

Regular Meeting Minutes of Council May 19, 2026

Regular Meeting Minutes of the City of Castlegar Council held by Zoom live meeting and available to the public for live streaming in Council Chambers at the Community Forum, 445 13th Avenue, Castlegar, B.C., commenced at 3:00 p.m. for Committee of the Whole, immediately followed by a Closed Meeting of Council and reconvened at 7:00 p.m. for Regular Council proceedings.

Members Present Mayor Maria McFaddin
Councillor Darcy Bell
Councillor Brian Bogle
Councillor Sandy Bojchko
Councillor Shirley Falstead
Councillor Sue Heaton-Sherstobitoff
Councillor Cheryl MacLeod

Absent Nil

Staff Present Chris Barlow, Chief Administrative Officer
Bree Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services
Steffan Klassen, Director of Finance & Technology
Nick Ahlefeld, Fire Chief
Nicole Brown, Manager of Legislative Services
Jennifer Chamberlain, Executive Assistant
Danny Clarke, Airport Manager
Meeri Durand, Director of Community Safety & Development
Alex Hadfield, Manager of Human Resources
Ginger Lester, Communications Manager
Ryan Nidderly, Acting Director of Municipal Services
Monty Taylor, RCMP Sergeant
Nikki Zimmerman, Legislative Services Assistant

Other Public and Media

1 **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor McFaddin called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

R127-26 Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT the agenda for the Regular Council Meeting of May 19, 2026, be adopted.

CARRIED.

3 **RESOLUTION TO RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:**

R128-26 Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED: THAT Council now resolve itself into Committee of the Whole.

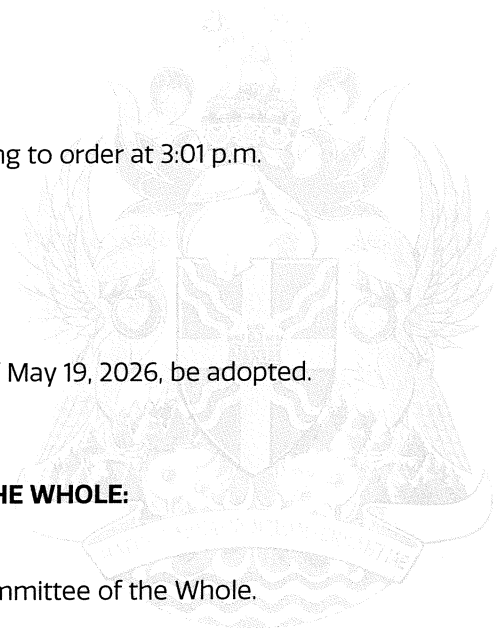
CARRIED.

4 **DELEGATION:** Nil

5 **COMMUNITY WELLNESS, SAFETY & DEVELOPMENT (Councillor Bell, Chair)**

(a) **COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIAISON VERBAL UPDATE**

- Nil



(b) **FIRE DEPARTMENT VERBAL UPDATE**

- Participated in McHappy Day fundraising event, and Mother's Day Breakfast at the Legion.
- Update on FireSmart assessments, a total of 23 assessments have been scheduled.

(c) **Emergency Services Monthly Report – April 2026**

COW062-26

RECOMMENDATION: Council consider and resolve to receive for information:

- Emergency Services Monthly Report – April 2026

CARRIED.

(d) **RCMP DETACHMENT VERBAL UPDATE**

- Update on new members coming to the Castlegar Detachment.

(e) **WEST KOOTENAY REGIONAL AIRPORT VERBAL UPDATE**

- One of fifteen flights cancelled in May so far.

(f) **COMMUNITY SAFETY AND DEVELOPMENT VERBAL UPDATE.**

- Nil

(g) **Building Permit and Business Licence Reports – April 2026**

COW063-26

RECOMMENDATION: Council consider and resolve to receive for information:

- Building Permit Report – April 2026
- Business Licence Report – April 2026

CARRIED.

6 CULTURAL & CIVIC PRIDE (Councillor Heaton-Sherstobitoff, Chair)

(a) **COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIAISON VERBAL UPDATE**

- Castlegar and District Hospital Foundation AGM.
- Update on the Castlegar Together meeting and Canada Day planning.

7 FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES (Councillor Bogle, Chair)

(a) **FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMUNITY LIAISON VERBAL UPDATE**

- Nil

(b) **CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT VERBAL UPDATE**

- Update on current job postings.

(c) **False Alarm Bylaw 1439 (Report No. 26-14)**

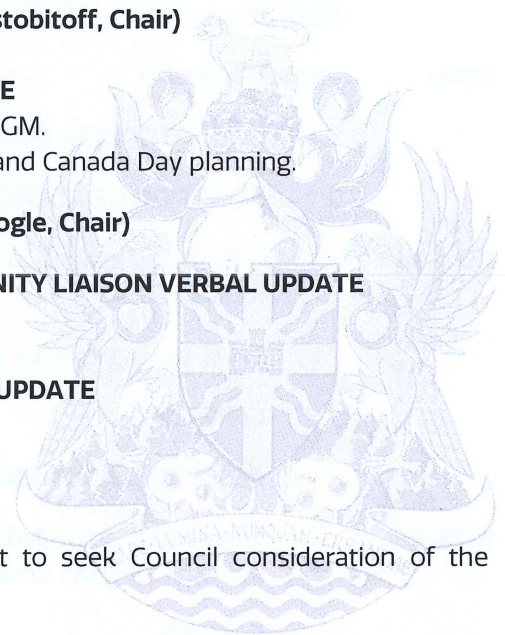
Report from the Legislative Services Assistant to seek Council consideration of the required readings of False Alarm Bylaw 1439.

COW064-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council proceed with the required readings of False Alarm Bylaw 1439, 2026, a Bylaw to regulate and establish fees with respect to excessive false alarms.

CARRIED.



(d) **Municipal Ticketing Amendment Bylaw 1458 (Report No. 26-41)**

Report from the Manager of Legislative Services to seek Council consideration of the required readings of the Municipal Ticketing Amendment Bylaw 1458.

COW065-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council consider the required readings of the Municipal Ticketing Amendment Bylaw 1458.

CARRIED.

(e) **Local Government Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw 1459 (Report No. 26-43)**

Report from the Manager of Legislative Services to seek Council consideration of the required readings of Local Government Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw 1459.

COW066-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council proceed with the required readings of the Local Government Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw 1459, a Bylaw to provide for the determination of various procedures for the conduct of local government elections and assent voting.

CARRIED.

(f) **Council Remuneration Review Committee Recommendations (Report No. 26-40)**

Report from the Manager of Legislative Services to present the Council Remuneration Committee recommendations, and to seek Council direction to incorporate the recommendations in the Council Expense Bylaw 661, and Council Indemnity Bylaw 835.

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Expense Allowance Bylaw 661 to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to:

- a) Strengthen the definition of "Council-related expenses" to: "Funds shall be provided to each member of Council to support the purchase of Council-related expenses incurred in fulfilling Council duties, including, but not limited to, technology upgrades or equipment and required apparel. All purchases shall be supported by receipts."
- b) Update the provisions for attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to permit for up to three Council members per year, funded by the City, to attend FCM conferences up to twice during their four-year term, with the added requirement that attendees provide a written summary report for a subsequent Council agenda.
- c) Remove outdated references to telephone calls in Schedule A, Section D, as these costs are addressed elsewhere in the bylaw under Schedule A, Section C.3.

- d) Update lost wage compensation language to clarify reimbursement up to \$300 per day, supported by a statement from the claimant's employer or business in the amount claimed for the lost wage compensation.
- e) That the provision of the \$400 monthly car allowance for the Mayor be explicitly stated in writing.

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT the main motion be amended to removed "*b. Update the provisions for attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to permit for up to three Council members per year, funded by the City, to attend FCM conferences up to twice during their four-year term, with the added requirement that attendees provide a written summary report for a subsequent Council agenda.*"

Council withdrew this motion and proceeded with consideration of the main motion components individually.

COW067-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Expense Allowance Bylaw 661 to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to strengthen the definition of "Council-related expenses" to: "Funds shall be provided to each member of Council to support the purchase of Council-related expenses incurred in fulfilling Council duties, including, but not limited to, technology upgrades or equipment and required apparel. All purchases shall be supported by receipts."

CARRIED.

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Expense Allowance Bylaw 661 to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to update the provisions for attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to permit for up to three Council members per year, funded by the City, to attend FCM conferences up to twice during their four-year term, with the added requirement that attendees provide a written summary report for a subsequent Council agenda.

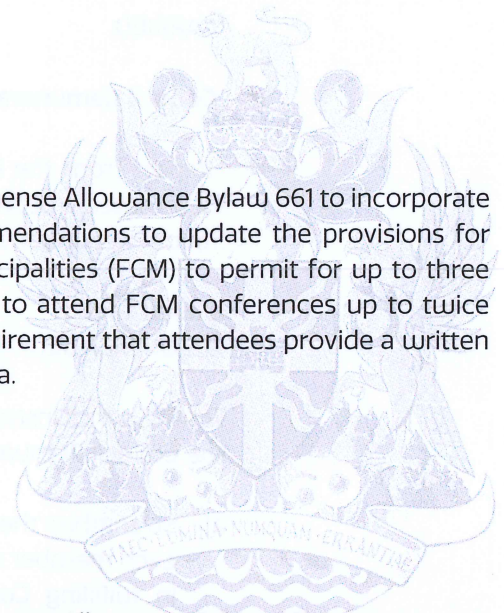
DEFEATED.

COW068-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Expense Allowance Bylaw 661 to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to remove outdated references to telephone calls in Schedule A, Section D, as these costs are addressed elsewhere in the Bylaw under Schedule A, Section C.3.

CARRIED.



COW069-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Expense Allowance Bylaw 661 to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to update lost wage compensation language to clarify reimbursement up to \$300 per day, supported by a statement from the claimant's employer or business in the amount claimed for the lost wage compensation.

CARRIED.

COW070-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Expense Allowance Bylaw 661 to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to have the provision of the \$400 monthly car allowance for the Mayor be explicitly stated in writing in the Bylaw.

CARRIED.

COW071-26

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council instruct staff to amend Council Indemnity Bylaw 835, to incorporate the Council Remuneration Committee's recommendations to include that effective January 2027 and each year thereafter, the annual indemnities for the Mayor and Councillors shall be increased by an amount equal to the percentage increase of the BC Consumer Price Index for the twelve-month period ending November 1 of the previous year.

CARRIED. Opposed: Clr. Bojecho

Council discussed the potential to have staff explore drafting a policy regarding providing Council with reimbursement of mileage for in town travel associated with fulfilling Council duties. Majority of Council did not support this.

(g) Finance Department Verbal Update

- Working on finalizing the audit.

8 MUNICIPAL SERVICES (Councillor MacLeod, Chair)

(a) Municipal Services Department Verbal Update

- Maintenance working on cleaning concrete.
- Lazy line flushing and hydrant maintenance.
- Last geotube bag being processed.
- Paving program kicking off next week.
- Update on Provincial Government Funding received.

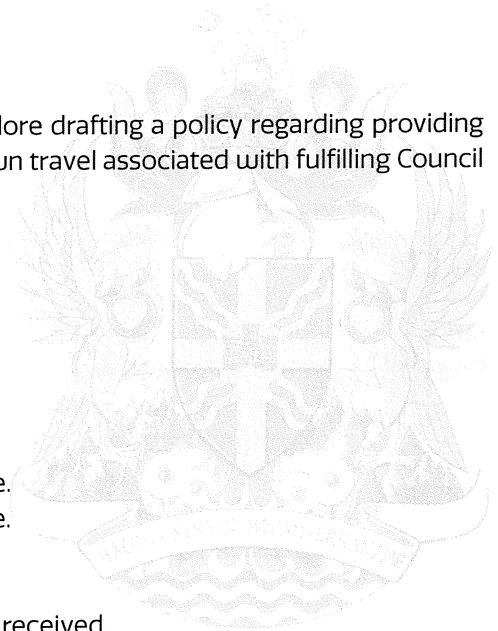
9 QUESTION PERIOD:

- Nil

10 RESOLUTION TO RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

R129-26

Moved and seconded, and



RESOLVED: THAT Council rise from Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED.

11 RESOLUTION TO RECESS THE PUBLIC MEETING UNTIL 7:00 P.M.

R130-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, the public be excluded from this portion of the meeting as the subject matter being considered relates to the following:

- ***Community Charter Section 90(1)(L)***
Discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 [annual municipal report].

AND FURTHER;

THAT the public portion of the meeting be recessed until 7:00 p.m.,

AND FURTHER;

THAT Council immediately resolve into the closed portion of their meeting.

CARRIED.

The meeting recessed at 4:24 p.m.

12 RECONVENE: Mayor McFaddin reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present Mayor Maria McFaddin
Councillor Darcy Bell
Councillor Brian Bogle
Councillor Sandy Bojecho
Councillor Shirley Falstead
Councillor Sue Heaton-Sherstobitoff
Councillor Cherryl MacLeod

Absent Nil

Staff Present Chris Barlow, Chief Administrative Officer
Bree Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services
Steffan Klassen, Director of Finance & Technology
Nicole Brown, Manager of Legislative Services
Jennifer Chamberlain, Executive Assistant
Meeri Durand, Director of Community Safety & Development
Ryan Niddery, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure
Paul Wallin, Acting Manager of Financial Services

Other Public and Media

13 DELEGATION: Jeremy Childs of Doane Grant Thornton Auditors attended the meeting to present the City of Castlegar 2025 Audited Financial Statements.

14 FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES:



(a) 2025 Audited Financial Statements (Report No. 26-42)

Report from the Director of Finance & Technology to provide council with the key findings and results of the audit of the City's 2025 Financial Statements and to obtain approval of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements.

R131-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Council approve the 2025 Audited Financial Statements as presented with Report 26-42 at the May 19, 2026, Regular Meeting.

CARRIED.

15 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

R132-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT the following Minutes be adopted as presented:

- Regular Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2026
- Special Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2026

CARRIED.

16 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

The following resolutions were recommended at the May 4, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting and are presented for consideration of adoption by Council:

R133-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Council receive for information Report #26-39 titled "2026 Council Strategic Plan Implementation Report – Quarter 1 Update".

CARRIED.

R134-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Council award Request for Quotations 2026-08 Castlegar Civic Works Site Trailers Supply & Install to ATCO Structures & Logistics Ltd. in the amount of \$225,650 plus applicable taxes,

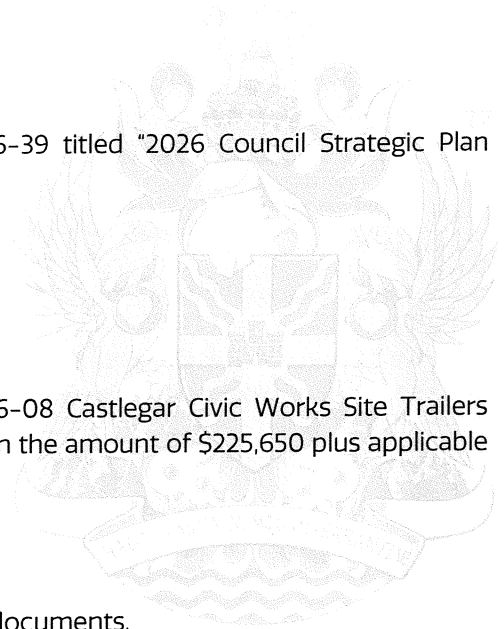
AND FURTHER;

THAT Council direct staff to execute the necessary documents.

CARRIED.

17 REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY (RDCK) MEETING MINUTES: Nil

18 CORRESPONDENCE: Nil



19 REPORTS OTHER:

(a) **Recreation Commission Member Verbal Update**

- Next meeting June 2, 2026.

(b) **Councillor Falstead Report on attendance at the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG)**

20 MAYOR'S REPORT: Nil

21 NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

22 BYLAWS FOR CONSIDERATION:

False Alarm Bylaw 1439 – First, Second and Third Readings (Report No. 26-14)

A Bylaw to regulate the use of Alarm Systems within the City of Castlegar and to establish fees to be paid by the owner or occupier of real property in which the RCMP provide services in response to a False Alarm of an Alarm System.

R135-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT False Alarm Bylaw 1439 be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED.

Municipal Ticketing Amendment Bylaw 1458 – First, Second and Third Readings (Report No. 26-41)

A Bylaw to amend City of Castlegar Municipal Ticketing Bylaw No. 1179.

R136-26

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Municipal Ticketing Amendment Bylaw 1458 be read a first, second and third time.

CARRIED.

Local Government Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw 1459 – First, Second and Third Readings (Report No. 26-43)

A Bylaw to provide for the determination of various procedures for the conduct of the local government elections and assent voting and for the use of automated voting machines.

R137-26

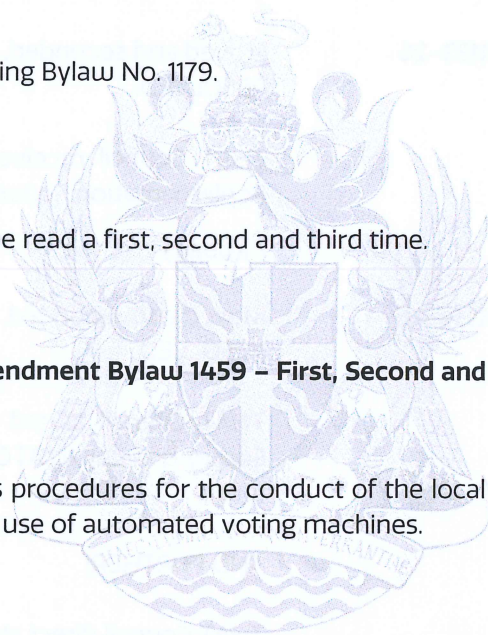
Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Local Government Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw 1459 be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED.

23 NEXT MEETING(S):

June 1, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. for Committee of the Whole Meeting followed by the Regular Council



Meeting at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom live meeting and available to the public for live streaming in Council Chambers at the Community Forum, 445 13th Avenue, Castlegar, B.C.

24 NOTICE OF MOTION: Nil

25 QUESTION PERIOD: Nil

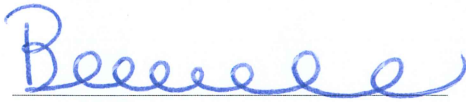
26 ADJOURNMENT:

R138-26 Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED: THAT the Regular meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Bree Seabrook
Director of Corporate Services



Maria McFaddin
Mayor

