

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 24, 2023
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

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

Staff Present: John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services
Mike Olson, Director of Finance
Thomas Cameron, Fire Chief
Branden Morgan, Deputy Corporate Officer/EA

Others in attendance: 4 member of the public and 1 media

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 April 24, 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 April 11, 2023 be adopted, as presented

CARRIED.

4. DELEGATIONS

(a) Hope Inclusion Project

Peter Bailey, from the Hope Inclusion Project, was in attendance to present to Council about developing a more inclusive community. In his presentation, the following points were discussed:

- Like many communities in Canada, Hope experiences issues associated with oppression.
- These forms of oppression are not unique to Hope, but it is important to understand how we can provide safe spaces, greater acceptance, and a more inclusive

community.

- How, as a body of government, can Council lead us to overcome hate and oppression?
- In many ways, the District has already taken up the challenge:
 - In the new strategic plan, the District intends to focus on inclusion.
 - Committed to forward thinking and having courage to make bold decisions on behalf of the community.
 - A territorial acknowledgement is made at the beginning of Council Meetings.
 - Steps taken to address accessibility.
 - Support the Purple Lights campaign.
- Recently, a group came to Council requesting that the Pride Flag be flown for the month of June.
- The idea of doing something for one group requires you to do it for others.
- It is not a political issue; it is a social issue.
- One person's beliefs do not supersede another's being.
- Homophobia is still active in many parts of our community, and many are left damaged and oppressed.
- Not asking that the District raise the Pride Flag because he thinks it is the right thing to do, but instead because it is part of the Strategic Plan and Council has determined it is the right thing to do.

5. STAFF REPORTS

(a) Report dated April 24, 2023 from the Director of Corporate Services Re: Fire Department Paid-on-Call Rates Policy Amendment

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Fire Department Paid-on-Call Rates Policy be adopted, as amended, this 24th day of April, 2023. **CARRIED.**

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee reports.

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Smith Reported:

- He announced that Starbucks held a Day of Action on April 14, marking seven years since the Public Health Emergency was declared for overdoses in BC. Levi Primus, the store manager, and Casey Nali-Ratchiff, from the Pacific Community Resources Society, were on hand talking to people about the change that is needed.
- He announced that in the month of March, the 9-1-1 system received 188,390 calls. He noted that the public should be aware of when to call, adding that non-emergency phone numbers can be found at www.nonemergency.ca or by calling 4-1-1.
- He attended the Highway 3 Mayor and Chair Coalition Meeting, noting that improved cell phone coverage between Hope and Princeton is on the table, as well as a bridge to straighten the whipsaw corner near Princeton.

- He met with University of the Fraser Valley President James Mandigo and Dr. Allyson Jule to work on bringing programs to Hope in the Fall.
- He announced that the Pickball tournament at the Hope Recreation Centre was a great success.
- He met with Amber Sadgrove, Community Relations Liaison for Fortis BC, who will be a delegation at an upcoming meeting.
- He met with a Grade 4/5 class that had previously sent letters to Council. He noted that the students pointed out the missing Vision and Mission statements on the District's website, which will soon be added.
- He announced that Earth Day was a success, thanks to Communities in Bloom, the District Chamber of Commerce, and the District of Hope. Additionally, he thanked Fortins, Silver Skagit Scrap, and Bob Clarke for their help. In total, the following items were collected:
 - 100 pairs of glasses for the Lions Club Glasses Program;
 - 1 bin of scrap metal;
 - 7 totes of household paint;
 - 1 tote of spray paint cans; and
 - 7 – 20L pails of household batteries.
- He announced that the Hospital Auxiliary Fashion Show was a sold-out event, featuring models from Council, as well as District of Hope CAO, John Fortoloczky.

Councillor Skoglund reported:

- She attended the Park Street Manor clean-up on April 15th.
- She attended the Auxiliary Fashion Show, noting that she was pleasantly surprised at the participating Council members and CAO, John Fortoloczky.
- She thanked the organizers of the Earth Day event, noting that it was very organized.

Councillor Medlock Reported:

- He attended the AdvantageHOPE meeting on April 20th, reporting that a public meeting on the Downtown Revitalization Project will take place on April 26th with an open house from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and continue with a workshop from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and is being covered by a grant received by AdvantageHOPE.
- He announced that the AdvantageHOPE AGM will take place on June 1st at the Hope Legion Hall.
- He attended and took part in the Hospital Auxiliary Fashion Show.

Councillor Stewin Reported:

- She attended the Golden Agers meeting and announced that there will be a Pancake Breakfast on May 6th, and that the Lions Club will be donating money to pay for the battery and cords for their AED machine.
- She advised that they had a concern regarding line painting in the District and would like to see the crosswalk lines painted, specifically 6th Avenue and Kawkawa Lake Road. They also raised concerns regarding sewer line flushing and whether it was now completed, the CAO advised that the District puts out notices and he will follow-

up once he has an answer.

- She attended the Hope Inclusion Project meeting on April 11th, noting that the Pride Committee has raised \$500 from the sale of Pride Flags and received good support from the public.

Councillor Newbigging Reported:

- She attended the Hospital Auxiliary Fashion Show, noting that it was a well organized and fun event.
- She attended the Park Street Manor clean-up.
- She attended a Ladies Golf Meeting on April 24th, noting that Monday Night Ladies is starting on May 1st and Tuesday Night Ladies is starting on May 2nd. She added that there are 9 holes running, and they are looking forward to getting more members out there.

Councillors Wells and Sedore had nothing to report.

8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS

(a) 2023 Annual Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1553, 2023

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope 2023 Annual Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1553, 2023*, be read a first, second, and third time this 24th day of April, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Report dated April 19, 2023 from the Director of Corporate Services
Re: Inter-Municipal Transportation Network Services Agreement & Bylaw**

Council inquired as to whether additional licenses will be required by operators to conduct business within the District. The Director of Corporate Services advised that much like the inter-municipal business license, no additional license will be required to operate within the District. Council inquired as to whether this will involve companies such as Uber and Lyft coming into town, the Director of Corporate Services advised that the company would obtain a license, and from that can have their own drivers.

Moved / Seconded

THAT *Inter-Municipal TNS Business Licence Agreement Bylaw No. 1551, 2023*, be read a first, second, and third time this 24th day of April, 2023. **CARRIED.**

Moved / Seconded

THAT *Inter-Municipal TNS Business Licence Bylaw No. 1552, 2023*, be read a first, second, and third time this 24th day of April, 2023. **CARRIED.**

9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE

(a) For Information Correspondence

Council inquired as to whether any more information was available regarding the retroactive costs for RCMP regular members and reservists. The CAO advised that retroactive costs totaled \$396,120.41 and that this amount had already been paid earlier this year. He added that RCMP budgetary numbers are conservative to start, and that the District worked diligently with the Hope detachment to ensure that costs were allocated to the proper level of government. Due to this, we have achieved some savings which have been built into an RCMP dedicated surplus.

Moved / Seconded

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated April 24, 2023 be received.

CARRIED.

10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS

11. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions raised.

12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING AT 7:26 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: staff allocation, 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 7:46 p.m.

15. ADJOURN

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

CARRIED.

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held April 24, 2023 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.

Original Signed by Victor Smith

Mayor

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham

Director of Corporate Services