

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 12, 2024  
Council Chambers, District of Hope Municipal Office  
325 Wallace Street, Hope, British Columbia

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

**Council Members Absent:** Councillor Zachary Wells

**Staff Present:** John Fortoloczky, Chief Administrative Officer  
Donna Bellingham, Director of Corporate Services  
Robin Beukens, Director of Community Development  
Thomas Cameron, Fire Chief  
Gurvinder Sodhi, Communications and Network Analysis Advisor

**Others Present:** 2 members of the public and 1 media

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the February 12, 2024, 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 January 22, 2024 be adopted, as presented. **CARRIED.**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

There were no Delegations.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

**(a) Report dated February 6, 2024 from the Fire Chief  
Re: 2024 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council endorse the District of Hope application to the 2024 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for grant funding up to the amount of \$30,000 to improve the efficiency of the District of Hope EOC through the provision of training and equipment;

AND THAT Council commit the District of Hope to provide overall grant management. **CARRIED.**

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

## 7. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

### Mayor Smith Reported:

- He announced that the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue CN rail crossing project has now been completed, bringing the total number of updated crossings to four. He added that the new material used has improved smoothness and lengthened the life of the crossings.
- He thanked Operations Manager Bob Clarke for the District's work to build and install a gate closure at the dog park.
- He attended the Community Wellness Event at Hope Secondary School on February 10<sup>th</sup> where discussion was held regarding ways to improve quality of life and to engage with other organizations in the District. He noted that he was impressed with Ms. Poulin's leadership group.
- He met with Dr. Grover to discuss making a difference as the District copes with a record number of fatal overdoses. He noted that the heightened awareness generated by these alarming statistics serves as a catalyst for change.

### Councillor Skoglund Reported:

- She attended the Robbie Burns Supper on January 25<sup>th</sup>, noting that the funds raised went to FISH.
- She attended the Fireman's Banquet on January 27<sup>th</sup>.
- She announced that the Accessibility Committee received some applications and is moving forward.

### Councillor Medlock Reported:

- He attended the Fraser Valley Regional District meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup> in place of the Mayor.
- He attended the Fireman's Banquet on January 27<sup>th</sup>, noting that they celebrated learning and distributed certificates for courses taken throughout the year. He added that he was awarded a unique trophy.
- He announced that there will be an AdvantageHOPE Board Meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- He announced that the Station House move to Water Avenue will take place on February 15<sup>th</sup> around 9:00 a.m.

### Councillor Smith Reported:

- He attended a fundraiser at the Silver Chalice for a long-term resident, noting the generosity of the community with \$22,000 raised that night.
- He met with a group from the Tashme Historical Society regarding the Station House, expressing his appreciation for the work that the group is doing to move and restore the building.

**Councillor Stewin Reported:**

- She attended the welding graduation ceremony at Hope Secondary School on January 24<sup>th</sup>, noting that in the beginning of 2015 the School District had the opportunity to bring in two welding trailers every couple of years to help students get their welding certificates while attending high school through a dual credit program. She added that she is proud to be part of the beginnings of the program, with twelve graduates this year.
- She attended a Park Street Manor fundraiser at the Legion Hall on February 10<sup>th</sup>, noting that just over \$800 was raised.
- She announced that her fourth grandchild was born on February 7<sup>th</sup>, noting that everyone is doing well.

**Councillor Newbigging Reported:**

- She attended the Fireman’s Banquet on January 27<sup>th</sup>.
- She attended the Robbie Burns Supper on January 25<sup>th</sup>, noting that over \$1,400 was raised for FISH.
- She announced that the Accessibility Committee received seven applications, of which four individuals have been selected. She added that no applications were received for an Indigenous representative, but they will continue to search for applicants.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT Council approves the appointment of John Norman, Mark Howard, Katie St Germain, and Naomi Bergstrom to the District of Hope Accessibility Committee for a two year term. **CARRIED.**

**8. PERMITS AND BYLAWS**

**(a) Report dated February 2, 2024 from the Director of Community Development  
Re: District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1573, 2024 – 320 Fort Street**

Council inquired as to what the District classifies as a short term accommodation. The Director of Community Development advised that the District has a definition for Bed and Breakfasts, as well as Hotels, Motels, and Motor Inns, but does not currently have a definition for short term rentals such as AirBNB and VRBO. As that use is not listed in the Zoning Bylaw, it is not permitted. He noted that although the District is aware of AirBNB accommodations operated within the District, they are not currently permitted.

The CAO advised that the Province is introducing an initiative in 2025 requiring registration for all short term stays of any type, regardless of whether the municipality allows them. He noted that the District should be able to access this information through which Council can consider allowing or regulating short term stays.

Council inquired as to whether the text amendment to the minimum lot area requirements would apply to all new projects going forward in the Downtown Commercial Zone, and how parking requirements in the downtown area would be addressed with the limited availability. The Director of Community Development advised that this issue would be interpreted on a case-by-case basis. He added that if this project is approved, the applicant will by applying for a parking variance, but staff feel there is sufficient parking on-site.

Council inquired as to whether the requirement for an overnight caretaker will lead to a situation with motorhomes or campers being utilized on the property to house caretakers. The Director of Community Development advised that the caretaker will need to be housed within the building as long-term overnight accommodation in recreational vehicles is not permitted.

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Zoning Amendment Bylaw No.1573, 2024* be given first and second readings in order to amend the definition of a Hotel, Motel, or Motor Inn to include the requirement for an on-site overnight caretaker and to amend the minimum lot area for a parcel for hotel, motel, or motor inn within the Downtown Commercial (CBD) Zone from 1,000 sq meters to 550 sq meters 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.**

**(b) Report dated February 2, 2024 from the Director of Community Development  
Re: Re-Designate and Rezone the Property at 63010 Flood Hope Road**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT *District of Hope Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No.1571, 2024* be given first and second readings in order to redesignate the land use designation in the Official Community Plan for the property legally described as Lot B District Lot 53 Group 1 Yale Division Yale District Plan 29463; PID 004-307-542; 63010 Flood Hope Road from Highway Commercial to Light Service Industry; 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 *Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No.1571, 2024* and concurs with the Director of Community Development that consultation be undertaken with 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. 1572, 2024* be given first and second readings in order to rezone the property legally described as Lot B District Lot 53 Group 1 Yale Division Yale District Plan 29463; PID 004-307-542; 63010 Flood Hope Road from Highway Commercial (C-2) to Light/Service Industrial (I-2); 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 February 12, 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, February 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**13. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED TO CLOSED MEETING AT 7:24 P.M.**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to consider matters pursuant to Sections 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], 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 enactment] and 90(1)(c) [labour relations and other employee relations] of the *Community Charter* re: RCMP Annual Report, land acquisition, Dan Sharrers Aquatic Centre, staff appointment, and adopting closed meeting minutes.

**CARRIED.**

**14. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING AT 8:48 P.M.**

**15. ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved / Seconded**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:48 p.m.

**CARRIED.**

*Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 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**