

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, January 13, 2025  
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office  
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Victor Smith  
Councillor Angela Skoglund  
Councillor Scott Medlock  
Councillor Heather Stewin  
Councillor Dusty Smith  
Councillor Pauline Newbigging

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Zachary Wells

**Staff Present:** John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer  
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services  
Mike Olson, Director of Finance  
Robin Beukens, Director of Community Development  
Branden Morgan, Deputy Corporate Officer

**Others Present:** 7 members of the public and 1 media

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:02 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.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the January 13, 2025, 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 December 9, 2024, be adopted, as presented. **CARRIED.**

#### (b) Public Hearing

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Record of the Public Hearing held December 9, 2024, be received. **CARRIED.**

### 4. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

- (a) Report dated January 3, 2025 from the Planner III  
Re: Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw Update – Update**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council receive for information the staff report outlining the project scope and work plan for the District of Hope Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw update project. **CARRIED.**

- (b) Report dated January 7, 2025 from the Director of Finance  
Re: Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest (CLCCF) Grant**

Council requested clarification regarding how it is determined which requests include remuneration, noting that this consideration was mentioned in the Fraser Valley Mountain Bikers Association (FVMBA) request but not in others that included payments to individuals. The Director of Finance advised that the other requests included an honorarium and a payment to a contractor, while the FVMBA request specified that the funds will be distributed to a member of the organization.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council authorizes a disbursement of \$51,840 from the Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest Grant, as follows:

• <u>Mount Hope Senior Citizens Housing Society</u>	\$15,000
• <u>Hope Community Services</u>	\$12,000
• <u>Canyon Golden Age Society</u>	\$10,570
• <u>Fraser Valley Mountain Bikers Association</u>	\$5,550
• <u>Hope Community Garden</u>	\$5,320
• <u>EmpowerED Support Services Society</u>	\$1,000
• <u>Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning</u>	\$950
• <u>Hope and District Arts Council</u>	\$950
• <u>District of Hope Ratepayers Association</u>	\$500
	<b>CARRIED.</b>

- (c) Report dated January 8, 2025 from the Deputy Corporate Officer  
Re: Deaccession of Museum Artifacts – January 8, 2025**

Council noted that they received an inquiry from a member of the public expressing interest in an item included in the deaccession list. The CAO advised that Council could approve the remainder of the deaccession list, excluding the item in question, and a process can be established through which future requests for items can be received.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council authorize Hope Business and Development Society (A.K.A. AdvantageHOPE) to deaccession the items listed in the attached January 8, 2025 – Hope Museum Artifacts for Deaccession, as amended, to exclude item “005.15.1 a-b”, a First Blood Part II movie cutout. **CARRIED.**

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

## 7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

### (a) Business License Discount Extension

Council noted that they have received inquiries from the public regarding the business license discount date of December 15<sup>th</sup> not being extended during the Canada Post strike, which resulted in many businesses not receiving their renewal notices. The Director of Corporate Services advised that in the future, should another incident occur that disrupts the renewal process, Council may pass a resolution to extend the deadline beyond what the bylaw states without needing a bylaw amendment.

Council inquired as to what the cost associated with retroactively implementing an extended discount deadline for the 2025 business licenses. The Director of Finance advised that most of the cost comes from the staff time required to process the refunds. He noted that this cost would total \$100-150 per transaction, and that an estimated 150 refunds would need to be processed.

Council suggested that should something like this occur again, that staff consider bringing this before Council for review.

### (b) Bud Gardner 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Mayor Smith advised that he would like to place a carved wooden bench, at a cost of \$1,000, to celebrate Bud Gardner's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. He added that the bench would commemorate his time as Councillor from 1969 to 1978 and Mayor from 1978 to 1996 and be placed in a location where it can be seen and enjoyed by everyone. Council inquired as to whether the \$1,000 for the bench can be allocated to the Council Contingency Fund. The Director of Finance advised that this allocation can be made by a resolution of Council.

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council allocate \$1,000 from the Council Contingency Fund for the placement of a bench to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Bud Gardner. **CARRIED.**

### (c) Kettle Valley Road Gravel Pit

Council noted that an application has been submitted to the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals by Hope Ready Mix to expand their operations at the gravel pit located on Kettle Valley Road. Discussion ensued, during which the following topics were noted:

- The application is in the public question period, with a 154-page information package available to be picked up from the Hope Library
- The proposed expansion will increase the size of the quarry to approximately 48 hectares
- The current permit allows for 3,300 trucks a year, or 12 to 13 trucks daily with work occurring Monday to Friday with work performed on Saturday as needed
- Significantly more activity occurred during the 2021 Atmospheric River Event and during pipeline construction that caused damage to District infrastructure
- Traffic studies performed as part of the application show that the intention is to have access occur off Othello Road beginning in November 2026

- Council would like to see First Nations Consultation performed, access through Kettle Valley Road gated and restricted to service and emergency vehicles, and the issue of enforcement handled by the province
- Until the new permit is approved, the operations must follow the current restrictions
- The need to support the residents of Hope and minimize the impact of the expanded operations
- Supporting Hope Ready Mix to allow them to operate but in a responsible way

Council inquired as to how the District can determine whether their concerns have been addressed. The CAO advised that follow-up can be done through FrontCounter BC by staff. Council inquired as to whether the new access route through Othello Road will exit at the highway or through Kawkawa Lake. The CAO noted that the intent is to exit through the highway similar to Blue Triton trucks.

The CAO advised that a letter could be drafted to be approved at the January 27<sup>th</sup> Council meeting so that it can be sent to the Province and Hope Ready Mix before the submission deadline.

**Mayor Smith Reported:**

- He attended the grand opening of the Hope Bottle Depot, noting that representatives from Return-It advised that they will provide more information on new return products coming in 2025. He added that the District will assist in getting these messages out to residents.
- He attended the Hope Housing Committee meeting where they discussed housing needs and how to connect with the community.
- He took part in a tour with Fraser-Nicola MLA Tony Luck and his assistant Coralee Delwo at the Park Street Manor and Fraser Canyon Hospital, noting that Council is proud of the hospital and the service it provides.
- He introduced a draft letter to the Attorney General of BC regarding Prolific Criminal Activity and the Justice System and asked that Council support its issuance.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council issue a letter to the Attorney General of BC regarding Prolific Criminal Activity and the Justice System. **CARRIED.**

**Councillor Skoglund Reported:**

- She wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- She attended the Hope RCMP Open House on December 11<sup>th</sup>, noting that she had the opportunity to connect with RCMP staff and community members.

**Councillor Medlock Reported:**

- He wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- He thanked Councillor Smith for attending the Station House Committee meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup> in his place, and CAO John Fortoloczky for his efforts in moving the project forward. He noted that it will be some time before the building is moved into its final position, but the details are being worked out.

- He noted that he would like the topic of offering museum items that are being deaccessioned to be on the January 27, 2025, Council agenda.

**Councillor Stewin Reported:**

- She wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- She noted that she will be attending a Hope Inclusion Project meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> and added that she will circulate the minutes once they are received.

**Councillor Newbigging Reported:**

- She wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- She attended the Polar Bear Swim on January 1<sup>st</sup> at Kawkawa Lake, noting that it was well attended and thanked Hope Search and Rescue for attending to monitor the event.
- She announced that the Kingpin Lounge will have a Robbie Burns night on January 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 p.m. She added that tickets will cost \$35.00 with proceeds going to the Coquihalla Elementary School Library.

**Councillor Smith Reported:**

- He noted that he has been in contact with an individual who is performing radon testing in the District at no cost. He added that the testing will provide a report including mitigation options if required, and that he will provide the link to staff to post on social media.

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

**(a) *District of Hope 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1594, 2024***

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1594, 2024*, be adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Report dated January 3, 2025 from the Planner II**

**Re: Development Variance Permit Application at 477 Hudson Bay Street**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council direct staff to proceed with notification for a Development Variance Permit for the following Zoning Bylaw variances:

- Part 6.12.1 to allow off-street parking spaces to be accessed directly from a highway or street.
- Part 13.2.5.1 (Setbacks) to reduce the minimum rear lot line setback from 6.0 m to 4.5 m. **CARRIED.**

- (c) **Report dated January 6, 2025 from the Planner III**  
**Re: Flood & Erosion Hazard Development Permit – 62180 Delair Road**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT a Flood and Erosion Hazards Development Permit be approved for the construction of an addition to an existing house at 62180 Delair Road, subject to the District of Hope receiving a satisfactory report from a qualified professional that meets the Development Permit Area conditions; and

FURTHER THAT the Director of Community Development be authorized to endorse the Flood and Erosion and Geotechnical Hazard Development Permit and required covenant documents. **CARRIED.**

- (d) **Report dated January 6, 2025 from the Planner II**  
**Re: Application for Zoning Bylaw Text Amendment – Light Industrial (I-2) Zone**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No.1596, 2024* be given first and second reading to allow a dwelling unit as an accessory use within the principal building in the Light / Service Industrial (I-2) zone; 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*. **CARRIED.**

**9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) **For Information Correspondence**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated January 13, 2025, be received. **CARRIED.**

**10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS**

There was no other pertinent business.

**11. QUESTION PERIOD**

Karina Thomas, resident of Othello Road, raised concerns regarding the proximity of their home to the Hope Ready Mix access road off Othello Road, a lack of District road frontage due to development plan changes, failure by Trans Mountain to return the access road to the original grade after the pipeline expansion project, gravel pit blasting and road safety.

The CAO advised that Ms. Thomas' information has been noted, and that staff will reach out to address the concerns, particularly regarding road access and property isolation. Council inquired as to whether the District can facilitate having the roadway returned to its original state by Trans Mountain. The CAO advised that staff would look into the issue and reach out to Ms. Thomas.

Another member of the public, resident of Othello Road, raised concerns related to the Hope Ready Mix access road off Othello Road including road safety, implementation of traffic control measures, and changes to nearby intersections to mitigate dangers.

**12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, January 27, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING at 7:56 p.m.**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to Section 90(1)(c) [labour relations or other employee relations] of the Community Charter and adopting closed meeting minutes. **CARRIED.**

**14. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING**

The Mayor reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:31 p.m.

**15. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:32 p.m. **CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held January 13, 2025, in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.*

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

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