

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 23, 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  
Councillor Pauline Newbigging

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

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 October 23, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted, as amended, to add item 10(a), a letter of support for AdvantageHOPE and the Fraser Valley Mountain Bikers Association, and to amend Section 13 to add Section 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter* for the In-Camera Agenda. **CARRIED.**

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### (a) Regular Council Meeting

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held October 10, 2023 be adopted, as presented. **CARRIED.**

### 4. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

### 5. STAFF REPORTS

#### (a) Report dated October 16, 2023 from the Chief Administrative Officer Re: AdvantageHOPE Board New Nominee – October 2023

#### **Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council endorse Shayne Findlay for appointment to the AdvantageHOPE Board. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Report dated October 18, 2023 from the Director of Finance  
Re: Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest (CLCCF) Grant**

Council discussed each request to determine its eligibility to receive funds from the Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest Grant.

Ruth Renwick

Council inquired as to whether this application is for one individual to perform planting, or if the application was on behalf of a group of volunteers. The Director of Finance advised that Ms. Renwick would be performing the planting herself. Council inquired as to where the planting would be taking place, the Director of Finance advised that the application was not clear; Council asked that staff gather more information on where the planting will be taking place and the reasoning for the plants being removed before they provide direction.

Hope and District Arts Council

Council inquired as to whether the application met all of the criteria, the Director of Finance confirmed.

Th'a:le gas kw'e Shxweli (Heart and Soul) Child Care

Councillor Stewin departed the meeting at 7:11 p.m. due to a conflict of interest.

Council noted that the Board of Directors are volunteers and that the Silver Creek area is hard pressed for child care.

Councillor Stewin rejoined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Hope and Valley Cruiser Club

Council noted that the sound system would be used for events all year round and is not being used to improve a private, leased, or rented premises, and therefore would qualify.

Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning Society

Council noted that funds that are distributed to the Hope Mountain Centre benefit the District greatly through tourism and grant funding.

1<sup>st</sup> Hope Scouting

Councillor Medlock departed the meeting at 7:15 p.m. due to a conflict of interest.

Council noted that this funding will help to keep the Hope Scouting program affordable for all who wish to join.

Councillor Medlock rejoined the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Hope Curling Club

The Director of Finance noted that the Hope Curling Club is asking for two compressors in consecutive years, with the current year's ask being \$21,300. He added that this is for a building improvement, but the organization meets all other requirements. Council advised that they are comfortable providing funding for the replacement of one compressor this year, and that the Hope Curling Club should apply in the next CLCCF grant disbursement to receive funding the second compressor.

Hope Communities in Bloom

Mayor Smith departed the meeting at 7:21 p.m. due to a conflict of interest.

Council noted that Communities in Bloom is a not-for-profit, and that the organization does a lot for the community.

Mayor Smith rejoined the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Canyon Golden Agers Society

Council inquired as to whether there are any issues with the grant being used to improve a building that the District owns. The CAO advised that it is not a violation of the policy as it is coming from a separate revenue stream that is not generated by the taxpayers.

Hope Golf and Country Club

Council noted that the installation of an elevator would fit with the provincially mandated accessibility program, allowing more individuals to use the facility.

Mount Hope Senior Citizens' Society – late submission

Council noted that as this request is for the replacement and repair of the carpet in the facility, it does not constitute a capital upgrade.

The Director of Finance noted that the awarded amounts total \$118,075, with \$56,925 remaining to be distributed next year.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council authorizes a disbursement of \$118,075 of the Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest (CLCCF) Grant, as follows:

- Hope and District Arts Council \$975  
Purpose: Ecological garden restoration and enhancement of the Art Machine grounds.
- Th'a:le gas kw'e Shxweli (Heart and Soul) Child Care \$25,000  
Purpose: Provide classroom furnishing, supplies, and teaching resources.
- Hope and Valley Cruiser Club \$9,600  
Purpose: Year-round insurance, website, and a sound system.
- Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning Society \$16,700  
Purpose: Purchase equipment and supplies, portion of trail building and maintenance.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Hope Scouting \$9,000  
Purpose: To maintain low costs for families who take part in camps, replace aging gear, ensure programming is available.
- Hope Curling Club \$21,300  
Purpose: Replace one compressor.
- Hope Communities in Bloom \$500  
Purpose: Plant daffodils at the entrance to Hope.
- Canyon Golden Agers Society \$7,000  
Purpose: Installation of a ramp, preservation of building and roof, and to provide access to support emergency preparedness and activities.
- Hope Golf and Country Club \$5,000  
Purpose: Feasibility study for the construction of an elevator to improve public access.

- Mount Hope Senior Citizens' Society \$23,000  
Purpose: Replace and repair carpeting in the dining area, main door, and hallways.  
**CARRIED.**

**(c) Report dated October 18, 2023 from the Chief Administrative Officer  
Re: Community to Community Program 2023/24 Pilot Program – Letter of Support  
Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council endorses and fully supports efforts regarding the goals of the Community to Community Program;

AND THAT Council confirms that the Community to Community Program aligns with the District Strategic Priority Goal to develop relationships and pursue opportunities to partner with First Nations in areas of mutual interest;

AND THAT Council directs staff to forward the endorsed Letter of Support and continue working with Chawathil First Nation in this regard. **CARRIED.**

**(d) Report dated October 19, 2023 from the Chief Election Officer  
Re: Alternative Notice for 2023 By-Election First Advance Voting Opportunity**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council approves the advertisement of the 2023 By-Election first Advance Voting Opportunity to be published on October 31, 2023, and November 7, 2023, through alternative means including the District of Hope website, social media, public notice board, and in the front door windows at District Hall. **CARRIED.**

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports.

**7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Mayor Smith Reported:**

- He attended a meeting with Premier David Eby and Minister of Housing Ravi Kahlon regarding short term rental regulations and upcoming legislation. He noted that this has been discussed at UBCM for years as municipalities have been looking to the Province to create a starting point.
- He met with RCMP Staff Sergeant Mike Sargent to discuss the possibility of having a shredding service visit in conjunction with the Hope & District Chamber of Commerce to help residents and businesses dispose of important papers in a secure way.
- He announced that the Hope and District Chamber of Commerce, AdvantageHOPE and the District of Hope are looking forward to the December 1, 2023 lighting of the Christmas tree at District Hall. He added that the grinch will be making an appearance in place of the Rambo carving in the coming weeks.
- He announced that the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Hospital Auxiliary Auction will be taking place on November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Hope Legion. He noted that the event will raise money for our local hospital.
- He announced that a back-up generator and electrical upgrades will be installed at the Golden Agers building with the help of funding from United Way and Community Futures.

- He thanked Councillor Skoglund for taking on the Acting Mayor role and Councillor Medlock for attending the FVRD Board meeting during his absence.

**Councillor Skoglund Reported:**

- She congratulated the individuals who have put their name forward for Councillor in the District's 2023 By-Election.
- She noted that she met with Councillor Newbigging to discuss their plans for the newly formed Accessibility Committee, noting that they will be meeting with CAO John Fortoloczky to go over their next steps.

**Councillor Newbigging Reported:**

- She attended a meeting with the Fraser Valley Regional Library on October 18<sup>th</sup>, noting that they are also working on an Accessibility Program.
- She attended a meeting at the Hope Golf and Country Club, noting that the previous operators have stepped down and operations at the golf course are now being performed by the society and its volunteers.

**Councillor Wells Reported:**

- He noted that the first stages of the Station House move to the property on Water Avenue have begun, with a seismic study being conducted.

**Councillors Medlock and Stewin had nothing to report.**

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

**(a) District of Hope Good Neighbor Amendment Bylaw No. 1562, 2023**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Good Neighbour Amendment Bylaw No. 1562, 2023*, be adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2023. **CARRIED.**

**(b) Report dated October 16, 2023 from the Director of Corporate Services  
Re: Bylaw Ticketing Updates**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Bylaw Notice Enforcement Amendment Bylaw No. 1564, 2023* be read a first, second and third time this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October. **CARRIED.**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *Municipal Ticket Information Amendment Bylaw No. 1565, 2023* be read a first, second and third time this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023. **CARRIED.**

**(c) Report dated October 18, 2023 from the Acting Director of Community Development  
Re: Development Variance Permit for 1040 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue**

Council inquired as to whether the relaxations requested will result in a reduction in the number of parking stalls on the property. The Acting Director of Community Development advised that the relaxations will increase the number of stalls that are for small vehicles, but will not reduce the total number of stalls for the hotel which total 48, one for each room. He added that the number of required stalls for the restaurant will be reduced from 11 to 5, noting that this is due to the likelihood that many of restaurant patrons will be staying at the hotel.

Council inquired as to whether parking is available on the street around the property. The Acting Director of Community Development advised that there is ample street parking available in the area. He also noted that due to the building's location, which is in a lower area beside the railway tracks, will not be blocking sunlight for any nearby residential properties.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council approve the preparation of a Development Variance Permit in order to:

1. Relax the front yard setback requirement from 7.5 metres to 2.5 metres;
2. Relax the landscape lot line setback/siting provision from 1.0 metres to 0.0 metres;
3. Relax the drive isle width from 7.0 metres to 6.1 metres;
4. Relax the small car percentage requirement from 15% to 29%;
5. Relax the building height from 15 metres to 21 metres; and
6. Relax the required number of parking stalls for the restaurant patrons and employees from 11 stalls to 5 stalls.

on the property legally described as Lot 1 Section 9 TWP 5 RGE 26 W6M YDYP Plan EPP122302; PID 032-031-297; 1040 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue; Hope, BC in order to construct a motel and restaurant; and

FURTHER THAT in accordance with the District of Hope Application Procedures & Public Hearing/Information Meeting Procedural Bylaw, the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* authorize staff to issue a notice of intent to consider the approval of the Development Variance Permit to the neighbouring property owners. **CARRIED.**

**9. FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a) For Information Correspondence**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the For Information Correspondence List dated October 23, 2023 be received.

**CARRIED.**

**10. OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS**

**(a) AdvantageHOPE & Fraser Valley Mountain Bikers Association  
Re: Letter of Support – Hope Mountain Signature Trail**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council authorize the Mayor to issue a letter of support for AdvantageHOPE and the Fraser Valley Mountain Bikers Association's grant application for the first phase of the proposed Hope Mountain Signature Trail. **CARRIED.**

**11. QUESTION PERIOD**

Andrew Friend, resident of Flood Hope Road, inquired as to whether staff had found any information regarding the missed public hearing notices for the Public Hearing held on February 27, 2023, regarding the redesignation and rezoning of 61954 Estall Road. He also inquired about the status of the shipping container wall that is to be installed on 61934 Estall Road by the property owner.

The CAO advised that four trailers were missed in the notification area for the Public Hearing held on February 27, 2023. The Mayor advised that some shipping containers have been moved onto the property, but have yet to be installed.

**12. NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING AT 7:50 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], Section 90(1)(e) [the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality] and Section 90(1)(g) [litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality] of the *Community Charter* re: property acquisition, and litigation 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 8:30 p.m.

**15. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:31 p.m. **CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 23, 2023 in Council Chambers, District of Hope, British Columbia.*

Original Signed by Victor Smith

Mayor

Original Signed by Donna Bellingham

Director of Corporate Services