

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday, May 11, 2026  
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 Pauline Newbigging  
Councillor Angela Skoglund  
Councillor Heather Stewin

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Dusty Smith

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

**Others Present:** 4 members of the Public

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 8:14 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 May 11, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted, as amended, to include item 8(c), *Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 1627, 2026*, and item 8(d), *Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 1628, 2026*. **CARRIED.**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**(a) Regular Council Meeting**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held April 27, 2026, be adopted, as presented. **CARRIED.**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

**(a) KPMG**

Sean Reid, Engagement Partner for KPMG, was in attendance to present to Council regarding the Audit Findings Report for the year ended December 31, 2025. In his presentation, the following items were discussed:

- KPMG is independent of the District of Hope
- Materiality is set at \$520,000 based on prior year expenses
- Audit testing is designed to find audit adjustments above the audit misstatement posting threshold of \$26,000
- The District acquired and constructed \$7.2 million in capital assets in 2025

- Two uncorrected misstatements related to Tangible Capital Assets from previous years were found and reflected in the management representation letter, and it was noted that these do not have an impact on the financial statements as they are immaterial
- No other issues were noted in testing related to Tangible Capital Assets
- No issues were noted in testing related to Revenue and Deferred Revenue
- No issues were noted in testing related to expenses, including salaries and benefits

Mr. Reid noted that in two years financial statements and disclosures will change significantly to be more similar to financial reporting completed by businesses. He added that KPMG will be hosting workshops regarding these changes and that invitations have been sent to their local government clients. Council inquired as to who enacts these financial reporting changes. Mr. Reid advised that the Public Sector Accountability Board creates the reporting requirements for Local and Provincial governments.

## **5. STAFF REPORTS**

### **(a) Report dated May 5, 2026 from the Director of Finance Re: 2025 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements**

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT the 2025 Consolidated Financial Statements of the District of Hope be approved;  
and

FURTHER THAT the Independent Auditor's Report be received; and

FURTHER THAT the Independent Auditor's Report be attached to the Consolidated  
Financial Statements of the District of Hope. **CARRIED.**

## **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports.

## **7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **Mayor Smith Reported:**

- He attended the grand opening of the Sunshine Valley Tashme Museum, noting that 200 people attended, including representatives from the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society, Fraser Valley Regional District, Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre, and the Consul General of Japan.
- He noted that the Lion King carving created by Master Chainsaw Carver Ryan Cook has been refinished and can be found in Memorial Park on Wallace Street.
- He announced that the RCMP have secured \$80,000 in Provincial funding for the C-Step Program, which includes dedicated members performing foot and bike controls around the community. He added that this will also include a number of boat patrols on Kawkawa Lake.
- He attended the BC Modular Housing Conference in Penticton, noting that they discussed opening a satellite office in Hope. He added that there are trials being conducted in Burnaby and Merritt to provide affordable housing.

- He attended the Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Conference along with Councillor Bonny Graham and CAO John Fortoloczky, noting that he had good conversations with BC Hydro, Enbridge, Trans Mountain, Fortis and Telus regarding projects. He added that Enbridge is looking to delegate to Council regarding the upcoming Sunrise Expansion Project.
- He noted that he worked at the Hope McDonald's to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House, adding that over \$13,000 was raised.

**Councillor Graham Reported:**

- She attended the LMLGA Conference in Penticton, noting that she attended sessions on council conflict resolution and standardizing practices. She added that she also met with Fortis to discuss future meter upgrades, Trans Mountain regarding their optimization project, and the Enbridge Sunrise Expansion Project.
- She noted that she received notification from a film crew regarding filming in the community for Alphabet Soup, adding that a representative is in attendance and invited them to share information regarding the filming.

The representative from Alphabet Soup advised that crews will be arriving on May 14<sup>th</sup>, with filming taking place at the Skagit Motel throughout the night until approximately 6:00 a.m. He added that the filming is for a reboot of an iconic 90's TV series and filming will include lights and atmospheric smoke.

**Councillor Skoglund Reported:**

- She wish everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

**Councillor Medlock Reported:**

- He noted that there is an AdvantageHOPE meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Councillor Stewin Reported:**

- She noted that there is a Hope Inclusion Project on May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- She received a concern from a community member regarding tents that have been set up along the Fraser River and a potential fire.

**Councillor Newbigging Reported:**

- She announced that the Hope and District Chamber of Commerce will be holding a Shred-It Event on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Wallace Street.
- She noted that an encampment previously reported to Staff has returned and occupants have hard-wired a power cable into a lamp standard.

The CAO advised that Staff have followed up with agencies that are responsible for maintaining the bridge and infrastructure.

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

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

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1625, 2026* be adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026. **CARRIED.**

**(b) District of Hope 2026 Annual Tax Rate Bylaw**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope 2026 Annual Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1626, 2026* be adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026. **CARRIED.**

**(c) Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 1627, 2026* be read a first, second, and third time this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026. **CARRIED.**

**(d) Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 1628, 2026* be read a first, second, and third time this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026. **CARRIED.**

**9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a) For Information Correspondence**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated May 11, 2026, be received. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – April 2026**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Accounts Payable Cheque Listing for the period of April 1 – 30, 2026, 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, May 25, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:42 p.m. **CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held May 11, 2026, in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.*

*Original Signed by Victor Smith*

**Mayor**

*Original Signed by Donna Bellingham*

**Director of Corporate Services**