.

**Adjournment:**

R2008/16/33 MOVED by Councillor Olsen to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8.80.m

Next meeting Monday May 5, 2008

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Mayor C. Kulesha

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D. Uliana, Recording