

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 27, 2023  
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office  
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Victor Smith  
Councillor Heather Stewin  
Councillor Crystal Sedore  
Councillor Angela Skoglund  
Councillor Pauline Newbigging  
Councillor Zachary Wells

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Scott Medlock

**Staff Present:** John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer  
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services  
Jas Gill, Director of Community Development  
Mike Olson, Director of Finance  
Thomas Cameron, Fire Chief  
Branden Morgan, Deputy Corporate Officer/EA

**Others in attendance:** 11 members of the public

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened by acknowledging that the meeting is being held on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Stó:lō people, particularly the Chawathil, Union Bar and Yale First Nations.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the March 13, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted, as presented.  
**CARRIED.**

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### (a) Regular Council Meeting

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held March 13, 2023 be adopted, as presented.  
**CARRIED.**

#### (b) Record of a Public Hearing

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Record of a Public Hearing held March 13, 2023 be received.  
**CARRIED.**

#### **4. DELEGATIONS**

##### **(a) Hope Food Collective**

Anne Todd and Michele Thornhill were in attendance to present to Council regarding the Hope Food Collective. In their presentation, the following points were discussed:

- What does Food Security mean?
  - Everyone has equitable access to food that is:
    - Affordable
    - Culturally preferable
    - Nutritious
    - Safe
  - Everyone has the agency to participate in and influence food systems
  - Food systems are resilient, ecologically sustainable, socially just, and honour Indigenous food sovereignty
- What is Food Insecurity?
  - Exists when factors outside of an individual's control negatively impacts their access to enough foods that promote wellbeing:
    - Economic
    - Social
    - Environmental
    - Geographical factors
  - Food insecurity is most acutely felt by those who experience the negative impacts of structural inequalities, such as discrimination and on- going colonial practices
- Food price increases have outpaced inflation since December 2021
- What has happened in Hope?
  - The Community Food Security Assessment conducted in 2016 identified hidden levels of food insecurity in our community
  - The Hope Food Collective Society formed in 2017 to enhance and protect the food security of Hope and the surrounding area through education, programming, services and advocacy
  - Developed a Food Security Strategy
  - Developed a Hope Food and Agriculture Plan
- Taking action from the individual to the systemic level
  - Making good food a basic right means working for change at the individual, community and system-wide level
  - Provide many points of connection for community members
  - Create opportunities to get involved with the big picture issues that affect our communities
- Creating a Community Food Resource Centre
  - Healthy Food Access Programs
    - Healthy Food Hampers
    - Community Meals
    - Community Market

- Food Skills Programs
  - Adventures in Cooking
  - Family Meal Kits
  - Growing & Gardening
- Education & Support
  - Community Navigator
  - Community Resources & Referral
  - Peer Advocacy programs
- Hope Food Collective Asks for the District of Hope:
  - Staff support to update the 2018 Hope Food and Agriculture Plan
  - Permission to repurpose the focus of the Community Forest Grant to host a Call to Action event
- Hope Community Services Asks for the District of Hope:
  - Staff support on an Advisory Committee for the Community Food Resource Centre (CFRC)
  - Monetary funds to support the CFRC; or a building or land to create/build a CFRC

Council inquired as to the ongoing status of the programs that the Hope Food Collective is currently offering. Ms. Thornhill advised that the Hope Food Collective depends on funds from other organizations, grants, and donations to offer their programs. Council inquired as to the amount of funds that would be required to offer all the services outlined in the presentation. Ms. Thornhill advised that approximately \$200,000 would be required annually to fully fund the proposed programs.

Council inquired as to whether there are any other organizations, such as other non-profits in the community, that are working towards the same goal of food security and will be competing for these funds. Ms. Todd advised that they collaborate with local organization such as the Hope & Area Transition Society and some local stores such as Buy Low and Save-on-Foods, and the Northwest Harvest Church, but these are not competing organizations. She added that Hope Community Services is seen as the community leader in these programs.

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council support the reallocation of the \$4,554 in funds received as part of the 2022 Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest Revenue Sharing Grant to a Call-to-Action event for the Hope Food Collective. **CARRIED.**

### **5. STAFF REPORTS**

#### **(a) Report dated March 17, 2023 from the Director of Corporate Services**

##### **Re: Hope Pride Committee Flag Raising Request**

Could inquired as to which flagpole the pride flag would be raised on. The Director of Corporate Services advised that the request did not specify, but that Council could direct Staff to replace one of the flags at the front of District Hall. Council inquired as to whether any other groups had requested that the District fly their flag, to which the Director of Corporate Services advised that she is not aware of any requests. Discussion ensued, with the following topics being debated:

- Other communities remaining neutral and the legality of approving some requests but not others.

- The compelling presentation made by the Hope Pride Committee.
- The need to promote a safe community for everyone who resides in Hope.
- The benefits of creating an inclusive environment.
- Groups within the District that do not agree with LGBTQ and actions that may ostracize them.
- Making the statement that we are not ready to be bold in our leadership in the community.
- That the request has come from members of our community.
- The importance of flying the flag to those who are being excluded.
- Whether anyone will be hurt or offended by the flying of the flag.
- Damage to community morale if Council decides not to fly the flag.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council for the District of Hope supports raising the Pride Flag from June 1 to June 30, 2023 and directs Staff to make the arrangements. **DEFEATED.**

**Opposed: Councillors Stewin and Sedore**

- (b) **Report dated March 20, 2023 from the Chief Administrative Officer**  
**Re: Proposed Croft Island Works**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council endorses the Staff Recommendation that the District does not support development work on and to Croft Island; and

FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to reply its non-support to the Front Counter BC Referral (157700896) Water Approval for Changes In and About a Stream (Section 11, Water Sustainability Act), Croft Island. **CARRIED.**

- (c) **Report dated March 22, 2023 from the Fire Chief**  
**Re: 2023 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Application**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council supports the District of Hope application to the 2023 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for grant funding up to the amount of \$30,000 to improve the efficiency of the District of Hope EOC through the provision of training, communication equipment; and

FURTHER THAT Council commit the District of Hope to provide overall grant management **CARRIED.**

- (d) **Report dated March 23, 2023 from the Director of Finance**  
**Re: Municipal Security Issuing Resolution for 753 Water Amalgamation**

Council inquired as to the steps that will follow if this motion is passed, and how that will transpire for the taxpayers of the District. The Director of Finance advised that if approved, it would go to the FVRD who will apply for the funds as part of a borrowing package with other municipalities through the Municipal Finance Authority. He added that we would likely receive approval in the fall, and that the parcel tax would appear on the 2024 property tax notices.

**Moved / Seconded**

That Council approve borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia, as part of the 2023 Fall Borrowing Session, \$1,800,000 *District of Hope Water Utility Upgrade Loan Authorization Bylaw 1477* and that the Fraser Valley Regional District name be requested to consent to our borrowing over a fifteen (15) year term and include the borrowing in a Security Issuing Bylaw. **CARRIED.**

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee reports.

**7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Mayor Smith Reported:**

- He attended the Columbia Institute High Ground Home Conference in Harrison Hot Springs with Councillor Aaron Pete from Chawathil First Nation. As part of the opening plenary, they explored the ongoing collaboration between the District of Hope and Chawathil First Nation, including expanded collective agreements for emergency services, housing, economic development and infrastructure.
- He noted that the March 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the Hope Standard included a story about the new District of Hope Deputy Fire Chief Joshua Wescott.
- He announced that the South Coast Women's Hockey League year-end provincial tournament took place at the Hope Arena over the weekend. He noted that the games were well attended and there was a live broadcast. He also thanked the business community and AdvantageHOPE for the support that they provided. The tournament organizers also stated that they plan have this tournament in Hope for the next few years.
- He toured MLA Jackie Tegart around town to meet with various groups for discussions regarding diking, gravel removal, cost of living, housing, homelessness and healthcare.
- He met with MP Mark Strahl to discuss issues surrounding funding for infrastructure in our community.
- He attended the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) Strategic Planning Session in Harrison Hot Springs where they discussed future planning, changes, and issues for the Regional District.
- He attended the first Communities in Bloom trash pick-up of the season, noting that sixteen people came out to make a difference in the community. He added that anyone wishing to join can find more information on the Communities in Bloom Facebook page.

**Councillor Skoglund reported:**

- She attended the AdvantageHOPE meeting March 16<sup>th</sup> where Riley Forman, CEO of Connect Media, made a presentation regarding marketing and social media. She noted that the three new board members were in attendance and although one position is still available, it is not actively being recruited. She added that board member Tannis Hendriks will be distributing a brochure or pamphlet to local accommodation establishments regarding the Municipal & Regional District Tax Program.
- She announced that the AdvantageHOPE Executive Director job posting is out.
- She announced that the AdvantageHOPE Annual General Meeting will be on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Councillor Stewin Reported:**

- She met with John Duff at the Park Street Manor, adding that Mayor Smith, MLA Jackie Tegart and FVRD Area B Director Peter Adamo, who were in the area, also attended.
- She attended a Golden Agers meeting, noting that they are having a crib tournament on March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- She met with MP Mark Strahl on March 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss issues that are important to the community:
  - The Fraser Inclusive and Supportive Housing Society independent living housing project.
  - The need for Service Canada to have an in-person presence in Hope on a regular basis.
  - She noted that within 12 hours she received notification that Service Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency will be at the Hope Library on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and added that she will continue to monitor the situation.

**Councillor Newbigging Reported:**

- She announced that the Hope Library will be hosting an event with Karima Essa, featuring dance and storytelling, on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- She noted that she will be attending the Hope Chamber of Commerce meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Councillor Sedore Reported:**

- She announced that the Hope Arts Council:
  - Completed construction of a pergola over their patio.
  - Will be hosting a new show in the Back Room of the gallery called *Follow the Beautiful* featuring Ukrainian artist Mila Nechi from April 1<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - Reception on April 8<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
  - Garage Sale on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - Meat Draw on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Legion from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Councillor Wells had nothing to report.**

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

- (a) Report dated March 21, 2023 from the Director of Community Development  
Re: Rezone the Property at 65741 Gardner Drive**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1548, 2023* be given first and second readings in order to rezone the property legally described as Lot A Section 11 TWP 5 RGE 26 YDYD W6M Plan KAP55361; PID 023-172-118; 65741 Gardner Drive; from Single Family Residential (RS-1) to Single Family Residential with a Secondary Dwelling (RS-1S); and

FURTHER THAT the public be notified in accordance with the *District of Hope Application Procedures and Public Hearing/Information Meeting Procedural Bylaw No. 13/93*, the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter*; and

FURTHER THAT the Record of Public Hearing be provided to the Approving Officer.

**CARRIED.**

- (b) Report dated March 21, 2023 from the Director of Community Development  
Re: Liquor Licence Extension Application for 390 Old Hope Princeton Way**

**Moved / Seconded**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the District of Hope recommends an expansion to the liquor service area licence while maintaining the business patron capacity for the property at 390 Old Hope Princeton Way; and

FURTHER THAT Council comments on the prescribed considerations of the potential impact on the community if the application is approved; and

FURTHER THAT Council, at the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2023, authorized staff to gather views of residents/businesses in a 50 metre radius from the subject property which was fulfilled by mail and hand delivery of public notice, advertisement in one issue of the local newspaper, and by signage posted on the subject property; and

FURTHER THAT Council held a Public Hearing on March 27, 2023 to gather the views of the residents/businesses of which are contained in the Record of Public Hearing

**CARRIED.**

- (c) Report dated March 21, 2023 from the Director of Community Development  
Re: Agricultural Land Commission Non-Farm Use Application for Property Near Ross Road**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council authorize and support the Non-Farm Use Application to proceed to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) in order to permit under the Mines Act the extraction of sand, gravel, and gold, to including facilities outlined on the site plan and the related storage and repair of resource development equipment on the property legally described as District Lot 57 Yale Division Yale District Except Plan 286, PID 014-776-880, near Ross Road.

**CARRIED.**

- (d) **District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1545, 2023**  
**Re: Redesignate the Property at 22555 Trans-Canada Highway**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1545, 2023*, to redesignate the land use designation in the Official Community Plan for the property at 22555 Trans-Canada Highway from Limited Use to Country Residential, be read a third time this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023. **CARRIED.**

- (e) **District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1546, 2023**  
**Re: Rezone the Property at 22555 Trans-Canada Highway**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1546, 2023*, to rezone the property at 22555 Trans-Canada Highway from Rural (RU-1) to Country Residential (CR-1), be read a third time this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023. **CARRIED.**

- (f) **Hope Village Road Tax Repeal Bylaw**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Hope Village Road Tax Repeal Bylaw No. 1550, 2023*, be adopted this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) **For Information Correspondence**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated March 27, 2023 be received.

**CARRIED.**

**10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS**

**11. QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions raised.

**12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING AT 7:50 p.m.**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to Sections 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] and 90(1)(c) [labour relations or other employee relations] of the *Community Charter* re: strategic planning, exempt staff appointment, and for the purpose of receiving and adopting closed meeting minutes. **CARRIED.**

**14. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING**

The Mayor reconvened the Regular Council Meeting at 7:58 p.m.



**15. ADJOURN**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:59 p.m.

**CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held March 27, 2023 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.*

Original Signed by Victor Smith  
**Mayor**

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham  
**Director of Corporate Services**