

VILLAGE OF BELCARRA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES October 6, 2025



This meeting was held in Council Chambers and live streamed at Village of Belcarra - YouTube

Council in Attendance

Mayor Jamie Ross Councillor Carolina Clark Councillor Joe Elworthy Councillor Janet Ruzycki Councillor Liisa Wilder

Staff in Attendance

Melony Burton, Chief Administrative Officer Stewart Novak, Manager, Municipal Services Amanda Seibert, Corporate Officer/Recording Secretary Catherine Grisewood, Clerk

Others in Attendance

Ken Bjorgaard, Financial Consultant Leon Gaber, KPMG

We wish to acknowledge that this meeting took place on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples. Tum-Tumay-Whueton, or Belcarra, is home to an ancestral village of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation. We are thankful to conduct our work within their territory.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ross called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

2.1 Regular Council Meeting, October 6, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Ruzycki Seconded by: Councillor Wilder

That the agenda for the Regular Council Meeting of October 6, 2025 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Special Council Meeting, September 15, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Clark Seconded by: Councillor Ruzycki

That the minutes from the Special Council Meeting held on September 15, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

3.2 Regular Council Meeting, September 15, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Clark Seconded by: Councillor Wilder

That the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on September 15, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor Ross reviewed the procedure for Public Input.

<u>Les Bramley, Belcarra resident,</u> asked whether consideration could be given to dedicating a specific time of the week for staff to help residents carry or lift items into the bins at WARD.

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

No Items

6. ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Correspondence

- **6.1.1** Email dated September 10, 2025 from Brian Hirsch, Belcarra resident, regarding the sale of road ends and an encroachment policy for the Village of Belcarra.
- **6.1.2** Email dated September 22, 2025 from John Willms, Belcarra resident, regarding private use of public property within the Village of Belcarra.
- **6.1.3** Informational release dated September 23, 2025 from Talon Helicopters providing notice of low-level flyovers for FortisBC from September 23 to October 23, 2025.

6.2 Reports

6.3 Recommendation to Receive Items on Consent

Moved by: Councillor Wilder Seconded by: Councillor Clark

That the items on the Consent Agenda of the October 6, 2025 Village of Belcarra Regular Council Meeting be received into the record.

Councillor Ruzycki requested that Item 6.1.2 be removed from the Consent Agenda to allow for comment and discussion.

With no further requests for removal of an item, the Mayor called the question on the motion.

CARRIED

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

The following item was removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

6.1.2 Email dated September 22, 2025 from John Willms, Belcarra resident, regarding private use of public property within the Village of Belcarra.

Councillor Ruzycki advised that she wished to speak on this item due to the financial issues of the Village. She referred to principles of user pay for benefits in financial reporting and stated she would like this issue addressed.

Councillor Clark advised that staff has responded to the correspondence.

8. CORRESPONDENCE/PROCLAMATIONS (ACTION ITEMS)

No items

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items

10. STAFF REPORTS

10.1 Twin Island Lot A Remedial Action Requirement (RAR) Compliance

Staff report by the Building Official dated October 6, 2025 providing an update on the remedial action requirement for Lot A, Twin Islands and recommending that the report be received into the record for information.

The Building Official presented the report. He provided information on the remedial action requirement and the work done by the property owners to date. He reported that all conditions of the remedial action have been satisfied by the property owner and that staff are reviewing bylaw updates to address similar issues in the future.

Moved by: Councillor Wilder Seconded by: Councillor Clark

That the staff report dated October 6, 2025 titled "Remedial Action Requirement Compliance – Lot A, Twin Islands", be received into the record for information.

CARRIED

10.2 Emergency Management - Indigenous Engagement

Staff report by the Manager, Municipal Services dated October 6, 2025 providing an update on Indigenous consultation for emergency management work and recommending that the report be received into the record for information.

The Manager, Municipal Services presented the report. He outlined emergency management consultation work that has been carried out with interested indigenous communities as per the Emergency and Disaster Management Act. He reported on the funds received from the Provincial Government to implement the requirements of the Act and advised that KPMG was brought on board to assist with the work. He stated that a report and presentation summarizing the work will be submitted by staff to the Province to complete the grant requirements.

Leon Gaber of KPMG gave a presentation on work carried out on the Indigenous Governing Body Engagement Requirements for the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*. He outlined the purpose of the initiative and the expectation from the Province that municipalities engage with indigenous governing bodies who have assertive territory within municipal boundaries.

The Manager, Municipal Services and the KPMG representative responded to questions and concerns put forward by members of Council.

Moved by: Councillor Wilder Seconded by: Councillor Ruzycki

That the staff report dated October 6, 2025, titled "Emergency Management - Indigenous Engagement" be received into the record for information.

CARRIED

10.3 Draft 2026-2030 Financial Plan

Staff report by the Financial Consultant, and the Chief Administrative Officer dated October 6, 2025 titled "Draft Long-Term Financial Plan (2026-2040) and Projected 2025 Budget Variances" recommending the approval of a revised 2026-2030 Financial Plan/Budget and schedule and outlining proposed tax and rate increases for the 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan/Budget to be presented for public consultation and feedback.

The Chief Financial Officer presented the report. She outlined the objectives which were key considerations in developing the 2026 Budget and longer term 2026-2040 Financial Plan which included the Operational budget, the Capital budget, Reserve funds and the mitigation of tax and fee increases.

The Financial Consultant highlighted the more detailed plans within the budget. He reviewed the long term financial plan and the projected 2025 budgeted actual variances. He advised that public consultation on the plan is scheduled for October 20 to allow for adoption of the financial bylaw prior to the end of the year.

Moved by: Councillor Ruzycki Seconded by: Councillor Clark

That the revised 2026 - 2030 Financial Plan/Budget Schedule be approved; and

That the following proposed tax and rate increases for the 2026 - 2030 Financial Plan/Budget be presented for public consultation and feedback:

Property Taxes

3% increase in property taxes in 2026

4% increase in property taxes each year from 2027 to 2030 (subject to review/change in the next budget cycle)

Water User Fees

4% increase in water user rates in 2026

4% increase in water user rate in 2027 to 2030 (subject to review/change in the next budget cycle)

Waste & Recycle Depot (WARD) User Fees

5% increase in WARD user rates in 2026

4% increase in WARD user rate in 2027 to 2030 (subject to review and change in the next budget cycle).

Note: Prior to the adoption of the motion, the water user fees percentage for 2027 to 2030 were reworded from 5% to 4%.

CARRIED

11. BYLAWS

No items

12. RELEASE OF ITEMS FROM CLOSED COUNCIL MEETINGS

No items

13. MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Mayor Ross attended the following events:

- September 16, 2025 Regional Parks Committee Widgeon Marsh Tour
- September 19, 2025 Mayors Council Public Affairs Committee
- September 22 to September 26, 2026 UBCM Conference
- September 29, 2025 2025 BC Law Enforcement Memorial Service
- September 30, 2025 Truth and Reconciliation Walk attended with Councillor Wilder and was an exceptionally organized event
- October 2, 2025 Mayors Council Meeting
- October 2, 2025 Electoral Area Annotated Agenda Review

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Ruzycki

Councillor attended the 2025 UBCM Convention on September 22 – 26. She advised on various sessions she attended at the convention and spoke on the issues that the Village of Belcarra has in common with many other smaller rural communities in BC.

Councillor Clark

Councillor Clark attended the 2025 UBCM Convention on September 22 – 26. She reported on sessions she attended and advised that Council attendance at UBCM allows urban area representatives to understand challenges being faced by rural communities and their staff and highlighted the importance of the ability to network with persons who understand smaller rural communities.

Councillor Wilder

Councillor Wilder attended the 2025 UBCM Convention on September 22 – 26. She reported on sessions held at the convention including presentations by various Provincial Ministers, the Premier and the opposition leaders. She also attended the walk for Trust and Reconciliation on September 30, 2025 and commented on the number of participants in the event.

13.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Operational & Administrative Updates

- Flail mowing
- Preparing fleet and equipment for the winter
- Placing salt order
- Inspection and cleaning at the Tatlow reservoir and Midden
- Water Samples
- Preparing applications for TransLink grant funding
- Bus Shelter some residents have inquired about the damaged bus shelter on Bedwell Bay Rd. Transit shelter replacements are a recommendation in the Active Transportation Network Plan, which is coming forward to Council before the end of the year. Pending approval, staff will be looking into replacement options for all of the shelters and will bring a report to Council with recommendations.

14. OTHER MATTERS DEEMED EXPEDIENT

No items

15. NOTICES OF MOTION AND MATTERS FOR INTRODUCTION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Councillor Ruzycki gave notice of a motion she will bring forward requesting that Council members work with residents and staff to prepare an application for the Village of Belcarra in the Home Town Take Over contest. She provided an explanation for the motion.

16. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Mayor Ross reviewed the procedure for Public Question Period.

There were no questions from the public.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by:

Councillor Wilder

Seconded by: Councillor Ruzycki

That the October 6, 2025 Regular Council Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm

Certified Correct:

Jamie Ross

Mayor

Amanda Seibert Corporate Officer

Page 7 of 7