

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2023  
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office  
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Victor Smith  
Councillor Scott Medlock  
Councillor Angela Skoglund  
Councillor Zachary Wells

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Pauline Newbigging  
Councillor Heather Stewin

**Staff Present:** John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer  
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services  
Richard Zerr, Acting Director of Community Development  
Mike Olson, Director of Finance  
Kevin Dicken, Director of Operations  
Branden Morgan, Deputy Corporate Officer/EA

**Others in attendance:** 14 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 October 23, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted, as amended, to add items 8(e), regarding *District of Hope Sanitary Sewer Regulation Bylaw No. 1563, 2023*, 8(f), regarding *Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 1566, 2023*, and 8(g), *Municipal Ticket Information Amendment Bylaw No. 1567, 2023*. **CARRIED.**

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### (a) Regular Council Meeting

#### Moved / Seconded

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 23, 2023 be adopted, as presented. **CARRIED.**

### 4. DELEGATIONS

#### (a) Hope Communities in Bloom

Teresa Williams and John Mason from Hope Communities in Bloom were in attendance to present to Council regarding the 5-Bloom Banner and a special community award. In their presentation, the following items were discussed:

- Thanking the District, CAO John Fortoloczky, Director of Operations Kevin Dicken, and Mayor Victor Smith for their contributions.

- Accomplishments this year:
  - Cleanups around town attended by volunteers.
  - Planting daffodils around the Expo sign on the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue berm.
  - Planting bulbs near the Silver Creek Travel Centre.
  - Planting perennials in planters around town.
  - Painting of the Expo sign at the Highway 7 junction.
  - Purchased new vests that are used during litter pickups, plantings, and weeding.
  - The 2023 Chain Saw Carving Event, which featured many volunteers.
- 5-Bloom Banner and Special Recognition:
  - Judges arrived in June and awarded the District of Hope with a 5-Bloom Banner.
  - Special recognition was received for “The Community that Works Together” due to the enormous number of volunteers and sponsors.
  - Presented with Buddy the Golden Gnome as an award.
- The Mayor and the Director of Operations have received the full judges report.

Teresa Williams and John Mason presented Council with the 5-Bloom Banner and photos were taken.

**(b) Fraser Valley Regional District**

Robin Beukens, Planner with the Fraser Valley Regional District was in attendance to present the Fraser Valley Future 2050 Regional Growth Strategy to Council. In their presentation, the following items were discussed:

- Regional Growth Strategy
  - Promotes coordination between municipalities, regional districts and Indigenous communities.
  - Identifies common goals.
  - Create stronger links to the Province.
  - Promote the region to investors, residents, and visitors.
  - Strong advocacy on regional issues of common interest.
- Regional Vision - The Fraser Valley Regional District will be a network of healthy, vibrant, distinct, and sustainable communities that accept responsibly managed growth while being committed to protecting the land resource and the natural environment to ensure that a high quality of life is accessible to all.
- Collaboration
  - Build and strengthen relationships with Indigenous communities and governments.
  - Work together to ensure success.
- Economic Strength and Resiliency
  - Create opportunities for employment and education.
  - Promote growth and development in agriculture.
  - Protect and support employment lands.
  - Work to attain the region’s full tourism potential.

- Living Well
  - Promote healthy living.
  - Support arts and culture initiatives.
  - Protect and enhance parks and recreation land.
- Community Building
  - Concentrate growth in Urban Centres.
  - Maintain the character of rural communities in Electoral Areas.
  - Promote sustainable regionally-scaled resort development.
  - Ensure housing choice and affordability.
- Ecosystem Health
  - Monitor, study, protect and improve air quality.
  - Protect watershed health.
  - Protect biodiversity.
- Transportation and Mobility
  - Create a region-wide network of affordable and convenient transportation options that safely and efficiently facilitates the movement of people and goods.
  - Promote active and alternative forms of transportation that prioritizes pedestrians and cyclists.
- Infrastructure and Services
  - Provide safe and efficient access to basic utilities.
  - Ensure responsible management of solid waste.
  - Ensure public safety through emergency management planning.
  - Minimize the impact of large-scale utility corridors that traverse the region.
- Climate Change
  - Mitigate the region's impact on global climate changes.
  - Adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Next Steps
  - December 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw
  - January 2024 – start of the 60 day referral period for local governments to accept the Regional Growth Strategy.
  - March-April 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and adoption of Fraser Valley Future 2050 Regional Growth Strategy.
  - Regional Context Statements – 2 years for member municipalities to update after Regional Growth Strategy.

## **5. STAFF REPORTS**

- (a) Report dated October 25, 2023 from the Director of Corporate Services**  
**Re: E-Mail Poll of Council for the 1926 Alexandra Bridge Rehabilitation Project**

### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council ratify the e-mail poll of October 24, 2023;

THAT Council of the District of Hope issue a letter of support to the New Pathways to Gold Society and a coalition that includes the Ministry of Transportation and

Infrastructure, BC Parks, community groups, local businesses and the District of Hope.  
**CARRIED.**

**(b) Report dated October 27, 2023 from the Director of Finance**  
**Re: Grants-in-Aid 2024**

The Director of Finance advised that four applications were received, with the amount requested totaling \$11,600, exceeding the budgeted limit by \$1,600. Council inquired as to whether the Art Crawl was related to the Hope & District Arts Council. The Director of Finance advised that they are separate organizations, and therefore not disqualified from the grants. Council inquired as to the breakdown of the Hope Art Crawl's request; the Director of Finance advised that it includes \$2,000 for website design, \$250 for web hosting, and \$2,000 for the production and printing of a brochure.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council maintains the current level of grant funding (\$10,000) through to 2024; and  
FURTHER THAT Council authorizes a disbursement of \$10,000 of the 2024 Grants-in-Aid, as follows:

- Hope Community Choir \$600  
Purpose: For purchase of sheet music and other practice assets.
  - Mount Hope Senior Citizens Housing Society \$2,000  
Purpose: To update resident door locks.
  - Hope Art Crawl \$2,400  
Purpose: To build a website to promote the Art Crawl and to produce the brochure for the following year.
  - Fraser Canyon Hospice Society \$5,000  
Purpose: To provide support for annual Camp Skylark, a bereavement camp for youth ages seven through twelve.
- CARRIED.**

**(c) Report dated November 8, 2023 from the Director of Finance**  
**Re: Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest Application – Ruth Renwick**

The Director of Finance advised that the recommendation of the report is to clarify Mrs. Renwick's application to the Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest grant. Her application is a targeted project instead of a community application, therefore does not fit the volunteerism requirements. Council concurred with Staff's recommendation that the application does not meet the criteria of the grant.

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports.

**7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Mayor Smith Reported:**

- He attended the Remembrance Day Service, and thanked the Hope Royal Canadian Legion for their work so the community can pay their respects to all that have fought for our country.
- He attended the 37<sup>th</sup> Hope Hospital Auxiliary silent auction at the Legion Hall, thanking the community for the auction items that were donated and noted that over \$20,000 was raised to go towards medical equipment and needs at the hospital.

- He attended Chawathil First Nation Councillor Aaron Pete's Bigger Than Me podcast in Chilliwack, noting that it was his 110<sup>th</sup> show.
- He met with the Career 10 class at Hope Secondary School where he spoke on changing workplaces and Council working with staff at District Hall to get work done in a timely manner.
- He noted that he is working with groups for the Hope Holiday Fest to take place on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at District Hall. He added that tree lighting will take place at 5:00 p.m., and events such as Rides with Santa will take place until 8:30 p.m. and that the December Event Calendar will be published in the Hope Standard.
- He noted that the first Advance Voting Opportunity for the 2023 By-Election will be taking place on November 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Legion Hall, with other opportunities taking place on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at District Hall. He urged the community to exercise their democratic right to vote.

**Councillor Skoglund Reported:**

- She attended the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Hope Hospital Auxiliary Silent Auction and contributed to the amount raised.
- She announced that there will be a Pancake Breakfast held at Kal Tire on December 2<sup>nd</sup> during the Stuff the Cruisers event for the Food Bank.

**Councillor Medlock Reported:**

- He noted that it was nice to see people out on Remembrance Day, adding that it is always good to see the community come out and show their respect.

**Councillor Wells had nothing to report.**

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

**(a) Report dated Nov. 8, 2023 from the Acting Director of Community Development  
Re: Development Variance Permit – 1040 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue**

The Mayor called for any questions or comments from those in attendance.

Esther Carr, resident of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, inquired as to whether the building will be a hotel or a motel. The Director of Community Development advised that in the zoning bylaw there is no difference between a hotel, motel, or motor hotel. She also expressed concerns regarding the added building height, removal of parking in the adjacent laneway, and the shadow cast by the building. Ms. Carr also submitted a 16-signature petition against the proposal.

The applicant spoke regarding their proposal, noting that due to the elevator and stairs to the top floor being exempt from the height, the variance is really only for 1.5 metres from what the bylaw allows. He added that there will be a sidewalk and crosswalk added at the front of the building, as well as a fire access lane.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council approve the issuance of a Development Variance Permit in order to:

1. Relax the front yard setback requirement from 7.5 metres to 2.5 metres;
2. Relax the landscape lot line setback/siting provision from 1.0 metres to 0.0 metres;
3. Relax the drive isle width from 7.0 metres to 6.1 metres;

4. Relax the small car percentage requirement from 15% to 29%;
5. Relax the building height from 15 metres to 21 metres; and
6. Relax the required number of parking stalls for the restaurant patrons and employees from 11 stalls to 5 stalls.

on the property legally described as Lot 1 Section 9 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M YDYG Plan EPP122302; PID 032-031-297; 1040 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Hope, BC in order to construct a motel and restaurant subject to the developer complying with all of Canadian National Railway's requirements; and

FURTHER THAT the Director of Community Development be authorized to endorse the Development Variance Permit; and

FURTHER THAT for the purposes of Section 504 of the *Local Government Act*, "substantially start" shall mean the completion of the footings or foundation for the motel and restaurant development. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 1564, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 1564, 2023*, be adopted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**(c) Municipal Ticket Information Amendment Bylaw No. 1565, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Municipal Ticket Information Amendment Bylaw No. 1565, 2023*, be adopted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**(d) Report dated Nov. 8, 2023 from the Acting Director of Community Development  
Re: Form & Character Development Permit – 455 Coquihalla Street**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT a Hope Intensive Residential Form and Character Development Permit be approved for the property legally described as Lot 26 Block 1 Sec 16 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M Yale Division Yale District Townsite of Hope Suburban Except: (1) Parcel K Plan A128 (2) Plan B5277 (3) that Party Lying to the North and East of Parcel K (Plan A128); PID 012-871-362; 455 Coquihalla Street, and

FURTHER THAT the Director of Community Development be authorized to approve minor changes to the Hope Intensive Residential Form and Character Development Permit; and

FURTHER THAT for purposes of the Development Permit validity period, the conditions of the Development Permit shall expire on November 14, 2025; and

FURTHER THAT for purposes of any associated building permit, that the "substantially start of any construction" shall mean the completion of an approved foundation for the proposed structures as certified safe by a qualified professional. **CARRIED.**

**(e) District of Hope Sanitary Sewer Regulation Bylaw No. 1563, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Sanitary Sewer Regulation Bylaw No. 1563, 2023*, be read a first, second, and third time this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**(f) Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 1566, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 1566, 2023*, be read a first, second, and third time this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023 **CARRIED.**

**(g) Municipal Ticket Information Amendment Bylaw No. 1567, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Municipal Ticket Information Amendment Bylaw No. 1567, 2023*, be read a first, second, and third time this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a) For Information Correspondence**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated October 23, 2023 be received. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – October, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Accounts Payable Cheque Listing for the period of October 1 – 31, 2023, be received. **CARRIED.**

**10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS**

There was no other Pertinent Business.

**11. QUESTION PERIOD**

Andrew Friend, resident of Flood Hope Road, inquired as to whether staff had found any information regarding the missed public hearing notices for the Public Hearing held on February 27, 2023, regarding the redesignation and rezoning of 61954 Estall Road.

The Mayor advised that Mr. Friend will receive a written response to his inquiry.

**12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, November 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING AT 7:59 P.M.**

**Moved / Seconded**

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

**14. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING**

Mayor Smith reconvened the Regular Council Meeting at 8:39 p.m.

**15. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

**CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held November 14, 2023 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.*

*Original Signed by Victor Smith*  
**Mayor**

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