

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday, November 24, 2025  
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office  
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

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

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Pauline Newbigging

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

**Others Present:** 8 members of the Public and 1 Media

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:55 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 24, 2025, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted, as amended, to include item 5(a), a report from the Director of Community Development regarding Bill M 216 *Professional Reliance Act*. **CARRIED.**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**(a) Regular Council Meeting**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held November 10, 2025, be adopted, as presented. **CARRIED.**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

**(a) Communities in Bloom**

Representatives from Communities in Bloom were in attendance to present to Council regarding their activities in 2025 and thanked all of those who helped and volunteered to make the year a success. It was noted that the District was awarded 5 Blooms by the Communities in Bloom judges following their recent tour of the community.

## 5. STAFF REPORTS

### (a) Report dated November 21, 2025 from the Director of Community Development Re: Bill M 216 *Professional Reliance Act*

The CAO noted that this item is similar to the proposed *Heritage Conservation Act* amendments that Council provided feedback on at the October 27, 2025, Council meeting, with regards to how municipalities are consulted on local issues.

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council receive the report as information; and

FURTHER THAT Council endorse the letter from the Mayor to be sent to the Province with the District's comments on the proposed Bill 216 *Professional Reliance Act*. **CARRIED.**

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

## 7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

### (a) Report dated November 7, 2025 from the Deputy Director of Corporate Services Re: 2026 Regular Council Meeting Schedule and Council Appointments, Committees, and Acting Mayor's Schedule

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT the 2026 Regular Council Meeting schedule be approved; and

FURTHER THAT the Council Appointments, Committees and Acting Mayor's schedule for the 2026 calendar year be adopted. **CARRIED.**

#### **Mayor Smith Reported:**

- He attended the Home Town Takeover Canada gathering in Memorial Park on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, noting that Council is proud of the support shown by the community for this initiative.
- He attended the West Coast Sunrise Expansion Project Roundtable hosted by Enbridge in Chilliwack to provide input and feedback on a draft Socio-Economic Effects Management Plan. He added that the goals include community benefits, local workforce, accommodations, traffic control, infrastructure and safety.
- He arranged an opportunity for students at Hope Secondary School and Two Rivers Education Centre to participate in a roadshow hosted by the BC Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association. This session allowed students to use driving simulators for snowplows, rock trucks, front end loaders, and excavators.
- He attended a Fraser Health and Fraser Valley Capital Projects Planning Collaboration Meeting, noting that he had the opportunity to collaborate with Mayors and health authorities to create a fiscally responsible plan.
- He attended a brainstorming session regarding Fraser Canyon Hospital expansion opportunities where they discussed bringing more medical specialists to Hope.
- He attended a University of the Fraser Valley Community Engagement Framework Focus Group at the Hope Recreation Centre.

- He attended a Fraser Valley Roundtable meeting hosted by the District of Kent, noting that MLA Tony Luck spoke about a sewage treatment facility for local septic systems, infrastructure, and other local items.
- He attended the Fraser Valley Health Care Gala in Abbotsford alongside Dr. Aseem Grover where funds were raised to acquire an Endoscopic Ultrasound Processor that will reduce wait times for those living in the Eastern Fraser Valley.
- He announced that the Grinch carving will be installed on Wallace Street on November 29<sup>th</sup>, and that other events including the lighting of the Christmas tree, Snow Sisters, Cinderella, a parade, late night shopping, and a fireworks show in the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park will also take place on Saturday as part of Fog Fest's Foggy Little Christmas event. He added that more information can be found in the Hope Standard or at the Visitor Centre.

**Councillor Graham Reported:**

- She attended an AdvantageHOPE meeting, where the following items were discussed:
  - The strategic planning session will be taking place on November 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - Fog Fest planning is still underway, adding that last weekend was a well-attended success and that her daughter performed at the Silver Chalice on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - AdvantageHOPE and Brigade Days are working together on the Fog Fest parade.
  - A custom welcome card is being created to welcome new businesses and celebrate milestones for existing businesses.
- She attended the Home Town Takeover Canada gathering in Memorial Park over November 23<sup>rd</sup>, thanking Amanda Figlarska, Marketing Manager for AdvantageHOPE, for her efforts in organizing the event.

**Councillor Skoglund Reported:**

- She announced that the Hope Icebreakers will be playing a double header against the Powell River Regals on November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.
- She attended the Grad Fundraiser at the Mountainview Brewery on November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- She attended the Beta Sigma Phi Christmas Craft Sale on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, noting that \$600 was raised for local charities.
- She attended the Home Town Takeover Canada gathering in Memorial Park over November 23<sup>rd</sup>, noting that there was a great crowd with lots of energy.
- She noted that the Hope Community Choir will be holding their annual Christmas Concert on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Grace Baptist Church with admission by donation. She added that all proceeds will go to a bursary for a grad.
- She noted that the Silver Creek Elementary Craft Fair will be taking place on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- She noted that the Stuff the Cruiser event and Pancake Breakfast will be taking place at Kal-Tire on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., adding that Kal Tire will match up to \$750 in cash donations to the Hope Food Bank. She added that donations will also be accepted at the Buy Low Foods and Save on Foods.

**Councillor Medlock Reported:**

- He attended the Home Town Takeover Canada gathering in Memorial Park over November 23<sup>rd</sup>, expressing appreciation for the large turnout and town spirit.
- He noted that the District was the only 5-Bloom winner in the province this year.
- He thanked Mayor Smith for attending the AdvantageHOPE meeting on his behalf.

**Councillor Smith Reported:**

- He noted that he is excited about the collaboration between AdvantageHOPE and Brigade Days for the Fog Fest parade and added that he is hopeful that they can build off it. He added that he will also have some items in the parade.
- He noted that the Hope Icebreakers will be playing a double header against the Powell River Regals on November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Councillor Stewin Reported:**

- She attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony where she laid a wreath for the Fraser Cascade School District.
- She attended a Hope Inclusion Project meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>, noting that she will distribute the minutes to Council when they are finalized.

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

**(a) Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw**

**Re: 61934 Estell Road**

Council inquired about the delay in bringing the Official Community Plan and Zoning Amendment Bylaws forward for adoption. The Director of Community Development advised that the applicant was required to contribute to road repairs in front of their property caused by previous usage prior to adoption, and that these contributions were received last week.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1591, 2024*, to re-designate the property at 61934 Estell Road from Highway Commercial to Light/Service Industry, be adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Zoning Amendment Bylaw**

**Re: 61934 Estell Road**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1592, 2024*, to rezone the property at 61934 Estell Road from Rural (RU-1) to Light/Service Industrial (I-2), be adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025. **CARRIED.**

**(c) Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1612, 2025* be adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025. **CARRIED.**

**(d) Report dated November 6, 2025 from the Director of Corporate Services  
Re: Fraser Valley IMBL Amendment for Health Care Professionals**

Council inquired as to whether other IMBL member municipalities must pass the same bylaw amendment, and where they are in the process. The Director of Corporate Services confirmed that all member municipalities must pass the same amendment and advised that other municipalities are in varying stages of the adoption process.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Fraser Valley Inter-Municipal Business Licence Amendment Bylaw No. 1604, 2025* be read a first, second and third time this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025. **CARRIED.**

**(e) Report dated November 14, 2025 from the Planner III  
Re: OCP and Zoning Amendment – 62870 Flood Hope Road**

Council engaged in discussion regarding the proposed redesignation and rezoning of the property at 62870 Flood Hope Road, which included the *Good Neighbour Bylaw*, proper complaint processes, regulations for truck maintenance and electronic logging, Q-Line Trucking employees living in the community, safety, and infrastructure improvements.

Council requested clarification regarding the differences between Highway Commercial and Light Industrial zones, and whether the use proposed by Q-Line Trucking would fall under Highway Commercial. The Director of Community Development advised that Staff made the determination that the Q-Line Trucking use is industrial as it is a logistics and staging area as opposed to a commercial use such as a truck stop. Council inquired as to whether the District is aware of what the remainder of the property will be used for, as Q-Line Trucking will only occupy approximately 3 acres. The Director of Community Development advised that he is not aware of what the remainder of the property will be used for but added that it could be used for other appropriate I-2 uses.

Council inquired as to whether the District could require the applicant or property owner to install safety measures as a condition of approval. The Director of Community Development advised that light industrial zones near residential areas require screening to be installed and noted that the property owner plans to install an 8-foot fence with slats. Council inquired as to whether the lot can be paved to prevent water contamination issues. The Director of Community Development advised that provincial environmental regulations must be complied with but that he is unsure of any requirement for the lot to be paved. He added that while the I-2 zone adds some uses that could be potentially impactful to the environment, the current Rural zoning also includes uses that could be impactful.

Council inquired as to why the property owner did not speak during the Public Hearing. Gordon Liske, owner of the subject property, noted that Q-Line Trucking only has interest in the 3-acre section of land that is now enclosed with a high security fence. He added that discussions have taken place with a neighbouring property owner to allow the remainder of his property to be used for planting, as planting is not restricted by the pipeline right-of-way. He also advised that he is conscious of water concerns as he owns a neighbouring mobile home park and conducts regular chemical water testing.

Council acknowledged that it is important to consider the future use of the property after redesignation and rezoning as the operator and use could change. Council noted that they are taking the comments and concerns that they have heard from the community seriously, and that they are in favour of advancing the process through third reading so they can further consider all the information before the item returns for adoption.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council give third reading to *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1609, 2025*, to change the Official Community Plan land use designation from Highway Commercial to Light Industrial for the property at 62870 Flood Hope Road.  
**CARRIED.**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council give third reading to *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1610, 2025*, to change the zoning from Rural (RU-1) to Light/Service Industrial (I-2) for the property at 62870 Flood Hope Road.  
**CARRIED.**

- (f) **Report dated November 19, 2025 from the Director of Finance**  
**Re: Fees and Charges Amendment**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1615, 2025*, be read a first, second, and third time this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.  
**CARRIED.**

- (g) **District of Hope 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the *District of Hope 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1616, 2025*, be read a first, second, and third time this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.  
**CARRIED.**

**9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) **For Information Correspondence**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated November 24, 2025, 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, December 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:46 p.m.  
**CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held November 24, 2025, in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.*

Original Signed by Victor Smith  
Mayor

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham  
Director of Corporate Services