

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

**DATE:** Monday, January 15, 2024

**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  
Councillor Michie Vidal

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

**ABSENT:**

**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.

Mayor Wood presented the award for the 2023 Holiday Lighting contest to 831 Myng Crescent for the residential category.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

- Request from Councillor Facio to remove the motion to move to a Special Closed Council meeting immediately following the Regular Council Meeting, and to add "New Village Office and Council Chambers" to the agenda.

Councillor Allen raised a point of order objecting to the last minute additions to the agenda.

**Moved by Councillor Facio**  
**Seconded by Councillor Vidal**

THAT the two late items brought forward by Councillor Facio be added to the agenda as New Business items 14(f) and (g).

**MOTION NOT VOTED ON**

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

THAT Council release the resolutions from the Special Closed Council meeting of November 6, 2023.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN**

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**Moved by Councillor Facio**  
**Seconded by Councillor Vidal**

THAT the resolution to move to a Special Closed meeting immediately after the Regular Council meeting be removed from the agenda.

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-01*

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-02*

Mayor Wood recalled resolution RC-2024-01-02 due to resolution regarding the introduction of late items.

THAT the agenda be approved as amended by adding "New Village Office and Council Chambers" under New Business as item 14(f).

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-03*

**4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Moved by Councillor Facio**  
**Seconded by Councillor Vidal**

THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of December 18, 2023 be adopted.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-04*

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Moved by Councillor Vidal**  
**Seconded by Councillor Facio**

THAT staff be directed to proceed with removing the four deceased oak trees on Lillooet West as soon as possible.

Mayor Wood ruled the motion out of order.

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Councillor Allen raised a point of order objecting to the last minute resolution.

Councillor Facio raised a point of order regarding Councillor Allen's point of order.

Councillor Vidal raised a point of order stating that the motion is resulting from business arising from the December 18, 2023 meeting minutes, and that the motion has been seconded therefore discussion on it should continue.

Councillor Vidal requested an appeal.

Mayor Wood called the question as to whether the Chair is sustained.

**CARRIED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND VIDAL**

Mayor Wood called for reconsideration of the following motion from the December 18, 2023 Regular Council Meeting:

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

THAT Curtis Genest be appointed as Fire Chief.

**CARRIED  
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND VIDAL**  
*RC-2024-01-05*

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- iv. (a) Letter dated December 19, 2023 from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness  
Re: Emergency Disaster Management Act Funding Announcement

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

THAT the consent agenda be received.

**CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-06*

**7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS**

None.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

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

**Councillor Facio**

- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director) – No Report
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director) – No Report
- Attended a funeral service for the late former Seabird Island Chief Clem Seymour

**Councillor Vidal**

- Community Futures North Fraser Board of Directors – No Report
- Corrections Canada Citizen's Advisory Committee – No Report
  - Attended the Changing of the Seasons ceremony on December 13, 2023
- Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program Committee – No Report
- Attended a Community to Community meeting on December 12, 2023
- Attended a funeral service for the late former Seabird Island Chief Clem Seymour

**Councillor Allen**

- Harrison Agassiz Chamber of Commerce – No Report
- Agassiz-Harrison Healthy Communities – No Report

**Councillor Jackson**

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

**11. MAYOR'S REPORT**

None.

**12. REPORTS FROM STAFF**

- (a) Report of Corporate Officer dated January 15, 2024  
Re: Disposal of Surplus Items and Equipment Policy Amendment

**Moved by Councillor Allen**

**Seconded by Councillor Jackson**

THAT Council approve the amendments to Disposal of Surplus Items and Equipment Policy 1.11.

**CARRIED  
OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLOR FACIO**

*RC-2024-01-07*

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- (b) Report of Operations Manager dated January 15, 2024  
Re: Miami Creek North and South Bridge Repair

**Moved by Councillor Vidal**  
**Seconded by Councillor Jackson**

THAT Council authorize staff to use the remaining funds from the Growing Communities Fund for all necessary repair work on the McCombs Drive North and South Bridges.

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-08*

- (c) Report of Community Services Manager dated January 15, 2024  
Re: Active Communities Grant Program

**Moved by Councillor Facio**  
**Seconded by Councillor Vidal**

THAT staff be authorized to apply for the Active Communities Grant program for funding up to a maximum of \$50,000.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-09*

- (d) Report of Community Services Manager dated January 15, 2024  
Re: Local Government Infrastructure Planning Grant Program

**Moved by Councillor Vidal**  
**Seconded by Councillor Jackson**

THAT Council authorize staff to apply for the Local Government Infrastructure Planning Grant program for up to a maximum of \$10,000 to go towards obtaining a Water Master Plan.

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-10*

- (e) Report of Community Services Manager dated January 15, 2024  
Re: Spirit Trail Maintenance Update

**Moved by Councillor Vidal**  
**Seconded by Councillor Facio**

THAT staff be authorized to proceed with prescription development for fuel treatment work in the Spirit Trail; and

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THAT staff seek additional grant funding sources once the prescription is developed to be able to complete fuel treatment to a fuel management standard for all costs above the originally budgeted \$30,000.

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

THAT the motion be amended by adding that the matter be referred back to staff to research option two as per the January 10, 2024 email from Blackwell and Associates to look at fuel treatment for the water tower area as a timely alternative to the Sprit Trail.

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-11*

- (f) Report of Community Services Manager dated January 15, 2024  
Re: Village of Harrison Hot Springs 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

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

THAT staff be authorized to seek community feedback regarding proposed ideas for the Village's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration event; and

THAT the Community Event Budget be increased to \$15,000 for the 2024 financial plan.

**Amendment moved by Councillor Vidal**  
**Seconded by Councillor Jackson**

THAT the motion be amended by adding that the Village of Harrison Hot Springs 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration event be held on the Victoria Day weekend in 2024.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-12*

Council voted on the main motion.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-13*

**13. BYLAWS**

None.

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) New Business from Councillor Allen  
Re: Zoom Recordings

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

WHEREAS the Village has the ability to post the Zoom record of all public Council meetings on the Village's public website; and

WHEREAS this service is an important part of the Village's transparency objectives; and

WHEREAS the residents who are unable to attend a meeting in person or via Zoom are entitled to watch the Zoom video in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS the posting of the Zoom video is a relatively simple task which can be performed by multiple staff members, therefore be it resolved

THAT the following policy be adopted immediately:

*Timely posting of Zoom record of meetings. The Zoom video of all public meetings shall be posted promptly on the Village's website, preferably before noon of the following day, and that a minimum of three staff be capable of carrying out this task.*

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

- (b) New Business from Mayor Wood  
Re: Statements of Accounts from Lidstone and Company

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

THAT Council receive the itemized Statements of Accounts billed to the Village between July and December 2023 by Lidstone and Company Barristers and Solicitors.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
RC-2024-01-14

- (c) New Business from Councillor Vidal  
Re: FVRD Board and Hospital Council Appointment

**Moved by Councillor Vidal**  
**Seconded by Councillor Jackson**

THAT Councillor Facio maintain his appointment as director of the Fraser Valley Regional District Valley Regional District Board and the Fraser Valley Regional District Hospital Board for the remainder of this term; and

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THAT Councillor Jackson be appointed as alternate director of the Fraser Valley Regional District Valley Regional District Board and the Fraser Valley Regional District Hospital Board for the remainder of this term.

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-15*

- (d) New Business from Councillor Allen  
Re: Weather Station to Monitor Wind Data

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

WHEREAS wind speed and direction are the primary causes of wildfire migration; and

WHEREAS the Village does not have adequate recorded data on wind speed direction or patterns; and

WHEREAS this has resulted in the wildfire risk being grossly underestimated; and

WHEREAS there is a radio transmission tower located on the East side of McCombs Drive; and

WHEREAS this tower is ideally located to provide good data on wind patterns in our high-risk interface fire zone; and

WHEREAS compact, public-access weather stations are available which can record such wind data over long periods, therefore be it resolved

THAT the Village apply for permission to install a weather station on this transmission tower and that a sum of \$10,000 be allocated in the 2024 Village budget for this project.

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

- (e) New Business from Councillor Allen  
Re: Canadian Geese Population Control

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

WHEREAS the ever-growing population of Canada Geese in Harrison Village continues to create a health hazard for our beaches, parks and public areas; and

WHEREAS this invasive goose population costs the community many thousands of dollars each year in dealing with the droppings and keeping our public areas clean; and

WHEREAS other communities have successfully reduced their health hazards and costs by exercising birth control on their goose populations; and

WHEREAS Harrison would be cleaner, safer and better off with less geese, therefore



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be it resolved

THAT the Village apply immediately for permission to humanely reduce the reproductive rate of Canada geese in the Harrison Lake area during the 2024 nesting season and that the sum of \$7,000 be allocated to this task in the 2024 Village budget.

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

- (f) New Business from Councillor Facio  
Re: New Office and Council Chambers

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

THAT staff research costs and funding sources and report back to Council with a draft plan for a new Village Office and Council Chambers.

**CARRIED**  
**OPPOSED BY MAYOR WOOD AND COUNCILLOR ALLEN**  
*RC-2024-01-16*

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

Questions from the public were entertained.

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

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**  
*RC-2024-01-17*



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Ed Wood  
Mayor



\_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda Graham  
Corporate Officer