

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 14, 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 Zachary Wells

Council Members Absent: Councillor Pauline Newbigging
Councillor Crystal Sedore

Staff Present: John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services
Richard Zerr, Acting Director of Community Development
Mike Olson, Director of Finance
Branden Morgan, Deputy Corporate Officer/EA

Others in attendance: 8 members of the public and 1 media

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:44 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 August 14, 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 July 10, 2023 be adopted, as amended, to replace "Present" with "Absent" in the Council members attendance list.
CARRIED.

4. DELEGATIONS

(a) RCMP Quarterly Update

Staff Sergeant Mike Sargent was in attendance to provide Council with an update for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2023. In his presentation, the following points were discussed:

- Workload Distribution:
 - General occurrence calls, at 2,792, are trending down from 2020.
 - Priority calls, at 113, have remained stable since 2020.
 - Files per member are down due to lower call volume.
 - Online reporting continues to be utilized by the public.

- Administrative:
 - Charges, at 52, are down significantly from 2020 due to the need to gather more information and evidence before laying initial charges.
 - Firearms seizures, at 81, have more than doubled from 2022. This is due to seizures during domestic violence situations and homeless encampments.
- Crimes Against Persons:
 - All categories are trending down from the previous three years.
 - Many reports involve transient people as opposed to local residents of Hope.
- Property Crime:
 - Levels have remained consistent with the previous three years.
 - Auto theft statistics include vehicles that are stolen in other areas but located or abandoned in Hope.
- Initiatives:
 - Targeting of Prolific Offenders
 - Repeat Violent Offender Initiative (ReVOII)
 - Fraser Canyon Hospital encampment
 - Increased Media Presence
 - Increased Visibility
- Community Engagement:
 - Pride Month Events
 - Indigenous Peoples Day
 - UFVRD Strategic Planning
 - Hope Career Fair
 - Basketball with Youth
 - Upcoming events including the Chainsaw Carving Competition and Hope Brigade Days.

Council inquired as to whether the RCMP tracks where individuals who are removed from homeless encampments move on to. Staff Sgt. Sargent advised that they track them to some degree through members having further encounters and through discussions with the individuals. Council inquired as to whether further patrols will be conducted near the hospital where the homeless camp was removed, Staff Sgt. Sargent advised that members are conducting daily patrols of the area and that all materials were removed from the area to discourage rebuilding.

5. STAFF REPORTS

(a) Report dated August 2, 2023 from the Chief Administrative Officer Re: Accessibility Advisory Committee and Plan

THAT Council appoint Councillors Newbigging (initial Chair Person) and Skoglund to this new Accessibility Advisory Committee;

AND THAT Council direct Councillors Newbigging and Skoglund, with staff support, to draft the committee terms of reference, to be brought back to Council for review and endorsement; and

AND THAT this committee then move forward to functional establishment and operation leading to a community accessibility plan to inform future District policies, development, and actions.

CARRIED.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Smith Reported:

- He congratulated the organizers of the Sunshine Valley Car Show for an excellent event.
- He announced that the Farmer's Market featured the Harrison Lavender who distributed free samples sponsored by Fraser Health and the Hope & District Chamber of Commerce. He added that two local farms were also selling at the market.
- He attended a Wildfire and Drought Situational Update with CAO John Fortoloczky, and reminded the public that a fire ban is in place.
- He toured project areas with Trans Mountain as the District continues to collaborate towards the end of the pipeline expansion. He added that the Kiewit camp on Richmond Hill is presently scheduled to be deconstructed by the end of the year.
- He announced that the Communities in Bloom judges were in town and thanked the volunteers and District of Hope staff for helping to make the community better. He added that scores and recommendations will be released this Fall.
- He announced that the library was open on August 13th and served as a cooling center, adding that the Recreation Center would be opened on August 14th as the District works with Fraser Health and the province on cooling center operation. He noted that water is being provided by Blue Triton.
- He announced that the Chawathil Band in partnership with the provincial government is working on a study on Thackers Marsh regarding wildlife.
- He announced that the World Class Chainsaw Event, which occurs every other year, will be taking place in Memorial Park beginning August 17th. He added that the Hope & District Chamber of Commerce market, Indigenous art, and music will take place on Friday and Saturday night.
- He met with the Healthy Community Committee to discuss changes being made to the care system and micro grant applications. He noted that one of the problems being faced is populations increasing faster than the system can support.

Councillor Skoglund Reported:

- She attended the Fundraiser on the Fraser on July 28th, noting that they raised over \$14,000 for the Fraser Inclusive Supportive Housing.
- She attended the Tour de Cure Fundraiser on July 29th, noting that Kal Tire matched \$4,000 in funds that were raised.

Councillor Stewin Reported:

- She attended a meeting with the New Hope group regarding how municipalities can partner to increase the number of childcare spaces in their community, advising that they will be at UBCM in the trade show this year.
- She attended a Purple Lights meeting on August 10th where they further prepared for the October 1st kickoff at 6:00 p.m. in Memorial Park.

- She announced that she has asked Staff to gather information regarding the reserve fund for the Hope Museum Golden Moments book, which was reserved for re-printing.

Councillors Medlock and Wells had nothing to report.

8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS

(a) District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1555, 2023 Re: Redesignate the Property at 61934 Estell Road

The applicant advised Council that their property at 61934 Estell Road does not have the same operator as 61954 Estell Road. The Acting Director of Community Development inquired as to how the operator on 61954 Estell Road is accessing their property, the applicant advised that they are accessing through Estell Road and potentially through their property. Council expressed their concern regarding the good neighbor behavior that is taking place and inquired as to what steps could be taken. The Director of Corporate Services advised that within the Good Neighbor Bylaw, there is an exemption for industrial uses from all provisions of the bylaw.

Council asked that Staff investigate and provide further information regarding the current uses of the applicant property and the neighboring lot at 61954 Estell Road. Council also asked that Staff provide options to remedy concerns brought forward by neighbors regarding both properties.

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1555, 2023* third reading be tabled until Staff can provide further information to Council regarding the current and proposed use of the property. **CARRIED.**

(b) District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1556, 2023 Re: Rezoning the Property at 61934 Estell Road

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1556, 2023* third reading be tabled until Staff can provide further information to Council regarding the current and proposed use of the property. **CARRIED.**

(c) District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1557, 2023 Re: Rezoning the Property at 342 Hudson Bay Street

Council inquired as to whether they will have input on details such as the number of units and density during the Downtown Hope Revitalization Form and Character Development Permit process that would follow a successful rezoning. The Acting Director of Community Development confirmed that Council will have the opportunity to review the proposal and make suggestions before approval. He added that the proponent worked with the District to ensure the roads and visitor parking worked, and there were no obstructions to sight lines. Council inquired as to what parts of Odd Street would receive upgrades, the CAO advised that it would be for the areas immediately adjacent to the development.

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1557, 2023*, to rezone the property at 342 Hudson Bay Street from Single Family Residential (RS-1) to Multiple Family Residential (RM-1), be read a third time this 14th day of August, 2023.

CARRIED (Councillor Wells Opposed).

**(d) Report dated July 26, 2023 from the Acting Director of Community Development
Re: Redesignate and Rezone the Property at 455 Coquihalla Street**

Council inquired as to whether the timelines set during the initial sale of the property will be impacted by the applicant's changes to the design and increased density. A representative for the applicant, Chuck Stam, advised that he will inquire about the timeline issue and provide an answer to Council. He added that the developer is in talks with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation to maximize density and provide rental units.

Moved / Seconded

THAT *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw, No. 1558, 2023* be given first and second readings in order to re-designate the property legally described Lot 26 Block 1 Sec 16 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M Yale Division Yale District Townsite of Hope Suburban Except: (1) Parcel K Plan A128 (2) Plan B5277 (3) that Part Lying to the North and East of Parcel K (Plan A128); PID 012-871-362; 455 Coquihalla Street from Urban/Suburban Residential to Comprehensive Development; 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*; and

FURTHER THAT the Council of the District of Hope has considered the duty to consult regarding the *Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1558, 2023* and concurs with the Acting Director of Community Development that consultation be undertaken with 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. 1559, 2023* be given first and second readings in order to and rezone the property legally described Lot 26 Block 1 Sec 16 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M Yale Division Yale District Townsite of Hope Suburban Except: (1) Parcel K Plan A128 (2) Plan B5277 (3) that Part Lying to the North and East of Parcel K (Plan A128); PID 012-871-362; 455 Coquihalla Street from Multiple Family Residential (RM-1) to a site specific Comprehensive Development (CD-12) 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 August 14, 2023 be received.

CARRIED.

(b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – June 2023

Moved / Seconded

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

10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS

(a) Royal Canadian Legion Branch 228 Grant Letter of Support

Re: New Horizons Seniors Program 2023-2024

Moved / Seconded

THAT Council authorize the Mayor to issue a letter of support for the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 228's grant application to the New Horizons Seniors Program 2023-2024 to support their application for funding to re-finish the memorial hall floors. **CARRIED.**

11. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions raised.

12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Monday, September 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING AT 8:36 P.M.

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.**

14. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

Mayor Smith reconvened the Regular Council Meeting at 9:46 p.m.

15. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Moved / Seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 9:47 p.m. **CARRIED.**

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held August 14, 2023 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.

Original Signed by Victor Smith

Mayor

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham

Director of Corporate Services