

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

DATE: Tuesday, February 18, 2025
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Memorial Hall
290 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Fred Talen
Councillor Leo Facio
Councillor Allan Jackson
Councillor Mark Schweinbenz
Councillor Michie Vidal

Chief Administrative Officer, Tyson Koch
Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham
Chief Financial Officer, Scott Schultz
Community Services Manager, Christy Ovens
Communications & Community Engagement Coordinator, Kalie
Wiechmann
Planning Consultant, Ken Cossey

ABSENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Mayor Talen acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

Mayor Talen presented a plaque to Robert Reyerse in recognition of his many years of service as Executive Director of Tourism Harrison.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-02-30

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4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the Special Council Meeting Minutes of January 29, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

RC-2025-02-31

Moved by Councillor Vidal

Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

RC-2025-02-32

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- iii. (a) Resort Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2019

Moved by Councillor Jackson

Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the consent agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

RC-2025-02-33

7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

- (a) Sgt. Andy Lot & Insp. Darren Pankratz, Agassiz and Upper Fraser Valley Regional Detachments - RCMP
Re: 2024 Annual Policing Report

Sgt. Lot and Insp. Pankratz provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2024 Annual Policing Report.

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- (b) Maria Martins, Agassiz Harrison Historical Society
Re: Overview of the Agassiz-Harrison Historical Society

Ms. Martins provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Agassiz-Harrison Historical Society and Agassiz-Harrison Museum.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Email dated January 14, 2025 from Rudolf Wagner
Re: Echo Beach Resort
- (b) Letter dated January 16, 2025 from Canadian Union of Postal Workers
Re: Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post
- (c) Letter dated January 28, 2025 from Allan Garneau
Re: Resignation from Advisory Planning Commission
- (d) Email dated January 30, 2025 from Phil Perras
Re: Reform Emergency Dispatch and Policing in BC
- (e) Letter dated February 2, 2025 from Phil Perras
Re: Emergency Service Reform and Local Government Reclamation
- (f) Email dated January 31, 2025 from Muddy Waters
Re: Dike Raising Project
- (g) Email dated February 8, 2025 from Julie Chamberlain
Re: Gas Fire Pits
- (h) Email from Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society
Re: Harrison Lake Invasive Mussel Monitoring – Letter of Support Request
- (i) Letter dated February 8, 2025 from Ken Gisborne
Re: Request for Smoking Debris Safe Disposal Bylaw

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT all correspondence be received.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-02-34

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT correspondence item 8(i) from Ken Gisborne regarding smoking debris disposal be referred to staff to research amendments to Park Regulation Bylaw No. 1150 for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-02-35

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT a letter of support be sent to the minister in charge of the Canada Post labour dispute urging that our community post office be maintained.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-02-36

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT a letter of support be sent to the Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society regarding invasive mussel monitoring at Harrison Lake.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-02-37

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

- (a) Report of Corporate Officer dated February 18, 2025
Re: Communities In Bloom Committee Report

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT Council approve the following recommendation from the Communities in Bloom Committee:

THAT the Communities in Bloom Committee register for the Communities in Bloom program this year under the modified evaluation "Grow" category with a focus on enhancement.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-02-38

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- (b) Report of Corporate Officer dated February 18, 2025
Re: Resort Development Strategy Committee Report

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT Council approve the following recommendation from the Resort Development Strategy Committee:

THAT Council approve the appointment of a member of the Harrison-Agassiz Chamber of Commerce to the Committee and that the Resort Development Strategy Committee's Terms of Reference be amended accordingly.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-39

Councillor Vidal

- Corrections Canada Citizen's Advisory Committee
 - Attended a meeting on February 5, 2025
- Agassiz-Harrison Healthy Communities
 - No Report
- Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program Committee
 - No Report
- Attended a Special Council Meeting on February 13, 2025
- Attended the Follow Your Heart Benefit Concert on February 15, 2025

Councillor Facio

- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director)
 - Attended a meeting on February 13, 2025
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director)
 - No Report

Councillor Jackson

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

Councillor Schweinbenz

- Agassiz-Harrison Historical Society
 - No Report
- Community Futures North Fraser Board of Directors
 - No Report

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

- Reported on the Resort Development Strategy Committee meeting on February 5, 2025
- Reported on a Chamber of Commerce meeting
- Reported on an Environmental Advisory Committee meeting on February 12, 2025

12. REPORTS FROM STAFF

- (a) Report of Planning Consultant dated February 18, 2025
Re: Interim Housing Report

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Council accept the attached Housing Needs Report for submission to the Ministry of Housing.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-40

- (b) Report of Community Services Manager dated February 18, 2025
Re: Emergency Preparedness Resource Guide

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the Community Services Manager's report dated February 18, 2025 regarding Emergency Preparedness Updates be received for information.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-41

13. BYLAWS

- (a) Report of Planning Consultant dated February 18, 2025
Re: Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 1219, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 1219, 2025 be given first reading.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-42

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 1219, 2025 be given second and third readings.

CARRIED
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RC-2025-02-43

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- (b) Development Approval Information Bylaw No. 1210, 2024

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT Development Approval Information Bylaw No. 1210, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-44

- (c) Report of Chief Financial Officer dated February 18, 2025
Re: 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1220, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1220, 2025 be introduced and given first reading.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-45

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1220, 2025 be given second reading.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-46

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the 2025-2029 Financial Plan be presented for public consultation at an Open House to be held on March 3, 2025 at Memorial Hall.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-47

14. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) New Business from Mayor Talen
Re: Resident Parking Passes

Moved by Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT staff be directed to research options and present a recommendation to Council for Village residents to purchase a season's parking pass for pay parking.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-48

- (b) New Business from Mayor Talen
Re: Geese Population Management

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT Council direct staff to research the geese management strategies employed at Cultus Lake and bring a report back for Council's consideration.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-49

- (c) New Business from Councillor Schweinbenz
Re: Canada First Policy

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Facio

WHEREAS Canada and the USA have enjoyed a decades-long liberal trade relationship that has increased the wealth and prosperity of workers and families in both Canada and the USA; and

WHEREAS Canada and the USA have shared a long term mutually beneficial economic and security relationship with thousands of Canadian soldiers sacrificing their lives alongside Americans in multiple conflicts; and

WHEREAS free trade generally leverages strengths, resources, and labour conditions of each trading partner to provide for economic resiliency and technological exchange to benefit all trading partners; and

WHEREAS Canada is currently under threat of wide-ranging tariffs on the exports of Canadian-made products and services which will harm the economic foundations of our Canadian companies, workers and families; and

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WHEREAS the Village of Harrison Hot Springs purchases goods, services and supplies which are sourced from the USA, thus competing with Canadian-produced goods and services; and

WHEREAS Harrison Hot Springs welcomes visitors from around the world including the USA, and has no quarrel with our trading partners, therefore be it resolved

THAT Council direct staff to prepare a Village procurement policy that maintains a "Canada First" priority as its foundation, ready for adoption should Canada be subject to US trade targeting; and

THAT the policy only be in effect on an "in so far as" and "for so long" application, with procurement policies normalizing once trade liberalization is re-established between Canada and the USA.

Amendment Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT staff review what other local governments are doing to address this matter and report back to Council with research on policy amendments.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-50

Council voted on the original motion as amended.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-02-51

- (d) New Business from Councillor Facio
Re: Starlight Skating Rink

Moved by Councillor Facio

THAT staff be directed to research leaving the Starlight Skating Rink in its present location at the boat-launch parking lot permanently year-round and bring a report to Council.

MOTION FAILED
LACK OF SECONDER

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

Questions from the public were entertained.

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councillor Jackson

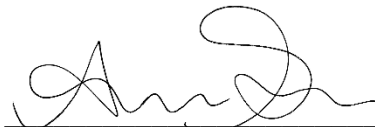
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

RC-2025-02-52



Fred Talen
Mayor



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer