

Council Corner

January 22, 2025 Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Teunis Westbroek ◆ Councillor S. Harrison ◆ Councillor A. Skipsey ◆ Councillor P. Vander Valk ◆ Councillor J. Young

DELEGATIONS

Eaglecrest Residents Association

B. Scott, President of the Eaglecrest Residents Association, appeared before Council to present a report on the Association's Annual General Meeting.

Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce

D. Novak, President of the Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce, appeared before Council to present the annual year-end report from the Chamber of Commerce.

BroomBusters

J. Sales, appeared before Council to present an update on BroomBusters initiatives and challenges in Qualicum Beach.

RCMP Update

T. De Coene, Staff Sergeant of the RCMP, appeared before Council to present a 4th Quarter Update from Oceanside RCMP.

CORRESPONDENCE

Pathway from Qualicum Beach Museum to Grandon Creek

Council directed that the letter from a local resident requesting the pathway from Qualicum Beach Museum to Grandon Creek be bicycle free, be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Select Committee.

FireSmart Initiatives

Council directed staff to operationalize future inquiries related to concerns with potential fuel loading in public forested areas by providing on the ground assessment by the Qualicum Beach Fire Department to determine if further action is required.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Tree Protection Bylaw

Council directed the December 11, 2024 presentation regarding the Tree Protection Bylaw provided by the Friends of the Qualicum Beach Forest be referred to staff for consideration during the upcoming Tree Protection Bylaw review process.

Reconfiguration of Railway Crossing Traffic Controls

Council approved a resolution to be submitted to AVICC (Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities) and UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) to lobby Transport Canada for the amendment of the legislation, including the *Grade Crossings Regulation* to permit the reconfiguration of railway crossing traffic controls to have railway maintenance traffic come to a stop on the rail at roadway intersections of inactive railway crossings and to remove stop signs for vehicular traffic at these locations.

BYLAWS

Town of Qualicum Beach Financial Plan 2025-2029 Bylaw No. 908, 2025 was given first and second readings.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

General Government

Members of Council provided comments on their respective portfolio of activities.

STAFF REPORTS

Seacrest Place Slope Stabilization Project - Memorandum

Council instructed staff to reprioritize capital projects included in the 2025-2029 Capital Program to ensure the Seacrest Place Slope Stabilization Project is fully funded from available funding sources in 2025. Early budget approval was authorized by Council in the amount of \$2,581,000.

Winter Holiday Town Hall Closure

Council approved the closure of Town Hall for the 2025 winter holiday season from December 22 through December 26, 2025.

Interim Housing Needs Report

Council received the Interim Housing Needs Report prepared by Deloitte that identified local housing needs within a five-year and 20-year time frame.

Fleet Greening/Modernization Strategy

Council received the Fleet Greening/Modernization Strategy for the Town of Qualicum Beach prepared by Innotech Fleet Strategies. The “Optimized Scenario” for fleet rightsizing and EV transitioning was referred to the 2026 Financial Planning Process. The Fleet Greening/Modernization Strategy was referred to the Select Committee on Environment and Sustainability.

Authorization ESS Grant Application

Council approved the request for the City of Parksville to apply for the 2025 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Emergency Support Services Grant on behalf of the Town of Qualicum Beach in the amount of \$45,900 for the purpose of enhancing the capacity of Oceanside Emergency Support Services.

Development Permit | 1000 Ravensbourne Lane

Council authorized the issuance of a Form and Character Development Permit for 1000 Ravensbourne Lane subject to Council consideration and authorization of a lease agreement with the applicant.