

Transition Sooke – Council Watchdog Summaries

General Council 11 January, 2021, 7 pm – Notes by Alan Dolan

Actual minutes provided by DOS:

<https://sooke.civicweb.net/filepro/document/50823/Regular%20Council%20-%202011%20Jan%202021%20Minutes.pdf?widget=true>

The agenda package for this meeting is 495 pages. I did not read it all!

CAO McInnes presented a status report on the Strategic Priorities. I won't relate all this because all the initiatives to meet the Strategic Priorities goals are or will be captured in other meetings of Council. It is, however, important to note that the three goals are:

1. Build a reputable organization
2. Demonstrate leadership in climate action
3. Manage long-term growth

The most significant section of this Council meeting was agenda item 11.2, which is the Climate Adaptation & Mitigation Framework. This report "operationalizes" Sooke's declaration of a Climate Emergency on April 8, 2019. (Actually Sooke did not make the declaration; it supported the CRD declaration.) The framework is based on four reports from the following agencies:

1. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy – Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for British Columbia
2. Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) - Local Government Priorities for Climate Action: Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities
3. Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) - UBCM Special Committee on Climate Action Propose
4. Emergency Management BC – Modernizing BC's Emergency Management Legislation

The following motion was passed:

- 1) THAT Council directs the Climate Action Committee, Community Economic Development Committee, and the Planning and Land Use Committee to
 - Consider the information provided in the:
 - Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for British Columbia;
 - Territorial Analysis and Survey of Local Government Priorities for Climate Action: Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities;
 - Modernizing BC's Emergency Management Legislation; and
 - UBCM Special Committee on Climate Action Proposed Recommendations DRAFT Report

- Consider the 4 pillars of the Sendai Framework in their decision-making with a particular focus on mitigation and recovery initiatives.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 2) THAT Council directs the Climate Action Committee and Community Economic Development Committee to meet jointly in May and November, 2021 to share/transfer their respective knowledge.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12.1 Zoning bylaw amendment – for 17-mile house, and other businesses to offset land taken over by the Highway 14 road work. But at the same time, they have asked for a commercial rezoning and three residential lots all in the area of Gillespie Road, and what will become the old Sooke Road.

One rather alarming thing is that one of the lots is close to a waterway and normally riparian development needs to be 30 metres from a pond on the property but the applicant's "qualified environmental professional" deemed that 10 metres would be OK!

Lands fall outside the development growth area and development permit areas so no permit required (not sure I totally understand this).

Three motions emerged and they were all carried unanimously.

Rest of meeting was not relevant to Transition Sooke as far as I could tell.