

DISTRICT OF NEW HAZELTON
Regular Meeting - Jun 05 2023 of Council
Monday, June 5, 2023
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Regular meeting called to order 7pm.

Present:

Mayor Gail Lowry

Councillor A. Berg

Councillor G. Burns

Councillor B. Henwood

Councillor J. Hobenshield

Councillor R. Sturney

Councillor M. Weeber

Staff:

Wendy Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

Laura Roe, Chief Financial Officer

Robyn Morrison-Ellis, Acting Deputy Corporate Officer

Presenters:

Kelly Mattson, Suskwa FSR Resident

Jim Forsyth, Suskwa FSR Resident

Tara Laughlin, Suskwa FSR Resident

Alyssa Bjorgaard, Auditor, MNP

Braeden Cober, Auditor, MNP

2. MINUTES

2.1 Accept Minutes of May 1, 2023 regular meeting

[RegularMeeting-May012023-Minutes-Pdf](#) 

RESOLUTION 8205/23

THAT, the minutes of May 1, 2023 regular meeting be accepted as presented.

Carried

3. PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

3.1 Kelly Mattson presentation regarding Suskwa Bridge Replacement

Ms. Mattson presented an update on the replacement of the Suskwa Forest Service Road bridge and requested support from Council in asking the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Transportation to meet with the residents regarding their decision to move the current bridge to a different location.

3.2 Alyssa Bjorgaard and Braeden Cober MNP. Presentation of Audited Financial Statements

MNP presented Mayor and Council with the District of New Hazelton's Audited Financial Statements for the 2022 fiscal year.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 StrongerBC: Future Ready Action Plan - for information only, no action required

[129004 - Re Future Ready Action Plan.pdf](#) 

4.2 USRC - Five year financial plan - for information only, no action required

[USRCFiveYearFinancialPlan.pdf](#) 

[USRCStratPlan.pdf](#) 

4.3 Letter from the Minister of Housing - Homes for People Plan - for information only, no action required

[Ltr-Min-Housing-Homes-for-People-Plan.pdf](#) 

4.4 Suskwa Bridge Replacement Decision Letter Residents

[Suskwa Bridge Replacement Decision Letter Residents.pdf](#) 

[SOCIAL COSTS OF OPTION 3.pdf](#) 

4.5 2024 NCLGA Annual General Meeting and Convention Sponsorship

[2024 NCLGA.pdf](#) 

Council requested that staff contact the Town of Smithers to find out what they are wanting in terms of support for the conference. Staff will report back at the July meeting.

5. REPORTS

Councillor R. Sturney

Councillor Sturney provided an update on Ross Lake; at this point, Parks does not appear to be doing anything further. They have brought in an expert on frogs to make sure they are not impacted. It was suggested that perhaps House of Spookw representative, Norm Stephens should be brought in as he will be listened to by the Province. Parks has a survey open for public input. There is a link on our website.

The level of the lake has been brought down to its original level before the dam was ever put in. The earthen dam will be replaced by a cement berm. The issue is that on a hot dry summer, the lake could drop another foot and the wetlands would no longer be viable putting many species at risk.

Councillor G. Burns

Councillor Burns attended the Old Growth Strategic Review in Terrace hosted by the Ministry of Forests; BC Timber Sales has been shut down until a review of the old growth stands is completed.

Councillor A. Berg

Councillor Berg reported on the TV Association; they are upgrading to digital. New equipment should help with the channels that are currently not working. They are presently waiting for technicians to do the work and hopefully it will be done by the end of the summer.

Councillor B. Henwood

Councillor Henwood attended the Accessibility Committee meeting; this joint committee with the Village of Hazelton and the Hazelton District Public Library is mandated to come up with a plan to address physical and non-physical barriers to government offices and public spaces.

Administration will put together a draft plan for review in September.

Mayor G. Lowry

Mayor Lowry reported on the RDKS meeting; they had a presentation from Cathy Morgan regarding the ambulance and fire bay in Kitwanga and their efforts to fundraise.

Mills Memorial Hospital is on time and on budget. The hospital should be open by the September of 2024 and the Seven Sisters opened by December, 2023.

The Wrinch Memorial Foundation has been approved for a 31 unit housing complex that will be built on the old Hummingbird property across from the high school. Building will start shortly and it should be ready for occupancy by February 2025. Board members for the Foundation will have a tour of the newly opened Cedar Rose and Seven Sisters building.

W. Hunt, CAO

CAO Hunt reported that the parking lot will be prepped the week of June 6th and paving will take place the week of June 13th.

Joel Giguere has joined our Public Works crew and will begin working on June 12th.

6. BYLAWS

7. NEW BUSINESS

Councillor G. Burns

Councillor Burns reported that the committee had chosen Tatum Epp and Jackson Weeber as the scholarship winners for 2023.

Councillor B. Henwood

Councillor Henwood inquired about the Council schedule missing from the Agenda. Staff will rectify this for the next meeting.

Councillor Henwood also inquired as to whether or not we would be receiving a new photo of King Charles for our wall. Staff has not be informed of anything yet.

Councillor Hobenshield

Councillor Hobenshield asked about Canada Day and what time to be there. Council should attend at 7:30 am.

Councillor Hobenshield also inquired about a grant for a community garden through RDI. The community of McBride received a grant and have a nice garden. Staff reported that each time they had advertised for people interested in a community garden there has been minimal response. Council was also reminded that there is a community garden space at the Wrinch Memorial Hospital.

Councillor Hobenshield further inquired about putting together ideas for spending the proceeds from the sale of the Carnaby property. Council is to bring ideas to the September Council meeting.

7.1 Approval of the 2022 Audited Financial Statements

[2022 Audited financial statement.pdf](#) 

RESOLUTION 8206/23

THAT, the 2022 Audited Financial Statements be approved as presented by MNP.

Carried

8. ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION 8207/23

THAT, the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:43PM

Carried

9. JUNE INFORMATION PACKAGE

[June INFO PACK.pdf](#) 

CAO/Corporate Officer

Mayor

CERTIFIED THIS 10th DAY OF JULY, 2023