

DISTRICT OF UCLUELET
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE GEORGE FRASER ROOM, 500 MATTERSON DRIVE
Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 3:30 PM

Present: **Chair:** Councillor Hoar
 Mayor: Mayor Noël (attended Via Zoom)
 Council: Councillors Cole, Kemps, and McEwen
 Staff: Mark Boysen, Chief Administrative Officer
 Donna Monteith, Chief Financial Officer
 Bruce Greig, Manager of Community Planning
 Abby Fortune, Manager of Recreation and Tourism (attended via Zoom)
 Joseph Rotenberg, Manager of Corporate Services

Regrets:

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORY

Council acknowledged the Yuułuꞑiꞑath First Nation, on whose traditional territories the District of Ucluelet operates.

3. NOTICE OF VIDEO RECORDING

Audience members and delegates were advised that the meeting was being video recorded and broadcast on YouTube. Audience members and delegates were also advised that Zoom was being used to conduct this meeting and Zoom may store data on foreign servers.

4. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- 4.1 Add a "Correspondence" section as Item 7 to this Agenda and renumber the remaining Agenda Items accordingly.**
- 4.2 Add "District of Ucluelet Meeting Request," a draft letter from Mayor Noël to the Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard, as Correspondence Agenda Item 7.1.**
- 4.3 Add "At-Sea Observers," a draft letter from Mayor Noël to Rebecca Reid, Regional Director General (DFO Pacific), as Correspondence Agenda Item 7.2.**

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5.1 September 29, 2020 Special Council Meeting Agenda

2020.048.SPECIAL **It was moved by Councillor Cole and seconded by Councillor McEwen**
THAT Council approve the September 29, 2020 Special Council Meeting Agenda as amended.

CARRIED.

6. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Hoar chaired this meeting as the Mayor attended via Zoom. Councillor Hoar noted that September 30, 2020 is Orange Shirt Day which promotes awareness of the residential school system and missing and murdered indigenous women.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 District of Ucluelet Meeting Request 5 *Mayco Noël, District of Ucluelet, Mayor*

2020.049.SPECIAL **It was moved by Councillor Cole and seconded by Councillor McEwen**
THAT Council direct Staff to submit the meeting request letter to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard.

CARRIED.

2020-09-25 DFO - DRAFT Meeting Request

7.2 At-Sea Observers 7 *Mayco Noël, District of Ucluelet, Mayor*

Council discussed the risk associated with At-Sea Observers travelling between communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2020.050.SPECIAL **It was moved by Councillor McEwen and seconded by Councillor Cole**
THAT Council direct Staff to submit the "At-Sea Observer" letter to the Regional Director General, of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Pacific Rim.

CARRIED.

2020-09-28 DFO - DRAFT At-Sea Observers

8. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no input at this time.

9. REPORTS

9.1 Community Emergency Preparedness Fund - Evacuation Route Planning Grant *Rick Geddes, Fire Chief*

2020.051.SPECIAL **It was moved by Councillor Cole and seconded by Councillor McEwen**
THAT Council approve recommendation 1 and 2 of report item "Community

Emergency Preparedness Fund - Evacuation Route Planning Grant" which state:

1. **THAT** Council supports the activities outlined in the District of Ucluelet 2020 grant application to the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Evacuation Route Planning Grant.
2. **THAT** Council will provide overall grant management if the District of Ucluelet is awarded the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Evacuation Route Planning Grant.

CARRIED.

9.2 Tree Removal on the Corner of Peninsula Road and Hemlock Street
John Towgood, Planner 1

Council discussed the reasoning behind the proposed tree removal which are located on District of Ucluelet property.

2020.052.SPECIAL **It was moved by Councillor Kemps and seconded by Councillor Cole**

THAT Council approve recommendation 1 of report item "Tree Removal on the Corner of Peninsula Road and Hemlock Street" which states:

1. **THAT** Council authorize the removal of four fir street trees located on the northwest corner of Peninsula Road and Hemlock Street, subject to the proposed new landscaping and replanting on the boulevard by the adjacent West Coast Motel business.

CARRIED.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

11. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

12. CLOSED SESSION

Procedural Motion to Move In-Camera:

THAT the meeting be closed to the public in order to address agenda items under Section 90(1)(e) and 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter*.

12.1 Procedural Motion to Move In-Camera

2020.053.SPECIAL **It was moved by Councillor Hoar and seconded by Councillor Cole**

THAT the meeting be closed to the public in order to address agenda items under Section 90(1)(e) and 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter*.

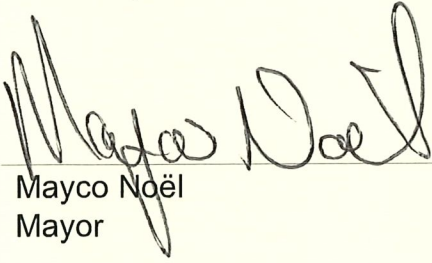
CARRIED.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

CERTIFIED CORRECT: Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

held on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 3:30 pm in the George Fraser Room, Ucluelet Community Centre 500 Matterson Road, Ucluelet, BC.



Mayco Noël
Mayor



Mark Boysen
CAO



28 September 2020

The Honourable Bernadette Jordan
Minister's office
200 Kent St.
Station 15N100
Ottawa Ontario, K1A 0E6
Via Email: min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

File No: 0530-01 GEN

Dear Minister Jordan,

RE: District of Ucluelet Meeting Request

District of Ucluelet Council would like to request a meeting with you this fall to discuss some important topics for our community. As tourism becomes an increasing economic focus for our community, there is an opportunity to collaboratively discuss issues that would support this transition. Our key discussion points for our meeting request include:

1. Regulation of International Recreational Tourist Fishers

While the pandemic has been challenging for all communities, it has provided an opportunity to validate pre-pandemic concerns. One key example for Ucluelet is the impact of American recreational fishermen operating their own vessels in our waters. With international travel restrictions, we have now seen DFO allow for increased fishing quotas for our local fisherman. It is our belief that the low level of enforcement on overfishing by these visitors, prior to the pandemic, needs to be addressed once COVID impacts are reduced and before borders are reopened.

2. Future of Federal Properties

The District would like to highlight the importance of considering divestiture of DFO assets to local governments. In particular, we would like to discuss the potential divestiture of the Amphitrite Coast Guard Building to the District and the positive community impact a building like this could have. DFO also has harbour assets of interest which are a part of our community's current fabric and history.

We wish we could host you here in our beautiful town, but this is not the time for additional travel. Hopefully a virtually meeting will be possible with our Council members.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Mayor Noël
Mayor, District of Ucluelet

District of Ucluelet . *Life on the Edge*®
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September 28, 2020

Rebecca Reid
Regional Director General
DFO, Pacific Region
401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC, V6C 3S4

File No: 0530-01 GEN

Dear Ms. Reid:

RE: At-Sea Observer Program

Ucluelet is an isolated community with limited health care resources and access to health care facilities. During this current Covid19 Pandemic the community is taking all necessary steps, consistent with Provincial Health Authority guidelines, to minimize the potential for transmission and spread of the corona virus. This includes ensuring that our community's primary employers like Ucluelet Harbour Seafoods and the commercial groundfish trawl fleet do not increase Covid19 risks to our community.

It has come to our attention that DFO is considering resuming the use of at-sea observers in the groundfish trawl fishery. While we support the need for fishery independent data collection for the proper management of our public resources, we don't believe this needs to risk public health and safety when an electronic monitoring option is available to the Department. At-sea observers do not live in Ucluelet. Rather, they travel to our community from all parts of the Province. Furthermore, there is a high turnover of the generally young observer staff, resulting in new trainees being deployed on a regular basis and making it difficult to maintain safe bubbles and minimize the risk to our community. For this reason we ask DFO to work with the groundfish trawl industry and the contracted service providers Archipelago Marine Research and Vericatch to find solutions to the data collection and monitoring problems without requiring the resumption of at-sea observers.

It is clear from the alarming increasing trends in Provincial Covid19 cases and hospitalizations that the Pandemic is still a serious matter. We must remain vigilant at protecting our communities, especially since a second wave is predicted this fall and the risks of exposure and transmission will increase.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am available to discuss this with you at any time.

Sincerely,

Mayco Noël
Mayor of Ucluelet

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