

VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS Regular Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, April 22, 2025
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Memorial Hall
290 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Fred Talen
Councillor Leo Facio
Councillor Allan Jackson
Councillor Mark Schweinbenz
Councillor Michie Vidal

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer, Tyson Koch
Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham
Chief Financial Officer/Deputy CAO, Scott Schultz
Director of Operations, Jace Hodgson
Communications & Community Engagement
Coordinator, Kalie Wiechmann
Corporate Clerk, Tyler Kafi

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Talen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Talen acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING (If required)**

None.

4. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

None.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-23

6. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Facio

Seconded by Councilor Jackson

THAT the Special Pre-Closed Council Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2025 be adopted; and

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-24

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

9. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS

None.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Email dated April 2, 2025 from Doug & Tania Hart
Re: Parks and Trails Master Plan – Off-Leash Dog Park
- (b) Email dated April 3, 2025 from Prostate Cancer Foundation Canada
Re: Blue Lights for Prostate Cancer
- (c) Letter dated April 15, 2025 from the City of Pitt Meadows
Re: Support for LMLGA Resolution – Increase Funding for Agriculture in the Province

Moved by Councillor Vidal

Seconded by Councilor Jackson

THAT all correspondence be received.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-25

11. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz

Seconded by Councillor Facio

THAT the Village put up blue lights in support of Prostate Cancer awareness month for the month of September 2025.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-26

12. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Jackson

- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board
 - Attended a meeting on April 16, 2025
- Tourism Harrison – No Report
- Attended a Committee of the Whole meeting on April 17, 2025

Councillor Vidal

- Corrections Canada Citizen's Advisory Committee – No Report
- Agassiz-Harrison Healthy Communities – No Report
- Kent Harrison Joint Emergency Program Committee – No Report
- Attended an LMLGA Executive Board Meeting on April 10, 2025
- Attended a Celebration of Life for Neil Brewer on April 12, 2025
- Attended Committee of the Whole Meeting on April 17, 2025

Councillor Facio

- Fraser Valley Regional District Board (Municipal Director)
 - Attended a meeting on April 10, 2025
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board (Alternate Municipal Director) – No Report
- Attended a Celebration of Life for Neil Brewer on April 12, 2025
- Attended Winter Bells donor recognition event on April 3, 2025

Councillor Schweinbenz

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

13. REPORTS FROM MAYOR

- Attended the Miami River Streamkeepers Annual General Meeting on April 12, 2025
- Attended a Chilliwack Collaborative Community Services Committee Meeting on April 17, 2025
- Reported on the Volunteer Appreciation Lunch hosted by the Village on April 22, 2025

14. REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

- (a) Advisory Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2025
- (b) Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2025
- (c) Resort Development Strategy Committee Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councilor Jackson

THAT all Committee and Commission minutes be received for information.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-27

- (d) Report of Corporate Officer dated April 22, 2025
Re: Communities in Bloom Committee Report

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councilor Jackson

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

THAT the updated Communities in Bloom Committee Terms of Reference be endorsed as amended by correcting section 4(c) so that it references section 4(a), not 3(a).

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-28

15. REPORTS FROM STAFF

- (a) Report of Chief Administrative Officer dated April 22, 2025
Re: CAO 2025 First Quarter Report

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councilor Schweinbenz

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer's report dated April 22, 2025 regarding CAO 2025 First Quarter Report be received for information.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-29

- (b) Report of Community Services Manager dated April 22, 2025
Re: Resort Development Strategy

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councilor Vidal

THAT Council approve the draft 2025-26 / 2027-28 Resort Development Strategy to be submitted to the Province.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-30

- (c) Report of Community Services Manager dated April 22, 2025
Re: Public Alerting System Policy No. 1.40

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councilor Schweinbenz

THAT Council adopt Public Alerting System Policy No. 1.40.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-31

- (d) Report of Communications and Community Engagement Coordinator dated April 22, 2025
Re: Rainbow Crosswalk

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councilor Schweinbenz

THAT staff be directed to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion framework and plan for the Village.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-32

16. BYLAWS

- (a) Report of Chief Financial Officer dated April 22, 2025
Re: Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1221, 2025

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councilor Vidal

THAT Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1221, 2025 be introduced and given first reading.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-33

Moved by Councillor Vidal
Seconded by Councilor Jackson

THAT Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1221, 2025 be given second and third readings.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-34

17. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) New Business from Councillor Vidal
Re: Waiver of Fees for Terry Fox Run

Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councillor Jackson

WHEREAS the annual Terry Fox Run will take place in the Village of Harrison Hot Springs Harrison on Sunday, September 14th, 2025; and

WHEREAS the event is a volunteer run event with the goal of raising funds for cancer research;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Harrison Hot Springs waive all fees and charges related to hosting the Terry Fox Run.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-35

18. NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) Notice of Motion from Mayor Talen
Re: Dike Upgrade Project

WHEREAS the Village of Harrison Hot Springs is at risk of flooding from Harrison Lake, and

WHEREAS the existing dike along Harrison Lake does not meet Provincial standards, and

WHEREAS the District of Kent dikes A, B, and C are designed and built to the 1894 flood profile and the Village of Harrison Hot Springs is not at risk of flooding from the south from the Fraser River unless the District of Kent dike system fails, and

WHEREAS the existing dike along Harrison Lake in Harrison Hot Springs is 13.9m above sea level, and

WHEREAS during the 1894 flood of record, Harrison Lake reached 14.1m above sea level, and

WHEREAS to meet Provincial standards, the Harrison Lake dike needs to be 15.1m above sea level, and

WHEREAS if the dike project is not pursued:

1. The ability to obtain flood insurance for improvements to properties in Harrison Hot Springs may be compromised, and
2. Provincial and Federal disaster relief assistance may be harder to obtain and such assistance may not fully cover costs associated with rebuilding after a flood

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council proceed with the dike project, complying with Provincial standards requiring a dike height of 15.1m to protect the Village of Harrison Hot Springs from flooding from Harrison Lake; and

THAT Council pursues flood protection from Harrison Lake with a combination of fixed (permanent) flood protection structures and deployable flood protection structures; and

THAT the above resolutions be subject to the following:

1. The dike project must minimize fixed (permanent) features on the existing dike that would adversely affect the current view of Harrison Lake from Esplanade Avenue;
2. The dike project must maximize maintaining the existing views of Harrison Lake from Esplanade Avenue;
3. Construction necessary to complete the dike project should avoid, to the greatest extent possible:
 - a. heavy construction during July and August;
 - b. traffic disruptions and reductions in parking on Esplanade Avenue;
4. Providing residents with the opportunity to provide input on where the deployable sections of the dike will be and where the fixed (permanent) sections of the dike will be once a deployable system or systems have been selected; and

THAT staff be directed to return to Council with recommendations concerning a deployable system or flood protection systems and where fixed and deployable systems will be located.

19. QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO THE AGENDA

Questions from the public were entertained.

20. ADJOURNMENT

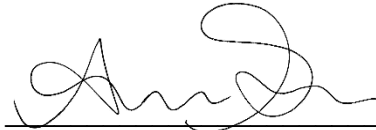
Moved by Councillor Facio
Seconded by Councilor Jackson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

CARRIED
RC-2025-04-36



Fred Talen
Mayor



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer