



## MINUTES

of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Chase  
held in the Council Chamber at the Village office at 826 Okanagan Avenue, and via Zoom  
on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor David Lepsoe  
Councillor Colin Connett  
Councillor Ron Harder  
Councillor Jane Herman  
Councillor Fred Torbohm

**In Attendance:** Joni Heinrich, Chief Administrative Officer  
Sean O'Flaherty, Director of Corporate Operations  
Deb Lovin, Chief Financial Officer

Public Participants: 9 in-person, 1 via Zoom

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lepsoe called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Herman

Seconded by Councillor Harder

**“THAT the agenda of the April 11, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_001**

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the March 28, 2023 Regular Meeting

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Connett

**“THAT the minutes of the March 28, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_002**

### 4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

### 5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

Karen Bassett of 564 Lakeshore Drive spoke about the Visitor Information Centre and stated that she does not support the move of the service to the Museum. She said she felt the direction was coming from one particular business who has been attempting to shut down the Chamber for many years. There is less parking at the Museum while there is adequate parking, washroom facilities and picnic tables at the current location. She does not believe trains are a detriment, and the Chamber does not discriminate between businesses who have or don't have business licenses when giving out information to visitors.

Christina Lutterman of 44-1250 Hillside Avenue who is the manager of the Chamber and provides Visitor information services stated that she was very disappointed and blindsided by this matter being on the Council agenda. She was informed that the Museum was aware of this proposal, however the Chamber was not informed. She added that parking at the Museum is inadequate, that there does not seem to be a very good understanding of the services provided at the Visitor Information Centre, that the Chamber and the Visitor Information Services are completely separate, and that the only operation at the current location is the Visitor Information Services so if they no longer occur there, the building will be vacated. She added that most of the visitors love the trains, and the staff do not discriminate against businesses who do not have a Chamber membership.

Joan Anderson of 641 Hysop Road spoke about the Visitor Information Centre Services as she has been on the Board of both the Chamber and the Museum in the past and has experience working in both locations. She stated that this matter has come up in the past, there was a time where the responsibilities of the Visitor Information Centre services were shared by both entities however this was not efficient. If the Visitor Information Centre service is moved to the Museum there will be a need for a trained staff person to offer those services.

Amit Goel of 834 B Thompson Avenue, spoke regarding the Provincial Nominee Program – Entrepreneur Immigration and noted:

- It took the Village a while to get onto the program – if we stop now we are going backwards
- It is a mandate of the Federal and Provincial governments to support economic development initiatives and immigration in particular
- The Village is 10 years behind other communities in terms of economic development
- The best way to handle this is to hire a co-op student from TRU who could provide other supports to the Village

## 6. DELEGATIONS

None

## 7. REPORTS

a) Mayor and Council Reports

### Mayor Lepsoe

March 30 – Attended Thompson Nicola Regional Hospital District Board meeting – was informed that eight (8) more Operating Room staff have been hired – operating room hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ashcroft is piloting a virtual care program, substance abuse supports are available in Chase and it will be 10-15 years by the time phase three of the hospital construction is completed which will give more room for the required services to be offered

March 30 – Attended Board meeting for TNRD and discussed budget

April 3 – met with senior staff to discuss various matters and upcoming meetings

April 5 – Attended Council and senior staff workshop

April 9 – Helped judge the Easter parade bike entries at the Lions Easter event

Councillor Connett

March 28 – Attended Regular meeting of Council  
March 31 – Met with newly formed Climate Action committee members  
April 4 – Attended Chase Environmental Action Society meeting

Councillor Herman

March 31 – Along with Councillor Connett and CAO, met with newly formed Climate Action Committee  
April 4 – Attended the Minor Hockey Awards Event  
April 5 – Met with Patricia Simpson regarding the newcomers to Chase project and attended Council and Senior Staff workshop  
April 8 – Attended the Easter event parade

Councillor Harder

March 28 – Attended the Regular meeting of Council  
April 5 – Attended Council and Senior Staff workshop

Councillor Torbohm

April 5 – Attended a Council and Senior staff workshop  
Reviewed agendas, emails, responded to various enquiries, met with staff as needed

The Director of Corporate Operations noted that Council can expect to receive building permit reports on a quarterly basis. He noted that a number of comfort letters were issued this past month which upon request are provided to potential purchasers of property so they know if there are outstanding permits or other requirements associated with that property.

Moved by Councillor Harder  
Seconded by Councillor Herman

**“THAT the reports from Council and staff be received for information.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_003**

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

8.1 Visitor Information Services – Proposal for Relocation

Councillor Connett spoke to his proposal stating that more people would drive through the downtown and stop at businesses if the Visitor Information Services were located at the Museum. He added that there is ample parking, washroom facilities at the Museum and there are no trains.

Moved by Councillor Connett  
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

**“THAT the Visitor Information Centre Services be relocated from the Chamber office to the Museum effective January 1, 2024.”**

Councillor Torbohm noted that there is not much information regarding this proposal, we do not know if there is even a Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce.

The vote was taken and it was

**DEFEATED**  
Councillor Connett was in favour of the motion.  
**#2023/04/11\_004**

Moved by Councillor Torbohm  
Seconded by Councillor Harder

**“THAT Administration be directed to obtain additional information from both the Chamber and the Museum and discuss the location of the Visitor Information Centre with both Boards of Directors and others in the community and bring a report back to Council for consideration.”**

**CARRIED**  
Councillor Connett opposed.  
**#2023/04/11\_005**

8.2 Street Sweeper Unit – Proposal for Village of Purchase

Councillor Connett re-stated some of the reasons why he is proposing that the Village purchase its own street sweeper. He added that the downtown could be swept weekly during the summer months and before events.

Moved by Councillor Torbohm  
Seconded by Councillor Connett

**“THAT Administration be directed to investigate options and costs for a Village owned street sweeper and bring the information back to Council.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_006**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

9.1 Development Permit DP2023-1 – Whitfield Landing

Councillor Connett asked if the people who have purchased properties in the development have been consulted about the trail.

The Director of Corporate Operations noted that the trail was a requirement of the Village well before the development proceeded, and all property purchasers in the Whitfield Landing development have been given information about the trail's location.

Moved by Councillor Torbohm  
Seconded by Councillor Herman

**“THAT Development Permit DP2023-1 be approved.”**

**CARRIED**  
Councillor Connett opposed.  
**#2023/04/11\_007**

9.2 Development Permit DP2023-2 – 910 Sicamous Avenue

Moved by Councillor Torbohm  
Seconded by Councillor Herman

**“THAT Development Permit DP2023-2 be approved.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_008**

9.3 Council Code of Conduct Policy

Moved by Councillor Herman  
Seconded by Councillor Harder

**“THAT Council adopt the Code of Conduct policy as presented.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_009**

9.4 British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program – Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot (PNP-EIRP)

Moved by Councillor Connett  
Seconded by Councillor Harder

**“THAT the Village of Chase continue participating in the PNP-EIRP program pending the costs associated with hiring student support personnel for this purpose.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_010**

9.5 Road Closure – Shuswap Avenue – Mother’s Day Event

Moved by Councillor Connett  
Seconded by Councillor Harder

**“THAT Shuswap Avenue be closed to traffic between Haldane Avenue and Chase Street between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, 2023 for the purpose of Chase and Area Young Learners Society’s Mother’s Day event.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_011**

9.6 UBCM letter regarding Provincial Land Inventory for Housing

Moved by Councillor Herman  
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

**“THAT the letter from Jen Ford, President of UBCM regarding a Provincial Land Inventory for Housing be received as information; AND**

**THAT staff compile a list of acceptable Village owned properties in Chase that could be used for housing and send the list to the Province of BC.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_012**

9.7 Chase Secondary Class of 2023 – Dry Grad

Moved by Councillor Herman  
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

**“THAT the Village donate \$200 to the 2023 Dry Grad committee from Council’s grant in aid budget.”**

**CARRIED**  
**#2023/04/11\_013**

**10. NOTICE OF MOTION**

None

**11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON MUNICIPAL MATTERS**

Amit Goel thanked the Mayor and Council for continuing the PNP-EIRP program and offered his support in any way he can to assist.

Christina Lutterman of 44-1250 Hillside Avenue and manager of the Chase and District Chamber of Commerce stated that all visitors are given information about every business and not just ones that are members of the Chamber. She added that a number of businesses have agreed to participate in the Welcome program including 11 members and 8 non-members. In addition, the Chamber business of the year award in 2022 went to a business who does not have a membership with the Chamber.

Bev Iglesias of 621 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue stated that the Village's streets are terrible, the appearance of the community is terrible and dusty and how do we attract people to come into our community with the roads in this condition? She added that our community is drying up. She also stated that if the Council cannot make decisions and keep sending items back to staff, this takes up a lot of staff time for staff that is already very busy. She concluded by stating that the Village should buy a building to house various groups for activities such as the seniors and youth.

Karen Basset of 564 Lakeshore Drive stated that crime in Chase is out of control, and the Village should be dealing with it. She said that the conservation person removed camp debris from near the Lions' RV park and said the other camp was on Village property, that the RCMP and conservation has no jurisdiction. She added that the RV park caretakers are afraid to come back because of frequent vandalism and she is not sure she will even open the park this year which will cost the Village a lot of donations into the community. She said the three locations of crime in the Village are bylaw infraction issues and should be dealt with by the Village. She also asked why Council has not given her an answer regarding the \$60,000 the Lions has earmarked for vault toilets in Willson Park.

**12. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA ITEMS**

None

**13. IN CAMERA**

None

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

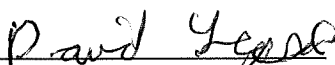
Moved by Councillor Torbohm


Seconded by Councillor Harder

**"THAT the April 11, 2023 Regular Meeting be adjourned."**

**CARRIED  
#2023/04/11\_014**

The meeting concluded at 5:34 p.m.

  
David Lepsoe, Mayor

  
Sean O'Flaherty, Corporate Officer