

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 2024
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

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

Council Members Absent: Councillor Dusty Smith

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

Others Present: 6 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 November 12, 2024, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted, as amended, to include item 6(a), a Rise and Report from the November 12, 2024, Committee of the Whole Meeting regarding the Summer Road Private Water System.

CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(a) Regular Council Meeting

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 28, 2024, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED.

4. DELEGATIONS

(a) Enbridge

Representatives from Enbridge were in attendance to provide Council with an update regarding operations and the Sunrise Expansion Program. In their presentation, the following topics were discussed:

- Natural Gas Transmission in BC
 - Enbridge owns and operates the major natural gas transmission system in BC, which spans 2,900km from Fort Nelson to the Canada-U.S. border.
 - The pipeline has been in operation for almost 70 years and is a staple in a

number of residential, industrial, and manufacturing sectors.

- Economic Benefits to BC
 - 224 BC-based permanent and temporary employees and contractors.
 - \$23.7 million in total wages paid.
 - \$72.9 million in property tax payments made by Enbridge across BC for energy projects, pipelines, and related facilities such as compressor stations.
 - \$360 million in capital expenditures such as pipe steel, equipment purchase and replacement, system integrity-related investments, and capital leases.
- Benefits to the District of Hope
 - More than \$1.6 million in property taxes paid to the District of Hope for the 2023 tax season.
 - \$55,000 in local contributions, including the Hope Search and Rescue Group, Chawathil Indigenous Day Celebration and Community Walking Path, and Hope Shredding Day.
- Sunrise Expansion Program
 - A proposed expansion of the southern portion of the BC Pipeline system to meet demand for natural gas capacity in BC and the U.S. Pacific Northwest.
 - Includes the addition of a 42-inch diameter pipeline looping and additional compression to provide approximately 300 million cubic feet per day of additional natural gas transportation service.
 - Additional compression at existing compressor stations.
 - Up to 34km of new overhead powerlines to provide electricity to new compressor units.
 - Regulatory application submitted in May 2024 to facilitate engagement with Indigenous groups, landowners, and other stakeholders.
- Project Scope near the District of Hope
 - Compression Station CS-8B near Othello Road will undergo compressor expansion that will require electrical service through new overhead lines.
 - Overhead power line expansion would follow existing infrastructure including roads and existing right-of-way to minimize environmental and local community impacts.
- Timeline
 - An application to the Canadian Energy Regulator was submitted on May 30, 2024, and included reports on engagement and environmental assessments conducted.
 - The regulatory process is expected to take between one and two years and will include a public hearing.
 - Construction is targeted to start in 2026, with a targeted in-service date in late-2028.

- Ongoing roundtable discussions are taking place in communities along the route, with the first taking place in the District on November 13th, with 18 community members volunteering to take part.

5. STAFF REPORTS

- (a) **Report dated November 4, 2024 from the Director of Corporate Services
Re: AdvantageHOPE Board – New Nominee**

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council endorse Katina Vatcher for appointment to the AdvantageHOPE Board.
CARRIED.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) **Rise and Report from the November 12, 2024, Committee of the Whole Meeting
Re: Summer Road Private Water System**

Moved / Seconded

THAT expansion of the East Kawkawa Lake Water System on Summer Road not be considered until such time as a connection between Zone 138 and the East Kawkawa Lake Zone is completed and that any future expansion is to include all un-serviced areas in East Kawkawa Lake.
CARRIED.

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Smith Reported:

- He attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11th, noting that there was an excellent turnout and that he had the honor to place the wreath on behalf of the District of Hope alongside CAO John Fortoloczky.
- He noted that former BC Premier John Horgan passed away at the age of 65 after his third bout with cancer and thanked him for his time serving BC. He added that the District's flags will be flown at half mast until the conclusion of his memorial service.
- He attended a Hope & Area Healthy Communities meeting where they worked on Fraser Health grants for the community.
- He noted that the Care Transit program, which transports people to and from their medical appointments in areas between Boston Bar and Vancouver, have driven 153,110km to complete 1,284 rides and contributed 3,898 volunteer hours. On behalf of the District, he thanked them for their efforts.
- He attended a Community Wildfire Resiliency presentation by Frontera Forst Solutions with the Hope Fire Department. He added that it was well attended, and there were some great questions from the public.
- He met with the staff at the Hope, Cascades & Canyons Visitor Centre Open House.
- He attended the grand opening of the Recreation Centre to unveil its new ice making equipment and heat recovery system that has enabled a 30% reduction in pool heating costs. He added that the new system, which utilizes CO2 instead of ammonia, is much safer and more cost effective and is part of an effort to work towards a 70% reduction in pool heating costs.

- He attended the Chawathil Open House to view presentations regarding plans for housing, health care, roads, and other short and long-term improvements for their infrastructure, noting that it was well attended by their band members.
- He noted that the District Operation's crew will be changing gears into winter as they undertake holiday decorating, the reinstallation of the Grinch carving on November 30th, and the lighting of the Christmas tree at District Hall.

Councillor Skoglund Reported:

- She attended the Fraser Canyon Hospital & Fraser Hope Lodge Auxiliary Silent Auction at the Legion Hall on November 2nd, noting that it was well attended and stressed the importance of supporting the Auxiliary.

Councillor Medlock Reported:

- He attended the Hope Motorsports Group 4x4 and Demolition Derby event on November 9th, noting that there was a good turnout.
- He attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11th, noting that it was nice to see that it was well attended.
- He will be attending an AdvantageHOPE Board Meeting on November 21st and will report on it at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Councillor Stewin Reported:

- She attended a Hope Inclusion Project meeting where they discussed updates on the anti-oppression curriculum and reminded the public of upcoming events including the Taste of India event on November 18th and the Newcomer Fair on November 19th.
- She attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11th.
- She attended the Park Street Manor Fundraiser at the Legion Hall on November 2nd, noting that just under \$1,000 was raised from donations and a meat draw. She added that John Duff, the Park Street Manor Manager, gave a heartfelt speech at the well-attended event.

Councillor Newbigging Reported:

- She attended the Fraser Canyon Hospital & Fraser Hope Lodge Auxiliary Silent Auction at the Legion Hall on November 2nd, noting that they were much shorter on donations this year but still matched last year's total with approximately \$20,000 raised.

Councillor Wells had nothing to report.

8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS

(a) **Report dated November 4, 2024 from the Planner III**
Re: Development Variance Permit Application at 741 Water Avenue

Council inquired as to whether any submissions were received regarding this application. The Director of Community Development advised that no submissions were received.

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council approve a Development Variance Permit to reduce the interior side lot line setback from 3.0m to 0.0m for 741 Water Avenue. **CARRIED.**

(b) **Report dated November 4, 2024 from the Planner III**
Re: Redesignate and Rezone 61934 Estell Road

Council noted their appreciation that this application is coming forward again with an expanded notification area with hand-delivered notices.

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1591, 2024* be given first and second readings to change the Official Community Plan land use designation from Highway Commercial to Light/Service Industry for the property at 61934 Estell Road; 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*; and-

FURTHER THAT Council approve and adopt the consultation strategy outlined in the Report to Council dated November 12, 2024 for *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1591, 2024*, which includes referral to the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure, the District of Hope Director of Finance, and the District of Hope Director of Operations. **CARRIED.**

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1592, 2024* be given first and second readings to change the zoning from Rural (RU-1) to Light/Service Industrial (I-2) for the property at 61934 Estell Road; 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*. **CARRIED.**

(c) **Report dated November 6, 2024 from the Director of Finance**
Re: Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw

Council inquired as to whether utility billings will come with an explanation for the increases and information as to what the fees will be covering. The Director of Finance advised that they will send the billings with an insert similar to last year which included highlights of what fees will cover and what services are provided, noting that it was well received.

Moved / Seconded

THAT *Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1593, 2024* be read a first, second and third time this 12th day of November, 2024. **CARRIED.**

9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE

(a) For Information Correspondence

Moved / Seconded

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated November 12, 2024, be received.
CARRIED.

(b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – October 2024

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Accounts Payable Cheque Listing for the period of October 1 - 31, 2024, be received.
CARRIED.

10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS

There was no other pertinent business.

11. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions raised.

12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Monday, November 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:32 p.m. **CARRIED.**

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held November 12, 2024 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.

Original Signed by Victor Smith
Mayor

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham
Director of Corporate Services