



**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**

**FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2017**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor John C. (Jack) Jeyes  
Councillor Doreen L. Lambert  
Councillor Barbara H. Roden  
Councillor W. Alfred Trill

J. Michelle Allen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Yoginder Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer  
Wayne Robinson, Deputy Corporate Officer

Press & Public

**EXCUSED:** Councillor Helen A. Kormendy

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jeyes called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

**2.1. Mr. Larry Van Leest – Concerns with indoor wood burning devices**

Mr. Van Leest made a presentation to Council regarding a neighbour who uses wood fueled stoves to heat 3 different buildings and that he burns unacceptable items in the stoves. Mr. Van Leest provided council with photos of the smoke that is being emitted from these devices and often hangs over the area in which he resides. He advised that he has tried discussing the issue with his neighbour however the situation has not improved.

He advised Council that several other local governments have investigated eliminating all wood burning devices and he requested that Council consider a similar bylaw. Mr. Van Leest was advised that the Village and the Fire Department have limited authority to enter onto private property however Council would discuss the item further during the regular meeting.

**2.2. Mr. Ray Bewza – Follow up with Ombudsperson letter & information on Village's financial position**

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Mr. Bewza provided Council with a copy of the letter he received from the Office of the Ombudsperson in response to his concerns regarding the manner in which the Water Treatment Plant project has been handled by staff. He believes that the Village is required to have a Capital Procurement Policy and asked why this has not happened. He also inquired into why the Village has such a large sum in reserves and why we are not spending these funds on other projects. Council assured Mr. Bewza that the reserves were being established to assist with future projects and that the Ombudsperson had closed the file on his inquiry with no findings.

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**2.3. Bylaw to prohibit outdoor burning within Village of Ashcroft**

Council reviewed the newly drafted outdoor burning bylaw. This bylaw addresses a number of issues that had not been identified in the current bylaw and provides better guidelines for residents. A member of the public questioned why he can't have a fire pit in his back yard to use for wiener roasts with his grandchildren. Council advised that open burning including fire pits caused health issues with many of our residents.

Council requested that the wording in relation to a permit for ceremonial or religious events be adjusted to relax the 7 day application requirement.

**2.4. Spring Clean Up**

Council discussed the new guidelines for the spring garbage collection including what can and what cannot be collected. The changes are due to the implementation of tipping fees. Council has approved the spring collection however the crew will only be collecting items that can be taken to the Cache Creek Transfer Station at no cost to the taxpayers.

**3. TERMINATION**

**M/S Councillor Trill / Councillor Roden**

"That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council terminate at 6:48 pm."

**Carried.**

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**John C. (Jack) Jeyes, Mayor**

Certified to be a true and correct copy  
of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
Council held Monday, March 27, 2017.

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**J. Michelle Allen, Chief Administrative Officer**

JMA/kdw