

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

DATE: Monday, March 3, 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
Director of Operations, Jace Hodgson
Communications & Community Engagement Coordinator, Kalie
Wiechmann
Planning Consultant, Ken Cossey (via Zoom)

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.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-01

4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the Special Council Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-02

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Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-03

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the Special Pre-Closed Council Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-04

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- iii. (a) Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2024
- (b) Age-Friendly Committee Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2024
- (c) Resort Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the consent agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-05

7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

- (a) Robert Wilson, President & Jeff Wilson, Vice President – Bridal Veil Mountain Resort
Re: Bridal Veil Mountain Resort

Jeff Wilson provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Bridal Veil Mountain Resort proposal.

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(b) John Allen

Re: Proposed Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025

John Allen spoke to the proposed Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025, making several comments regarding Deputy Mayor appointments, delegation approvals, question period limitations, late introduction of bylaws, Committee/Commission member terms, question period during Committee/Commission meetings, the meaning of the term “ex-officio”, Public Hearings during a regular Council meeting and the process for written submissions.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Email dated February 24, 2025 from 17 Black Events

Re: Open Letter to Premier Eby and Minister Chandra – Support for Festivals and Events in BC

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the correspondence be received.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-06

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Mayor Talen

Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT Council direct staff to send a letter to Premier Eby and Minister Chandra Herbert in support of funding for festivals and events in BC.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-07

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

Councillor Facio

- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director)
 - Attended a meeting on February 27, 2025
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director)
 - No Report

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Councillor Vidal

- Corrections Canada Citizen's Advisory Committee
 - No Report
- Agassiz-Harrison Healthy Communities
 - Attended a meeting on February 20, 2025
- Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program Committee
 - No Report
- Attended a Lower Mainland Local Government Association meeting February 20, 2025

Councillor Schweinbenz

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

Councillor Jackson

- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Municipal Director)
 - No Report
- Tourism Harrison
 - No Report
- Attended a Resort Development Strategy Committee Meeting on February 24, 2025
- Attended the Budget Open House on March 3, 2025

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

- Attended an emergency planning mock deployment at the Canadian Armed Forces base in Chilliwack on February 23, 2025
- Attended a meet and greet with new RCMP members at the Agassiz Detachment on February 24, 2025
- Reported on the Resort Development Strategy Meeting on February 24, 2025
- Reported on a meeting with students from Walnut Grove High School regarding the Village's preparations for wildfires on February 27, 2025
- Reported on a meeting with the Harrison Hot Springs Resort and Spa
- Attended the Budget Open House on March 3, 2025

12. REPORTS FROM STAFF

- (a) Report of Corporate Officer dated March 3, 2025
Re: Release of Closed Meeting Resolutions

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the following closed meeting resolutions from the February 25, 2025 Special Closed Council Meeting be received for information at the March 3, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

*THAT Judy Barron, Hannelore Gidora, Elizabeth Webber and Marlene Reimer
be appointed to the Age-Friendly Committee.*

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THAT Dennis Hill and Dean Robertson be appointed to the Advisory Planning Commission.

THAT the Boat Launch Operations bid be awarded to Harrison Eco Tours.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-08

- (b) Report of Corporate Officer dated March 3, 2025
Re: Disposal of Surplus Items and Equipment Policy Amendment

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

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

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-09

- (c) Report of Community Services Manager dated March 3, 2025
Re: Special Event and Memorial Hall Policies and Fees

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT staff prepare updated policies to clarify guidelines and fees for events held on public and municipal property and in Memorial Hall.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-10

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT staff include rental information for the newly installed picnic shelter in Spring Park in the associated policy and fee bylaw.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-11

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT staff be directed to draft amendments to Miscellaneous Fee Bylaw No. 1049, 2014 for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-12

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- (d) Report of Director of Operations dated March 3, 2025
Re: Primary Care Facility Renovation Contract Award

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT the Director of Operations' report dated March 3, 2025 regarding the Primary Care Facility renovation contract award be received for information.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-13

- (e) Report of Chief Financial Officer dated March 3, 2025
Re: Council Remuneration Analysis

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT the Chief Financial Officer's report dated March 3, 2025 regarding Council Remuneration Analysis be received for information.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-14

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT the remuneration for Mayor and Council be increased by \$100 per week and expense allowances be increased to \$10 per meal, per day allowances.

**MOTION DEFEATED
UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED**

Moved by Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT staff be directed to bring a more comprehensive report forward including Council budget for attending conferences and associated costs, and a more complete comparison for Council remuneration for similarly sized municipalities.

**CARRIED
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLOR SCHWEINBENZ**
RC-2025-03-15

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Moved by Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT staff be directed to report on hiring an external consultant to research Council remuneration.

CARRIED
OPPOSED BY MAYOR TALEN AND COUNCILLOR SCHWEINBENZ
RC-2025-03-16

13. BYLAWS

- (a) Report of Chief Financial Officer dated March 3, 2025
Re: 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1220, 2025

An opportunity for public comments was provided. No comments were made.

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1220, 2025 be given third reading as amended.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-03-17

- (b) Report of Corporate Officer dated March 3, 2025
Re: Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025 be given third reading as amended.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1220, 2025 be given third reading as amended with the following amendments:

- Committee meetings be held every second month at either 10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.;
- Delegations are not permitted to speak to items on the agenda; and
- Removing "Reports from Councillors" from the regular order of business.

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Amendment moved Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025 be given third reading as presented and that staff be directed to research and report back to Council regarding Committee meeting times, delegation topics and Reports from Councillors.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-03-18

- (c) Report of Community Services Manager dated March 3, 2025
Re: Waste Collection and Disposal Amendment Bylaw No. 1222, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Waste Collection and Disposal Amendment Bylaw No. 1222, 2025 be introduced and given first reading.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-03-19

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT Waste Collection and Disposal Amendment Bylaw No. 1222, 2025 be given second and third readings.

Amendment moved Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Vidal

THAT Waste Collection and Disposal Amendment Bylaw No.1222, 2025 be amended by removing the words "5:00 a.m." in section 4(d) and replacing them with "10:00 p.m. the day before Waste Collection Day".

CARRIED
OPPOSED BY COUNCILLORS FACIO AND SCHWEINBENZ
RC-2025-03-20

Council voted on the main motion as amended.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
RC-2025-03-21

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- (d) Report of Planning Consultant dated March 3, 2025
Re: Development Procedures Bylaw No. 1214, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

THAT Development Procedures Bylaw No. 1214, 2025 be given first reading.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-22

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Schweinbenz

THAT Development Procedures Bylaw No. 1214, 2025 be given second and third readings.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-23

- (e) Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 1219, 2025

Moved by Councillor Jackson
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 1219, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-24

14. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) New Business from Councillor Vidal
Re: Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination Policy

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Facio

WHEREAS the Village of Harrison Hot Springs is committed to fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment for all residents, volunteers, visitors, staff, and council members, and

WHEREAS discrimination and racism in any form are unacceptable and contrary to the values of respect, diversity, and dignity that our community upholds, and

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WHEREAS implementing a comprehensive anti-racism and anti-discrimination policy will strengthen our commitment to equity and upholding the principles of the BC Human Rights Code, therefore be it resolved

THAT Council direct staff to develop a formal Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination Policy which will provide the framework for reporting and responding to discrimination and racism within the Village of Harrison Hot Springs.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-25

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

Questions from the public were entertained.


Moved by Mayor Talen
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
RC-2025-03-26



Fred Talen
Mayor



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer