

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**DATE:** Monday, December 18, 2023  
**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Council Chambers, Memorial Hall  
290 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Ed Wood  
Councillor John Allen  
Councillor Leo Facio  
Councillor Allan Jackson

Chief Administrative Officer, Tyson Koch  
Chief Financial Officer, Scott Schultz  
Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham  
Community Services Manager, Christy Ovens (via Zoom)  
Operations Manager, Jace Hodgson (via Zoom)

**ABSENT:** Councillor Michie Vidal

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Wood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Mayor Wood acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

Late item from Councillor Allen to add Item 14(c) New Business – Deputy Mayor Appointment.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Councillor Jackson**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2023-12-12*

**4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Moved by Councillor Allen**  
**Seconded by Councillor Jackson**

THAT the Special Pre-Closed Council Meeting minutes of November 30, 2023 be adopted.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2023-12-13*

**Moved by Councillor Jackson**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of December 4, 2023 be adopted.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2023-12-14*

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Moved by Mayor Wood**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

THAT Council release the only resolution passed at the November 30, 2023 Special Closed Council Meeting.

**CARRIED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR FACIO**  
*RC-2023-12-15*

**Moved by Mayor Wood**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

THAT Curtis Genest be appointed as Fire Chief.

**MOTION FAILED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND JACKSON**

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- iii. (a) Advisory Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2023
- iv. (a) Letter dated December 1, 2023 from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Re: UBCM Meeting 2023
- (b) Letter dated December 8, 2023 from the Minister of Housing  
Re: New Legislation to Support Local Government Housing Initiatives
- (c) Letter dated December 8, 2023 from the Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation  
Re: UBCM Meeting 2023

**Moved by Councillor Jackson**  
**Seconded by Councillor Facio**

THAT the consent agenda be received.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2023-12-16*

**7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS**

None.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Email dated December 3, 2023 from Dave Hollins  
Re: Dike Project

**Moved by Councillor Jackson**  
**Seconded by Councillor Facio**

THAT the email dated December 3, 2023 from Dave Hollins be received.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
RC-2023-12-17

**9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Wood thanked Dave Hollins for his email.

**10. REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS, COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND COMMISSIONS**

**Councillor Jackson**

- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Municipal Director) – No Report
- Tourism Harrison – No Report

**Councillor Allen**

- Attended the concert put on by the Gospel Brass Ministries at Memorial Hall

**Councillor Facio**

- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director)
  - Attended a meeting on December 14, 2023
  - Attended a meeting on December 7, 2023
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director) – No Report

**11. MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Attended Agassiz Harrison Community Services Christmas lunch. It was a great community event for both Harrison and Agassiz.
- Attended the Salvation Army ringing of the bell. The money raised will be going to the food bank.
- The judging for the Village of Harrison Hot Springs Christmas light contest will take place on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Reported on the Lets'emot C2C Meeting with the District of Kent and First Nations Neighbours.
- Reported that Ken Gisborne has resigned as Chair of the Advisory Planning Commission and thanked him for his work.

*Village of Harrison Hot Springs  
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting  
December 18, 2023*

- The Dike Upgrade Project Open House was held on December 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be a second round of public engagement coming in 2024. There is also a survey available now online which will run until January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Discussed the skating rink and the issues that the Village is currently facing with the logistics of the rink.
- Asked the CAO for any updates on the evacuation route through Sasquatch Park. The CAO reported that BC Parks attended the site with the District of Kent, and also reported on current correspondence and timeline.
- Asked staff for an update on FireSmart. The Community Services Manager provided an update.

**12. REPORTS FROM STAFF**

None.

**13. BYLAWS**

- (a) Inter-Municipal Business Licence Amendment Bylaw No. 1196, 2023

**Moved by Councillor Facio**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

THAT Inter-Municipal Business Licence Amendment Bylaw No. 1196, 2023 be given final reading and adoption.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2023-12-18*

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) New Business from Mayor Wood  
Re: Development Master Plan

**Moved by Mayor Wood**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

WHEREAS the Advisory Planning Commission meeting of December 7, 2023 clearly shows the frustration of the members with the lack of process, procedural fairness, and the common rules of law; and

WHEREAS the APC members which are all unpaid volunteers did an outstanding job of researching the development and asking many questions; and

WHEREAS the developers, the public, and Advisory Planning Commission members are sharing the same grief in our lack of process; and

WHEREAS there are an estimated 15 outdated and conflicting Village bylaws that form part of the development process; and

WHEREAS these estimated 15 bylaws were, by council resolution many months back, referred to a Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion; and

Village of Harrison Hot Springs  
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting  
December 18, 2023

WHEREAS Council does not have the knowledge to revise the bylaws; and

WHEREAS the Provincial government is changing the legislation regarding development, therefore be it resolved

THAT staff be directed to retain a third party, independent planning consultant to review and provide a comprehensive master plan for all development in the Village.

**MOTION FAILED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND JACKSON**

- (b) New Business from Councillor Allen  
Re: Adopt-A-Tree Program

**Moved by Councillor Allen**  
**Seconded by Mayor Wood**

THAT Council accept Councillor Allen's offer dated November 29, 2023 to adopt the four oak trees on Lillooet Avenue for the next three years.

**Amendment moved by Mayor Wood**  
**Seconded by Councillor Allen**

THAT Council accept Councillor Allen's offer dated November 29, 2023 in principle.

Council voted on the amendment.

**MOTION FAILED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND JACKSON**

Council proceeded to vote on the main motion.

**MOTION FAILED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND JACKSON**

- (c) New Business from Councillor Allen  
Re: Deputy Mayor Appointment

**Moved by Councillor Allen**  
**Seconded by Mayor Wood**

WHEREAS Section 130 of the *Community Charter* requires that there be a Deputy Mayor appointed to provide leadership and continuity in the absence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS this responsibility is mandatory and Council cannot ignore the stute and leave the position open; and

WHEREAS the Village's Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1164, 2021 requires that any such appointment be initiated by a nomination from the Mayor, alone; and

WHEREAS Mayor Wood has nominated Councillor Allen for the position of Deputy

Village of Harrison Hot Springs  
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting  
December 18, 2023

Mayor during 2024, therefore be it resolved

THAT Councillor John Allen be appointed to the position of Deputy Mayor for the year 2024.

**MOTION FAILED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND JACKSON**

**Moved by Mayor Wood  
Seconded by Councillor Facio**

THAT Councillor Allen, Councillor Vidal and Councillor Facio be appointed as Deputy Mayor for four month terms on a rotating basis for the next three years until the end of Council's term.

Councillor Facio raised a point of order that the discussion on the motion should carry on.

**CARRIED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2023-12-19*

**15. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (pertaining to agenda items only)**

Questions from the public were entertained.

**Moved by Councillor Allen  
Seconded by Councillor Facio**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2023-12-20*



---

Ed Wood  
Mayor



---

Amanda Graham  
Corporate Officer