



**Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers
on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 12:00 Noon**

Mayor S. Storey presided. Councillors present were C. LePoidevin, A Fennema, J. Webb and J. Jenkinson.

Staff present: Chief Administrative Officer R.J. Holland.

**Meeting Called to Order
at 12:25 pm.**

Agenda:

Mayor Storey called for a motion to adopt the agenda and asked for the declaration of new business.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda.

Resolution 02-21-043

Carried

Delegations & Guests:

None

**Regular Council Meeting Minutes,
February 8, 2023**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2023 be adopted as presented on this day and that such Minutes as read set out all the business before Council that day and fully and properly record all the resolutions and bylaws passed and adopted by Council at that meeting.

Resolution 02-21-044

Carried

**Special Council Meeting Minutes,
February 3, 2023**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Special Council Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2023, be adopted as presented on this day and that such Minutes as read set out all the business before Council that day and fully and properly record all the resolutions and bylaws passed and adopted by Council at that meeting.

Resolution 02-21-045

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes:

None

Reports on Council Activities:

Councillor LePoidevin

Councillor LePoidevin had no report.

Councillor Webb

Councillor Webb attended Family Day and helped with the BBQ. She enjoyed the event.

Mayor Storey thanked Councillor Webb for her work at the BBQ.

Councillor Jenkinson

Councillor Jenkinson attended Family Day and assisted with the BBQ.

Councillor Fennema

Councillor Fennema thanked Councillor Webb, Councillor Jenkinson, and Mayor Storey for attending Family Day.

Mayor Storey

Mayor Storey attended a Decriminalization presentation through UBCM on February 16th. She also met with Constable Lance and discussed concerns for local impacts following the decriminalization of drugs. Bylaws restricting the public consumption of narcotics must be approved through the Ministry of Health. Mayor Storey is concerned by the lack of training for municipalities.

A discussion followed. Council is concerned about the potential impacts of public consumption or public injection of drugs.

Mayor Storey noted that MP Taylor Bachrach attended our Family Day event. He spent time skating on the lake and enjoyed a burger.

Mayor Storey talked about meetings between the Province, First Nations and Environmental groups regarding the 30 by 30 plan. Municipalities were not invited to the meeting. There was no northern representation. The environmental groups are calling to shut down industry.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 02-21-046

Carried

Accounts payable:

The accounting reports were presented.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$183,474.22.

Resolution 02-21-047

Carried

Correspondence List:

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the correspondence list.

Resolution 02-21-048

Carried

Business from the CAO:

Final costs of the boat launch pilings:

The installation of the 12 boat launch pilings and overhead lighting has been completed. The cost of the project was \$161,901.58. In January 2022 Council committed \$104,800.00 from the Northern Capital and Planning Reserve. A successful application was made to NKDF which generated an additional \$50,000.00 for a total of \$154,800.00 This project occurred over two fiscal years. The amount expended in 2023 was \$84,661.68.

Administration recommends the remaining \$7,101.58 required to pay for this project be expended from the Northern Capital and Planning Grant.

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the expenditure of \$7,101.58 from the NCPG Reserve for completion of the Boat Launch Piling project.

Resolution 02-21-049

Carried

CleanBC – Heat Reclaim project:

The implementation of the Heat Reclaim project at the Curling Rink complex has an estimated cost of \$320,000.00 From the calculations generated through the CleanBC Energy Audit, Clean BC will provide \$64,000.00 toward this project. An application was submitted to the RDBN for Gas Tax funding support of this project. The RDBN has verbally committed to providing \$175,000.00 toward this energy savings initiative. This leaves \$81,000.00. Energy savings of this project are estimated at \$30,000.00 per year.

MOVED/SECONDED to commit \$81,000.00 to the completion of the Heat Reclaim projects at the Curling Rink and arena complex and to expend that cost from the Climate Action Fund account.

Resolution 02-21-50

Carried

FLESS Staff versus Student Hockey Game:

Brian Cross, principal at FLESS has asked for the donation of ice time on Friday March 17, 2023, to hold a Staff vs Student hockey game. The event will take place between 1:00 pm and 2:45 pm

MOVED/SECONDED to provide FLESS with a grant in aid by way of the donation of the ice time cost for the FLESS Staff versus Student hockey game on March 17, 2023.

Resolution 02-21-51

Carried

Budget Planning:

Moved to the end of the agenda.

Cancellation of the Regular Meeting scheduled February 22, 2023:

MOVED/SECONDED to cancel the Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday February 22, 2023, at 5:30 pm.

Resolution 02-21-52

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the business from the CAO.

Resolution 02-21-53

Carried

Staff Reports:

Connexus Early Years Program Report:

Connexus has provided a report of the number of attendees participating in their Early Years program held at the arena meeting room.

VFL Active Transportation Plan:

The draft version of the plan was presented.

Councillor Jenkinson commented on the length of the plan and requested an executive summary.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive staff reports.

Resolution 02-21-54

Carried

Reading List:

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the reading list.

Resolution 02-21-55

Carried

New Business:

Councillor LePoidevin asked why the Village plowed a driveway on Chowsunket Road near the transfer station?

Councillor Webb noted there have been several vehicles parking on Village Streets, interfering with snowplowing activities. One of the vehicles parks on Murray Street. The second is an RV that is set up on Liard Avenue near the brown apartments.

CAO Holland advised he would inquire with Public Works.

Mayor Storey stated she would like the Village to acquire an enclosed Food Truck. She feels the Food Truck could be used for Canada Day, Halloween and Family Day.

A discussion followed.

Councillor Webb suggested a trailer like what the Federated Coop has.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 02-21-56

Carried

Bylaws:

None

In Camera:

As per Section 90(1)(c) of the Community Charter which states a part of a Council Meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to labour relations and other employee relations.

MOVED/SECONDED to move the Regular Meeting In Camera under Section 90(1)(c) of the Community Charter at 1:25 pm.

Resolution 02-21-57

Carried

Return to the Regular Meeting at 3:28 pm.

Budget Discussions:

CAO Holland referred to the 2023 Capital Project and Expenditures Work Plan that was prepared by staff.

Councillor LePoidevin commented on the importance of upkeep on Village streets. He would like to see more paving.

Councillor Jenkinson agreed.

Councillor LePoidevin would like to know the cost difference between seal coating Village Streets versus paving. He believes seal coating would be significantly less expensive and would like to see consideration of seal coating the streets and Village owned parking lots.

CAO Holland commented on the cost of inflation as calculated by BC Stats in their Consumer Price Index Report. As of December 2022, the rate of inflation was calculated at 6.3 percent. In 2021, inflation was estimated at 7.0 percent. During budget discussions in early 2022, the Village was uncertain whether that rate of inflation was short term or an upward trend that would continue. 2.0 percent was provided to Village Staff as a cost-of-living increase. With the 2022 rate of inflation adding an additional 6.3 percent, CAO Holland recommends a 4 to 6 percent Cost of Living Adjustment to our current pay scale.

A discussion followed.

Council asked to see a 4 percent cost of living allowance calculated into the budget.

Mayor Storey asked to see the Mayor and Council remuneration study that was prepared for the District of Vanderhoof. She would also like to know how much the mayor spent on travel in 2022.

A discussion was held around performance based remuneration. CAO Holland noted there is no process for administrative staff wage increase for performance or added responsibilities. CAO Holland also recommended a Public Works staff member for the charge hand rate when he is on shift as a move toward succession planning.

MOVED/SECONDED to provide Administrative Assistant Sylvia Hendriksen with a \$2,000.00 increase in pay beginning January 1, 2023.

Resolution 02-21-61

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to provide Jeff Graham the Charge Hand rate while on shift beginning January 1, 2023.

Resolution 02-21-62

Carried

CAO Holland asked Council to provide direction on which of the recommended projects should be factored into the 2023 budget.

Mayor Storey advised she would like to see all of the projects and their related costs factored into the 2023 Budget. After their impact is known, Council would like to review the provisional budget and decide then.

Next Regular Meeting of Council:

March 8, 2023, at 5:30 pm

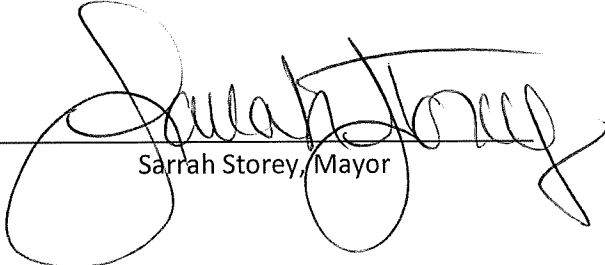
Adjournment:

MOVED/SECONDED that the February 21, 2023, Special Meeting of Council adjourn at 4:50 pm.

Resolution 02-21-63

Carried

Certified Correct:



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer