



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, August 15, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Lepsoe
Councillor Colin Connett
Councillor Ron Harder <by phone>
Councillor Jane Herman (Acting Mayor for this meeting)
Councillor Fred Torbohm

In Attendance: Joni Heinrich, Chief Administrative Officer
Sean O'Flaherty, Director of Corporate Operations
Debi Lovin, Chief Financial Officer
Mike McLean, Deputy Corporate Officer (Virtual)

Public Participants: 16 in-person, 3 via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Jane Herman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Acting Mayor Herman introduced Jim Dunn as the new Bylaw Enforcement Officer for the Village of Chase.

Acting Mayor Herman announced that Mayor Lepsoe has proclaimed September 2023 as Literacy Month in the Village of Chase.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Connett

“THAT the agenda of the August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_001

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the July 18, 2023 Regular Meeting

Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Connett

“THAT the minutes of the July 18, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_002

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

Kym Behrns - 845 Thompson Avenue

- Made a conscious decision to move to Chase and is invested in the community and volunteers

- He is only asking for the same services as all other members of the community enjoy.

Zilly Palamar of 141 Shuswap Avenue stated that:

- Increasing the water and sewer rates goes against the budget
- Taxpayers dollars should not be spent on donations to groups such as Literacy – if people want to donate that should be up to the individual
- We should keep the Village's fire department separate from the Adams Lake fire department
- Several businesses in Chase need more accessibility and the Info Centre washroom needs a grab bar
- Disagrees with an Every Child Matters crosswalk – the past is the past and we should be writing letters to parliament

Dave Smith of 423 Larch Street

- Concerns about water and sewer rates being increased when there are a number of seniors who do not use much water and should not have to pay more
- Asked about the policy to pay overtime for staff members working in an emergency operations centre (EOC), concerned that they would be under secondment elsewhere and not be available to do their regular work.
- Asked who determines who is in the EOC, that some of the Village's emergency information is out of date, and that there should be an individual hired to do this work

Megan Stratikopoulos of 320 Aspen Drive

- Concerned with a policy to pay staff overtime for working in an EOC
- She referred to the TNRD when Sukh Gill was paid a large amount of money for working in their EOC
- She wants to see some checks on how much overtime Village staff works in an EOC and that the overtime be reported to Council once a year

Adria Mathisen of 28 Beach Crescent

- What kind of budget is in place for a street sweeper – the Village should not be spending money that is not available for such equipment
- She disagreed with the main streets in the downtown being closed to traffic as the businesses will be affected and a precedent is being set

Christina Lutterman of 44-1250 Hillside Avenue

- Is happy to see an Accessible BC plan being put in place, and noted that the Visitor Information centre is inspected annually by Destination BC to ensure it meets their standards
- She is happy to provide assistance to the Village on the Accessibility plan

< Councillor Harder joined the meeting by phone at 4:13 p.m. >

6. DELEGATIONS

None

7. REPORTS

a) Mayor and Council Reports

Councillor Connett

No report

Acting Mayor Herman

July 18 – Attended Council meeting

July 19 – Attended “Choose Chase” meeting at the Village office

July 18 and July 25 - Music on the Lake in Memorial Park

July 28 – Attended the four communities meeting (3 local bands and Village of Chase) hosted by the Village of Chase

August 8 – Music on the Lake

August 9 – Attended a “Choose Chase” meeting at the Village office

August 14 – Attended Climate Action Committee meeting at the Village office

Mayor Lepsoe

July 20 – Attended virtual Shuswap Trail Alliance meeting regarding upgrade to the waterfall area

July 22 – Attended Chabelos Resort’s Christmas in July event. Spoke on behalf of the Village, met a lot of good people

July 24 – Attended and spoke at Richard Waugh’s celebration of life

July 25 – Sponsored the Music on the Lake event

July 28 – Attended a four communities meeting (three bands and Village of Chase)

August 4 –Village Emergency Operations Centre was activated at Level one due to the Interfor Mill at Adams Lake being put on alert. The mill is a satellite community of Chase. It was recommended by BC Wildfire Service to place them on alert – the jurisdiction in which the property is situated places the alert based on the fire specialist’s recommendations.

August 5 – Went to the Interfor Mill at Adams Lake to see the fire situation first hand

August 8 – Had a good chat with Member of Parliament Mel Arnold at Music on the Lake

August 13 – Went to the BC Wildfire Service Fire Camp at Squilax, had a discussion with the information officer. This was the last day for the Australians. The Canadians took over after being rested for a while. This is becoming an international camp, with over 100 Brazilians and 100 from Costa Rica, over 400 in total firefighters and support crew. Very professionally run operation. I was very impressed.

I would like to thank Senior Staff for being available 24/7 for the fire situation and as well other times as needed.

Councillor Harder

No report

Councillor Torbohm

August 15 - Assisted the Museum with their cornstock display for Music on the Lake
Monitored emails.

Staff reports were included in the agenda package.

Moved by Councillor Connett
Seconded by Councillor Harder
“THAT the reports from Council members and staff be received for information.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_003

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Street Sweeper Purchase

Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Harder

“THAT Administration be authorized to purchase a new Trombia Airknife T220 sweeper from CUBEX Equipment for an amount of \$112,095.20.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_004

8.2 Fees and Charges Bylaw – Water and Sewer Fee Increases

Moved by Councillor Connett
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

“THAT the Village of Chase Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 820-2016 Amendment Bylaw No. 930-2023 be given First, Second and Third readings.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_005

8.3 Sewer Extension Request – Owner of 845 Thompson Avenue

Moved by Mayor Lepsoe
Seconded by Councillor Harder

“THAT Council defer the decision regarding sewer main extension for connection by the property owner of 845 Thompson Avenue until staff has obtained more information about the past servicing of adjacent properties.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_006

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Request for Donation – Chase Literacy

Moved by Councillor Connett
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

“THAT the Village of Chase grant \$500 to the Chase Literacy program for 2023.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_007

9.2 Policy creation to compensate Exempt Staff for Overtime worked in an Emergency Operations Centre

Moved by Councillor Harder
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

“THAT ADM-35 (2023) Exempt Staff Overtime Compensation Policy by adopted.”

CARRIED
#2023/08/15_008

- 9.3 Mutual Aid Agreement – Village of Chase and Adams Lake Indian Band – Fire Suppression Services
Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Connett
“THAT the Village of Chase enter into a mutual aid agreement with the Adams Lake Indian Band for fire suppression services.” **CARRIED**
#2023/08/15_009
- 9.4 Accessible BC – Province of BC Requirement for Local Governments
Moved by Mayor Lepsoe
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm
“THAT staff develop an accessibility committee for the Village of Chase;

That staff begin the process of developing an accessibility plan to be reviewed by the accessibility committee and brought forward to Council for adoption.

That staff create a feedback mechanism to provide for input from the public regarding any barriers to accessibility within the community.”
CARRIED
#2023/08/15_010
- 9.5 Thank You from Ronald McDonald House
Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Harder
“THAT the letter from Ronald McDonald House thanking the Village for its donation from the Chase Day Camp ‘Gratitude Day’ be received for information; AND

That Council extend its gratitude to the Program Lead, Nakia Hill for providing such a positive teaching opportunity for the children of the Summer Recreation Program.”
CARRIED
#2023/08/15_011
- 9.6 Every Child Matters Crosswalk
Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Herman
“THAT staff be directed to work with the three local Indigenous communities to determine a location for an ‘Every Child Matters’ crosswalk in Chase and associated costs and bring a report back to Council.”
CARRIED
Councillor Connett OPPOSED
#2023/08/15_012
- 9.7 Car Show – Road Closure Request – Cars for Cancer
Moved by Councillor Herman
Seconded by Councillor Torbohm
“THAT Shuswap Avenue between Pine Street and Chase Street be closed to traffic between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Sunday, September 17, 2023; AND

That Haldane Street between First Avenue and Sicamous Avenue be closed to traffic between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Sunday, September 17, 2023 both closures facilitating a classic car show.”

CARRIED

#2023/08/15_013

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON MUNICIPAL MATTERS

Megan Stratikopoulos of 320 Aspen Drive

- There have been several issues not addressed because staff says they did not have the time. If there are not enough staff the Village should hire more people
- The Village should use Voyent Alert all the time for all messaging coming from the Village.

Don Cavers of 116 McPherson Street

- He is attempting to provide affordable housing in Chase, he scrambled to resubmit his Development permit application that expired only after one year
- Other communities issue DPs for two years
- Was told it could not be on this agenda – requested Council hold a special meeting to deal with his DP issue.

Dave Smith of 423 Larch Street

- Voyent Alert should be used for advising community members of more than just emergency information
- There should be a dedicated person to handle emergency preparedness activities and planning
- Will the Village will get any money for selling its current street sweeper
- He has lots of experience regarding accessibility as he was involved with a committee in another community – hydro poles and fire hydrants should not be located in the middle of sidewalks

Adria Mathisen of 28 Beach Crescent

- Why is the gallery invited to give opinions on items on the council agenda if everything is passed anyway

Catharyne Stauffer of 530 Aylmer Road

- She wants to start a school in Chase for 18-26 year olds to learn life skills so they are not tempted to get into drugs and wants Council's support

Zilly Palamar of 141 Shuswap Avenue

- Community members need to write letters to Council against anything that is passed that we don't like
- A car show should not be held downtown
- If you sign up for Voyent Alert it tracks your movements

12. IN CAMERA

Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT Council recess to an In Camera meeting pursuant to Section 90 (1) (e), the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements.”

**CARRIED
#2023/08/15_014**

13. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA ITEMS

None

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Torbohm
Seconded by Acting Mayor Herman

“THAT the August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting be adjourned.”

**CARRIED
#2023/08/15_015**

The meeting concluded at 5:34 p.m.

David Lepsoe, Mayor

Sean O’Flaherty, Corporate Officer