

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 13, 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

Council Members Absent: Councillor Zachary Wells
Councillor Crystal Sedore

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: 15 members of the public
1 member of the media

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSE MEETING

Moved / Seconded

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to Section 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter* [labour relations or other employee relations] re: Exempt Staff appointment, Section 90(1)(f) [law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an act] re: RCMP Update, and for the purpose of receiving and adopting closed meeting minutes. **CARRIED.**

3. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

The Mayor reconvened the Regular Council Meeting at 7:03 p.m. and acknowledged 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.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved / Seconded

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

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(a) Regular Council Meeting

Moved / Seconded

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

(a) Public Hearing Record

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Record of the Public Hearing held January 23, 2023, be received. **CARRIED.**

6. DELEGATIONS

(a) Mayor to present retired Fire Chief Tom DeSorcy with a retirement gift

The Mayor presented retired Fire Chief Tom DeSorcy with a gift in recognition of his service to our community. The Mayor noted that he had the pleasure of working with Mr. DeSorcy on a committee for the new fire truck for the Silver Creek Hall in the 90's. On behalf of Council and himself, the Mayor thanked Mr. DeSorcy for his contributions and years of service.

(b) RCMP Update

Staff Sergeant Dwayne Farlin was in attendance to present Council with an RCMP update for 2022. In his presentation, the following items were highlighted:

- Upper Fraser Valley Regional Detachment, compared to 2021
 - General Occurrences – 43,340, down 15%
 - Calls for Service – 321, down 15%
 - Priority 1 Calls – 1,918, down 14%
 - Curfew Checks – 740, up 52%
 - Compliments Received – 294, up 101%
 - Public Complaints Received – 51, up 42%
- Hope & Boston Bar Community Police Office, compared to 2021
 - General Occurrences – 6,084, down 6%
 - Calls for Service – 277, down 10%
 - Priority 1 Calls – 222, down 15%
 - Curfew Checks – 28, up 250%
 - 8 members of the community are under curfew
 - Compliments Received – 5, down 62%
 - Public Complaints Received – 13, up 44%
 - Firearms Seized – 81, up 33%
 - Increase due to two large investigations leading to seizure
 - Subject Behavior Officer Response – 2, down 75%

Staff Sergeant Farlin noted that although he speaks to the general public on a daily basis, including some where the RCMP are thanked for a job well done, they are not always logged. Due to this, the number of compliments received is not necessarily accurate. In contrast, public complaints generate investigational files and therefor the tracking is more accurate.

- Crimes Against Persons – 351, up 16%
 - Number rose due to two groups of individuals making numerous

- complaints against each other
- Property Crime – 802, down 9%
- Other Criminal Code – 463, up 2%
- Controlled Drugs – 12, down 59%
- Domestic Violence – 94, down 15%

Staff Sergeant Farlin noted the property crime numbers are trending down across the board, with the exception of Break & Enter – Other, which rose 6%. He advised that while the numbers appear lower, he believes that the community is underreporting property crime. While speaking to community members, he is recommending that they report all crimes, even those that they find to be trivial. He noted that this is an important for the detachment to be able to effectively utilize their assets in areas where crime is happening.

Staff Sergeant Farlin noted that the detachment has the following goals for 2023:

- Increase presence in the community
 - Conducting traffic stops
 - Foot patrols
 - Visiting businesses in the community
 - Participating in community events
- Impaired driving enforcement
 - Taking steps to ensure we are prepared to address any impaired driving enforcement action that needs to take place
- Community engagement
 - Identifying areas of concern
- Focus on known areas of concern
 - Residences trafficking in drugs
 - Properties fencing products that are stolen from the community

(c) Hope & District Arts Council

Members of the Hope & District Arts Council were in attendance to seek Council approval for a sidewalk stenciling project along a portion of Wallace Street to the pathway that leads between the buildings to the alley at the back of the Art Gallery. Due to the Hope Arts Gallery's location on Fort Street, the Arts Council would like to stencil directional indicators on the sidewalk beginning at District Hall to the noted route leading to the Art Gallery. The Arts Council noted that they will be providing all supplies and labor, and will upkeep and repair the stenciling as needed.

Council inquired as to how far the stenciling will go on the street; the Arts Council advised that the trail will begin at the street light on the corner by District Hall, down to and across the crosswalk, through the alleyway, and finally to the art gallery. The CAO advised that from a staff perspective, this initiative can be supported. Council also remarked that the Arts Council should be provided with the green color code from the District's brand book so that the stenciling can remain consistent.

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council grant permission for the Hope & District Arts Council to install, maintain and conduct the works for sidewalk stenciling, matching the District's green brand color, on along Wallace Street leading to the Hope Art Gallery. **CARRIED.**

7. STAFF REPORTS

(a) Report dated January 31, 2023 from the Director of Corporate Services Re: Trans Mountain Expansion Project – Noise Exemption

Council inquired as to whether Trans Mountain had reached out to the one effected property along the proposed hauling route. Leah Caldwell, representative from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, advised Council that their lands team is currently working with the property owner on mitigation measures. Council inquired as to what the noise disruptions will entail; Ms. Caldwell advised that the night shift will include the loading of trucks and potentially light pollution. Trucks would be loaded and then depart the area, avoiding town and exiting onto the highway towards Chilliwack. Council inquired as to how many trucks would be used each night and the Trans Mountain contractor advised that it would be between 0 and 20 trucks at most. Ms. Caldwell noted that construction awareness is published in the newspaper monthly, and that they will work closely with District staff to ensure that notices are put on the Facebook page.

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council exempt Trans Mountain, and their contractors, from the noise regulation timelines in *District of Hope Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 1240, 2008* for the pipeline expansions works on the portion of lands below the Flood Hope Road truck pull-out that is located at the top of Richmond Hill (namely loading and moving of raw material from the site along Flood Hope Road to Exit 170, along with prep work, and the use of generators and light plants);

AND FURTHER THAT the noise exemption period be granted from mid-February to September 30, 2023, between the hours of 9pm and 7am;

AND FURTHER Trans Mountain and their contractors undertake a comprehensive notification process to inform the public in the affected area of the timelines for these works, as well as notice in the local newspaper one time per month through to the end of September 2023;

AND FURTHER THAT this noise exemption applies only for the pipeline expansion scope of work on this specific property and identified transportation route, all other activities and works for the expansion project follow the noise regulations as set out in the *Good Neighbour Bylaw*: works not to commence, on any day, before 7a.m. or after 9p.m.

CARRIED.

(b) Report dated February 1, 2023 from the Chief Administrative Officer Re: Fraser Canyon Flood and Landslide Geohazards Mapping Project – Requested Resolution

Moved / Seconded

WHEREAS recent regional fire, atmospheric rain events, landslides and floods have left the Fraser Canyon communities in an extended state of emergency due to erosion and damaged infrastructure;

WHEREAS each of the Bands / local governments want to better understand the local changes in climate and the impacts to the lands in which they reside;

WHEREAS the UBCM is offering a Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation grant to support the resilience of communities through projects that will build the body of knowledge on natural hazards and climate risks;

WHEREAS there is a need for mapping of geohazards for the Fraser Canyon from Lytton First Nation to a few kilometres downstream from the District of Hope;

WHEREAS the project will deliver a screening-level “Tier 1” regional geohazard map and an individual report to each participating First Nation and local government community noting their geohazards based on more local-scale and risk-based assessments;

WHEREAS Lytton First Nation is the primary applicant to the UBCM fund for the regional geohazard mapping project meaning that Lytton First Nation will apply for, receive, and manage the grant funding on behalf of the collective of Bands and local governments participating in the project;

WHEREAS the District of Hope will participate in the project to the extent possible by sharing data, attending watershed tours and workshops, and meeting with the project team to discuss impacts that have affected their community. The District of Hope will not be responsible for project management;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District of Hope do hereby support the Disaster Risk Reduction Category 1 Application to Union of BC Municipalities' Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Disaster Risk Reduction - Climate Adaptation for a Fraser Canyon Regional Geohazard Mapping project. **CARRIED.**

**(c) Report dated January 30, 2023 from the Deputy Chief Election Officer
Re: Notice of Failure to File a Disclosure Statement – Sue Turgeon**

Moved / Seconded

THAT the report dated January 31, 2023, from the Deputy Chief Election Officer regarding Sue Turgeon's failure to file a disclosure statement by the end of the no-penalty fee period on January 13, 2023, be received for information. **CARRIED.**

**(d) Report dated February 9, 2023 from the Fire Chief
Re: Support for a Regional Training Centre**

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council supports the District of Kent application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) to develop a Regional Fire Training Facility. **CARRIED.**

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee reports.

9. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Smith Reported:

- He attended the Local Government Leadership Academy (LGLA) Elected Officials Seminar in Richmond along with Council, where they received a lot of information on the workings of Council with staff, and that they are working hard to get everyone up to speed to make sound decisions on moving the District forward.
- He announced that the Ministry of Transportation and Emil Anderson Group have cleaned out the berm at the bottom of Mt. Hope.

- He announced that Emil Anderson was presented with an award at the Chamber of Commerce dinner in Chilliwack as the Large Business of the Year winner, as well as Robert Hasell for Business Person of the Year.
- The Mayor noted that he is part of a newly formed Fraser Valley Mayor's Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to work as a unit to bring items forward to the government, feeling that a strong case may help to get things done.
- He attended the Chawathil Chief and Council meeting along with CAO John Fortoloczky and Fire Chief Thomas Cameron for the Fire Service Agreement, and discussed other projects for this year and the future.
- He announced that work has started on the intersection at 6th Avenue and Old Hope Princeton Way for a controlled intersection.

Councillor Stewin Reported:

- She attended the LGLA Elected Officials Seminar in Richmond, noting that it was nice to be together as a group and have some conversations.
- She attended the community dialogue on homelessness, noting that good conversations took place.
- She inquired as to whether the new traffic light at 6th Avenue and Old Hope Princeton Way will have an accessibility crossing. The CAO advised that this is the intention and that the District is looking to upgrade the system at Old Hope Princeton Way and Water Avenue as well.

Councillor Newbigging Reported:

- She attended the LGLA Elected Officials Seminar in Richmond, noting that it was very informative and there was a lot of information to take in.
- She attended the Fraser Valley Regional Library Board meeting, where new Board members were elected and pictures were taken.

Councillor Medlock Reported:

- He attended the LGLA Elected Officials Seminar in Richmond, noting that it was a good team building exercise and that there were many sessions for both newly elected and returning officials.
- He is attending an AdvantageHOPE meeting on February 16th, and noted that the Fee for Service Agreement between AdvantageHOPE and the District is up at the end of this year, the Hotel Tax Agreement with the province is up in 2024, and we are trying to recruit a new Executive Director. He remarked that with everything going on, the right thing to do would be to extend the District's Service Agreement; he will bring this forward at the next Council meeting.

Councillor Skoglund had nothing to report.

10. PERMITS AND BYLAWS

**(a) Report dated February 6, 2023 from the Director of Community Development
Re: Application for an Amendment to the Temporary Use Permit issued for 62870
Flood Hope Road**

Council inquired as to whether the only addition is the 5000 square foot shelter building and the recreation vehicle for security purposes, which the Director of Community Development confirmed. Council also inquired as to whether the Temporary Use Permit can be renewed; the Director of Community Development advised that the permit lasts for three years, can be renewed for an additional three years through a Council process, and must cease after that.

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council approve the issuance of an amendment to the 2021 three year term Temporary Use Permit to allow for the third party storage and maintenance of equipment and construction material, the stowing of four (4) Modular Storage Units, the placement of two (2) construction offices, the placement of a five thousand (5000) square foot temporary shelter, and the placement of a recreational vehicle (for security purposes) on the property legally described as Lot 1 DL 53 and of Sec 6 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M YDYD Plan KAP49703; PID 018-249-663; 62870 Flood Hope Road; and

FURTHER THAT subject to a qualified professional confirming components for anchoring and design including schedules, be exempt from obtaining a building permit for the temporary shelter structure; and

FURTHER THAT the forementioned temporary shelter structure be in place on the site only for the remaining balance of the Temporary Use Permit. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Report dated February 6, 2023 from the Director of Community Development
Re: Development Variance Permit – 63849 Bailey Crescent**

Council inquired as to whether the four-foot chain-link fence that currently goes around the entire property will remain as it is; to which the Director of Community Development advised that only the front yard portion of the fence will be changed.

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council approve the preparation of a Development Variance Permit in order to relax the front yard fence height provision from 1.2 metres (3.98 feet) to 1.65 metres (5.41 feet) on the property legally described as Lot 1 Section 5 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M YDYD Plan 27965, PID 004-661-265; 63849 Bailey Crescent; and

FURTHER THAT in accordance with the *District of Hope Development Procedures Bylaw*, the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* authorize staff to issue a notice of intent to consider the approval of the Development Variance Permit to the neighbouring property owners. **CARRIED.**

**(c) Report dated February 8, 2023 from the Director of Finance
Re: Five Year Financial Plan**

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope 2023 – 2027 Financial Plan Bylaw No.1549, 2023* be read a first, second and third time this 13th day of February, 2023. **CARRIED.**

11. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE

(a) For Information Correspondence

Moved / Seconded

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated February 13, 2023 be received.

CARRIED.

(b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Accounts Payable Cheque Listing for the period of January 1-31, 2023 be received.

CARRIED.

12. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS

No other pertinent business.

13. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions raised.

14. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

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

15. RESOLUTION TO RESUME CLOSED MEETING AT 7:58 P.M.

Moved / Seconded

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to Section 90(1)(e) of the *Community Charter* [the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality] re: Dan Sharrers Aquatic Centre.

CARRIED.

16. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

The Mayor reconvened the Regular Council Meeting at 9:04 p.m.

17. ADJOURN

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

CARRIED.

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 13, 2023 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.

Original Signed by Victor Smith
Mayor

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham
Director of Corporate Services