

DISTRICT OF NEW HAZELTON
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Monday, November 1, 2021
Erwin Stege Community Center Council Chambers

Regular Meeting – 7:00 pm

(1) CALL TO ORDER:

(2) MINUTES:

- a) Accept minutes of the October 4, 2021 regular meeting

(3) PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS: None

(4) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Outdoor Skating Rink Briefing Note
- b) Rental of Conference Room/Council Chambers going forward
- c) COVID – 19 Vaccine Mandate
- d) Façade Improvement Grant for 2022
- e) Municipal Hall – 2021 Project Budget Increase Ratification

(5) CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Village of Hazelton – Request for Letter of Support – Emergency Planning Alternate Route

(6) REPORTS: None

(7) BYLAWS:

- a) Curbside Collection Amendment Bylaw No. 363, 2021 – First, Second & Third Readings

(8) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Council Schedule:
 - November 22 Budget Meeting @ 10:00 am
 - December 3 Winterfest Fireworks @ 7:30 pm
 - December 6 Regular Council Meeting
 - January 10 Regular Council Meeting
- b) Capital Works, Machinery and Equipment Reserve Fund Briefing Note
- c) Tax Sale Properties Reserve Fund Briefing Note

Adjournment

DISTRICT OF NEW HAZELTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 4, 2021
ERWIN STEGE COMMUNITY CENTRE
CONFERENCE ROOM

1) CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Mayor G. Lowry
Councillor B. Henwood
Councillor G. Burns
Councillor J. Hobenshield
Councillor R. Sturney
Councillor A. Berg

REGRETS: Councillor M. Weeber

STAFF PRESENT: W. Hunt
R. Carlé

2) MINUTES:

RESOLUTION 8063/21

MOVED & SECONDED

That, the minutes of the September 13, 2021 regular meeting be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

3) PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS: None

4) UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

5) CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Regional District of Mount Waddington – Village of Lytton Donation

RESOLUTION 8064/21

MOVED & SECONDED

That, the District of New Hazelton donate \$580, one dollar per capita as per the 2016 census, to the Village of Lytton to help rebuild their community.

CARRIED

- Councillor A. Berg opposed this resolution.

6) REPORTS:

- a) Mayor Lowry – Reported that the CAO, Ron Poole, from the Regional District of Kitimat Stikine will be retiring in early 2022.

7) BYLAWS:

- a) Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 362, 2021

RESOLUTION 8065/21

MOVED & SECONDED

That, the District of New Hazelton Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No 362, 2021 be adopted.

CARRIED

8) NEW BUSINESS: None

9) ADJOURNMENT:

RESOLUTION 8066/21

MOVED & SECONDED

That, the meeting be adjourned 7:39 pm.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT THIS

DAY OF

, 2021

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MAYOR

BRIEFING NOTE

Prepared by: Roger Smith

October 14, 2021

Reason for Briefing Note:

Provide update to Council regarding the status of the outdoor rink.

Background:

Due to the deteriorating condition of the existing outdoor rink located on 12th Ave, Council asked staff to prepare costs to build a new outdoor rink and make recommendations to either rebuild at the current location or relocate the new outdoor rink on District owned property next to Allen Park. Staff was also asked to make recommendations for alternative uses for the newly proposed facility.

Update

Staff prepared and submitted an application for grant funding for the project but was unsuccessful this year. The proposed project cost was expected to be approximately \$80,000 if located at the current location and upwards of \$110,000 if relocated to the property next to Allan Park. Additional costs associated with the new site include installation of electrical services for lighting, additional earthworks required on the undeveloped property, as well as extending a water supply to the property. The pavement in the current rink is in such poor condition due to frost heaving in the center of the playing surface, the rink is unsafe for any summer use. The uneven paved surface has also made it virtually impossible for staff to develop a decent skating surface for winter use the past several years, as the time it takes to build up an ice surface in the low areas exceeds the amount of sub-zero temperature days required to build a skating surface over the entire rink. Depending on weather conditions, staff has historically spent 120 to 200 hours (\$3,600 - \$6,000) a season building and maintaining a playable ice surface. With changes to our climate, it is becoming a grim reality that outdoor skating rinks in Canada are seeing less available days to build and maintain a decent outdoor skating surface. Looking back at local winter temperatures the past five years, there were less than twenty consecutive days annually with freezing temperatures conducive to building and maintaining a safe and enjoyable skating surface for public use.

With this in mind, it doesn't make practical sense to carry out the necessary repairs to the plywood boards to make the facility safe for public use, given the deteriorated condition of the paved playing surface. With the limited winter use opportunities, the decision to construct an outdoor rink becomes more dependent on possible summer use activities, which are inherently limited to basketball or ball hockey. An outdoor rink could be used for a pickleball court but would be difficult to justify for such a specialized use, similar to that of the tennis court, which sees very little use.

Recommendation:

- Staff recommends that Council not move forward with the construction of a new outdoor rink.
- Staff is also recommending the existing outdoor rink be dismantled by Public Works staff and salvage any usable materials for other PW projects.

DISTRICT OF NEW HAZELTON
MUNICIPAL HALL PROJECT COSTS - October 31, 2021

ESTIMATED				
ADDITIONAL ITEMS - PROJECT	COST	NOTES	Actual	Variance
Roofing Inspection - 3rd Party	\$ 12,500		\$ -	\$ 12,500
Concrete & Compaction Testing	\$ 8,000		\$ 8,581	\$ (581)
Fire Safety Plan	\$ 4,000		\$ -	\$ 4,000
Utility Connection Fee	\$ 10,000	Est. BC Hydro doesn't supply estimates	\$ 102,135	\$ (92,135)
Site Survey	\$ 3,500		\$ 2,484	\$ 1,016
Kitchen Appliances & Connection	\$ 6,300		\$ 4,761	\$ 1,539
Phone & Internet Connection	\$ 8,600		\$ -	\$ 8,600
Security System	\$ 5,000		\$ -	\$ 5,000
Blinds/Window Coverings	\$ 4,500		\$ -	\$ 4,500
Furniture	\$ 7,500	Chairs for staff room, coffee maker, 1 new desk, 2 testing stations, staff table	\$ 5,713	\$ 1,787
Storage Room Shelving	\$ 4,500	Staff to build & install	\$ -	\$ 4,500
Signage	\$ 5,000	Highway signage for MH & CC	\$ 616	\$ 4,384
Consultant Fees - 2021	\$ 134,428	From Contracts	\$ 88,916	\$ 45,512
Contingency for Unknowns	\$ 30,600		\$ 7,526	\$ 23,074
TOTAL ADDITIONAL COSTS	\$ 244,428		\$ 220,732	\$ 23,696
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS	\$ 2,673,912	Per info supplied by J.H. (incl. \$103,850 contingency)	\$ 1,110,416	\$ 1,563,496
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS	\$ 2,918,340		\$ 1,331,148	\$ (1,539,800)
Recommended Project Cost - 2021	\$ 2,920,000	Added \$70,000	\$ 2,920,000	
TOTAL PROJECT COST SHORTFALL	\$ (1,660)		\$ (1,588,852)	

Corporation of the
VILLAGE OF HAZELTON
Office of the Mayor

P.O Box 40
4310 Field St.
Hazelton, B.C. V0J 1Y0



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October 5, 2021

File: 0400-01

VIA EMAIL Info@newhazelton.ca

Dear: Mayor Lowry

RE: Alternative Emergency Route in the Upper Skeena

The Village of Hazelton Council recently met with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) regarding alternative routes out of our community. Last winter a local contractor damaged the bridge in Kispiox. This raised numerous concerns for residents up the Kispiox Valley but also those in Hazelton. At the time MOTI assured us that the Mitten Main would be cleared so that it could be used as an alternate route. It was found that the Mitten Main was impassable due to a rock slide and to date has not been cleared.

MOTI and the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) have been working on an alternative route using the Kitwanga backroad. The Village of Hazelton is supportive of this plan but wishes this to be a year round road. Many of our communities are vulnerable if there are delays, accidents or other closures of Hagwilget bridge especially when considering community infrastructure in the Upper Skeena region such as the hospital, schools and ambulance stations. Having a secondary route out to Highway 16 is important to our emergency planning and to provide peace of mind to our residents.

We are requesting that all communities in the Upper Skeena write to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Minister of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations, and our local MLA to urge them to create and maintain an alternative year round route for our communities. We have attached a template letter that can be adapted for each of your communities.

If you have any questions regarding this initiative please contact Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer for the Village of Hazelton at 250-842-5991 or via email at lgasser@hazelton.ca.

Sincerely,

Dennis Sterritt
Mayor

Letterhead

DATE

Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
PO Box 9055 Prov Stn Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

Honourable Katrine Conroy
PO Box 9049 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

Honourable Nathan Cullen
Minister of State for Lands and Natural Resource Operations and MLA Stikine
Box 227
Hazelton BC
VOJ 1Y0

RE: Alternative Emergency Route in the Upper Skeena

Please accept this letter on behalf of **ORGANIZATION NAME HERE** for support of a year-round secondary route in the Upper Skeena. The Upper Skeena experienced numerous incidents in 2021 that have shown the vulnerability of our transportation network. Communities on the North side of the Hagwilget bridge have faced delays and service interruptions due to regular maintenance, emergency closures and mental health crises. Communities on either side of the Kispiox River bridge faced major delays due to a local contractor damaging the bridge. The Kispiox Road just north of Gitanmaax is reduced to single lane traffic due to bank stabilization issues.

While there is no one solution that would address all these issues we feel that having the Kitwanga back road reopened as a year-round alternative route helps mitigate some of our concerns. The Mitten Main was often referred to as an alternative route but as it was blocked by a rock slide last year and has yet to be cleared this is not a satisfactory alternative route.

The Kitwanga back road not only decreases travel time on back roads it also serves as an important link between Gitksan Villages and territory. **ORGANIZATION NAME** is passionate about the safety of our residents and maintaining year-round alternative routes between our communities. We hope the Provincial Government will take the time to address our concerns.

Regards,

Chief/Mayor/Director/ Other



DISTRICT OF NEW HAZELTON BYLAW NO. 363, 2021

A bylaw to amend District of New Hazelton Curbside Collection Bylaw No. 329, 2016

The Council of the District of New Hazelton in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

That, the following amendments be made to Curbside Collection Bylaw No. 329, 2016:

The Council for the District of New Hazelton, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This Bylaw may be cited as Curbside Collection Amendment Bylaw No. 363, 2021.
2. District of New Hazelton Curbside Collection Bylaw No. 329, 2016 Schedule "B" is amended as follows:

Service	Payment before Due Date	Payment after Due Date	Other Charges
Garbage and Recyclable Material Collection for standard residential service	\$290.40	\$319.44	N/A
Multi-family Duplex	\$290.40/unit	\$319.44/unit	N/A
Multi-family Building up to 4 units	\$290.40/unit	\$319.44/unit	N/A
Multi-family Building 5 – 10 units	\$273.90/unit	\$301.29/unit	N/A
Multi-family Building over 10 units	Exempt*	Exempt	N/A
Commercial Buildings	Exempt*	Exempt	

READ A FIRST TIME THIS _____ day of _____

READ A SECOND TIME THIS _____ day of _____

READ A THIRD TIME THIS _____ day of _____

ADOPTED THIS _____ day of _____

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

BRIEFING NOTE

Prepared by: Robyn Carlé

October 7, 2021

Reason for Briefing Note:

To use funds from the Capital Works, Machinery and Equipment Reserve Fund for capital expenditures, so that the bylaw can be repealed.

Background:

The District established a Capital Works, Machinery and Equipment Reserve Fund bylaw in May, 1982.

The bylaw setout that the funds were to be used for the following purposes:

1. Expenditures for, in respect of capital projects and any land, machinery or equipment necessary therefore, including the extension or renewal of existing capital works; and
2. The purchase of machinery and equipment for the maintenance of municipal property and for the protection of persons and property.

As of January 1, 2021 the reserve had a total of \$91,604. This amount does not have a separate bank account rather it is included in the total of the general account.

Recommendation:

That Council pass a resolution to use the \$91,604 plus interest for the 2021 capital paving expenditures.

BRIEFING NOTE

Prepared by: Robyn Carlé

October 27, 2021

Reason for Briefing Note:

To use funds from the Tax Sale Properties Reserve Fund for capital expenditures, so that the bylaw can be repealed.

Background:

The District established a Tax Sale Properties Reserve Fund bylaw in November, 1996. The bylaw set out that the funds were to be used for the following purposes:

1. First, bringing sinking funds up to requirements, and then;
2. Reduction of debenture debt;
3. Capital expenditures;
4. Transfer to a debt repayment, reserve or local improvement fund;
5. Property development under Section 530 of the Municipal Act; and
6. Expenditures of a special nature.

As of January 1, 2021 the reserve had a total of \$92,670. This amount does not have a separate bank account rather it is included in the total of the general account.

Recommendation:

That Council pass a resolution to use the \$92,670 plus interest for 2021 capital expenditures including paving, Fire Department SCBA replacements, bobcat replacement, the District's portion of the fire training center and the new municipal hall.