



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
REGULAR MINUTES
 FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE
 VILLAGE OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
 Councillor, Jonah Anstett – via Zoom
 Councillor, Jessica Clement
 Councillor, Nadine Davenport – via Zoom
 Councillor, Doreen Lambert

CAO, Daniela Dyck
 CFO, Yogi Bhalla
 DPW, Brian Bennewith

EXCUSED:

Media – 1
 Public – 4

CALL TO ORDER
 Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday August 26, 2024, to order at 6:01 pm.

“Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Niaka’pamux people.”

1. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, July 22, 2024 M/S Clement / Lambert <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, July 22, 2024 adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-121
2.2	Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held Wednesday, August 7, 2024 M/S Anstett / Davenport <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held Wednesday, August 7, 2024, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-122

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1	Marco Giusti – Furrstraw Holdings Inc. Topics of discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Prevention, Fire Mitigation • Social Media & Investing – Ashcroft Infrastructure & Investing Mayor Roden invited Mr. Giusti to the podium.	
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	<p>Mr. Giusti thanked Council for the opportunity to present his concerns regarding wildfire mitigation and the need for community investment to protect infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Giusti said he started investing in Ashcroft over 30 years ago and is very concerned at the fire risk especially along the riverbanks, specifically behind the Village office. Mr. Giusti went on to name several private and publicly owned properties with an emphasis on the Hospital noting if it were to burn down, it would likely not be rebuilt. • Mr. Giusti encouraged Council to implement fire protection and community safety measures. • Another area of concern Mr. Giusti noted was social media commenting not all resident are on social media and may not be receiving emergency updates in real time. • He also noted there is misinformation on social media which can cause panic. Encouraged Council to share village notices on all platforms and public Ashcroft social media sites. • Mr. Guisti ended his presentation noting all property owners are investors in Ashcroft, of which he is proud to be one. • Mr. Giusti suggests lived experience is better than social or mainstream media urging Council to implement changes learned by lived experience. • In conclusion Mr. Giusti said he would like to hear how Council plans to mitigate the issues raised today. <p>Mayor Roden – some clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FireSmart program funding received, and implementation is underway. Mayor Roden noted many of the concerns raised by Mr. Giusti will be addressed by the FireSmart program. • Mayor Roden noted that PW will be doing some clean up along non-riverbanks this fall where debris has been dumped by residents as a fire protection measure. • Riverbanks are a riparian area and under the protection of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) The village is not able to clean up the riverbanks at their discretion. Any riparian area work must be approved by DFO. • IHA lands- Mayor Roden agrees that the dry field is a concern but also noted that IHA prearranges the mowing annually, perhaps the mowing could be more consistent. • Mayor Rodent noted that the Village can only control what is posted to the Village’s facebook page, the village has no control over what other administrators and pages allow. Posts made on the Village page a shareable and we encourage sharing of notices to other sites. <p>Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning riverbanks within the riparian area.... Who would be responsible for the clean up? Can FireSmart principles be implemented? 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment to implement controls for waste being dumped on banks and riverbanks – Consider Bylaws and fines • Can the DFO be invited to come and do some public education about maintaining habitat and fire mitigation along the riverbanks? • Invite DFO to participate with us to establish healthy riverbanks • Engage School District to teach students about riverbank health – again this could be in collaboration with DFO. <p>Mayor Roden thanked everyone for their input and Mr. Giusti for his presentation.</p>	
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4. PUBLIC INPUT

All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.

No additional public input received

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	<p>CAO Report – Zoning Amendment Bylaw No 870, 2024 - A Bylaw to amend permitted uses in the Public and Parks 1 (P1) zone. Purpose: To present the proposed Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 870, 2024 for first, second and third reading, which seeks to amend Zoning Bylaw No. 823, 2018. The amendment would permit the addition of "unassisted seniors housing" as a permitted use in the P1 (Park and Public Use 1) Zone, specifically for the development of a 29-unit senior residential complex at 710 Elm Street.</p> <p>M/S Clement / Lambert <i>THAT, Council gives first reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 870, 2024, which amends Zoning Bylaw No. 823, 2018, to add "unassisted seniors housing" as a permitted use in the P1 (Park and Public Use 1) Zone, enabling the development of a 29-unit senior residential complex at 710 Elm Street.</i></p> <p>M/S Roden / Davenport <i>THAT, Council gives second reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 870, 2024, which amends Zoning Bylaw No. 823, 2018, to add "unassisted seniors housing" as a permitted use in the P1 (Park and Public Use 1) Zone, enabling the development of a 29-unit senior residential complex at 710 Elm Street.</i></p> <p>M/S Lambert / Anstett</p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-123</p> <p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-124</p>
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	<p><i>THAT, Council gives third reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 870, 2024, which amends Zoning Bylaw No. 823, 2018, to add "unassisted seniors housing" as a permitted use in the P1 (Park and Public Use 1) Zone, enabling the development of a 29-unit senior residential complex at 710 Elm Street.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-125</p>
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	<p>DPW Report – Utilization of Free Dump Day Purpose: The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to request a free dump day for yard waste from the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD). This initiative aims to address the fire risks posed by yard waste that has been dumped by residents on public property. By participating in the TNRD's yard waste fee waiver program, the Village can safely and efficiently remove this hazardous debris, thereby enhancing community safety.</p> <p>M/S Anstett / Davenport <i>THAT, Council approves staff request to have the public works department schedule a clean up day to removes illegally dumped yard waste on public property, secure the free dump day for this purpose and develop public education materials to be distributed to residents about the risks and consequences of illegal dumping of yard waste.</i></p> <p><i>Clarification – regarding this becoming an ongoing event</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-126</p>
6.2	<p>CFO Report – Adoption of Trails Master Plan Purpose: The purpose of this Council report is to seek approval for The Village of Ashcroft Trails Master Plan. The report outlines the development process of the plan, including community engagement efforts, necessary amendments, and ongoing concerns regarding liability for unsanctioned trails on crown land. Approval of the plan is crucial for advancing the Village's strategic goals of creating a connected and sustainable trail network, enabling the pursuit of funding opportunities, and facilitating the implementation of identified strategies. The adoption of the plan will allow the Village to enhance recreational infrastructure while continuing to address outstanding liability issues with the Province.</p> <p>M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, Council adopts the Village of Ashcroft Trails Master Plan as amended.</i></p> <p><i>Amend Bonapart Indian Band to Bonapart First Nation</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-127</p>

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	<p><i>Mayor Roden noted the development of the TNRD – Trails working group the draft plan was forwarded to the group</i> <i>Comment to move forward with the skills park</i> <i>When was the last time we engaged with the skills park organizers?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>After the most recent public meeting</i> 	
FOR INFORMATION		
6.3	<p>CAO Report – UBCM FireSmart Funding Approval Purpose: The purpose of this report is to advise Council that the Village of Ashcroft has received notification of funding approval to implement a FireSmart Program in the amount of \$169,952.72 <i>CAO Dyck advised Council of next steps to move the project forward.</i></p>	
6.4	<p>CAO Report – BC Hydro Level 3 EV Charging Station Location Update Purpose: The purpose of this report is to advise Council that BC Hydro has shifted the location of the proposed Level 3 EV Charging Station on Railway Ave. approximately 40 metres south of the original location. <i>Clarification requested of actual new location. CFO Bhalla showed the location by bringing up a village map.</i></p>	
6.5	<p>BEO Report – Second Quarter Update Purpose: To provide Council with a detailed update and status of the bylaw files for the past quarter</p>	

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	<p>ForestryWorksforBC – Seeking Council Support for Sustainable AAC from the Province M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, Council for the Village of Ashcroft support the ForestryWorksforBC request and forward a letter of support.</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-128
7.2	<p>C-2-C FN Leadership Council and UBCM Membership – Invitation to attend and invite FN Neighbour to attend with Council M/S Roden / Clement <i>Receive for information due to a scheduling conflict with Minister Meetings at UBCM and Small talk Forum</i> <i>UBCM Has asked the Village of speak about the Experience Ashcroft pocket guide at the Small Talk Forum</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-129
7.3	<p>Graffiti Days – Donation Request M/S Roden / Lambert <i>THAT, Council for the Village of Ashcroft approves the Graffiti Days organizing committee’s request and directs staff to assemble a gift not to exceed \$100.00.</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-130

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7.4	<p>Suicide Prevention Support for Youth in BC – Request for letter of support addressed to the Minister of Education, Rachna Singh, for improved suicide prevention supports for youth in the public education system.</p> <p>M/S Anstett / Lambert</p> <p><i>THAT, Council for the Village of Ashcroft provide a letter in support of Ms. Donovan’s request advocating for better suicide prevention supports in the public school system to the Minister of Education, the Honourable Rachna Singh.</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-131
7.5	<p>UBCM Seeks Member Feedback on Protocol with FN Leadership Council</p> <p>M/S Davenport / Lambert</p> <p><i>THAT, Council for the Village of Ashcroft supports the UBCM and FN Leadership Council’s work on the development of a Relationship Protocol initiative.</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-132
7.6	<p>Desert Mesa Club – Poker Run – Request Village participation</p> <p>M/S Clement / Anstett</p> <p><i>THAT, the Village of Ashcroft host a Poker Run Stop in Ashcroft on September 15, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM and that, swag items not to exceed \$100.00 in value be donated as prizes and further that an over time shift be posted for a staff member to host the stop.</i></p> <p>Alternate: M/S Roden / Clement</p> <p><i>THAT, the Village of Ashcroft does not participate in the Poker Run but donates swag items for prizes not to exceed \$100.00 in value.</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-134 DEFEATED Unanimous R-2024-133
7.7	<p>Concerned Citizens of Surrey and BC</p> <p>M/S Roden / Clement</p> <p><i>Receive for information</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-135
FOR INFORMATION		
7.8	<p>MLA’s, Milobar, Stone and Tegart - Letter to Min. of Transportation & Infrastructure, Honourable Rob Flemming – Requesting Rural BC Transit, Operational Regionalization be delayed</p>	
7.9	<p>Enabling Accessibility Fund – Application for Mesa Park improvements unsuccessful.</p>	
7.10	<p>Ministry of Agriculture – Addressing Drought Challenges</p>	
7.11	<p>Minister of Housing – Letter RE: Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing</p>	
7.12	<p>IHA – Introduction of the new Medical Health Officer for Ashcroft</p> <p>M/S Roden / Lambert</p> <p><i>THAT, Council sends a letter of welcome and introduction inviting the new health officer to meet with Council.</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-136
7.13	<p>BCRHN – Getting to Know Our Members</p>	
7.14	<p>IHA – August Healthy Communities Newsletter</p>	
7.15	<p>TNRD – August Board Meeting Highlights</p>	
7.16	<p>TNRD – News Release Fire Skid Donations</p>	
7.17	<p>Capstone Infrastructure – HVW Notification Letter</p>	



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	Notice of early-stage consultation for proposed renewable energy project in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District	
7.18	BC Wildfire Service - Update	
7.19	Community Works Fund – 204/2025 Payment - First Installment	
7.20	City of Duncan - Request for Support - UBCM Resolution - Fail to Appear Charges	
7.21	Pitt Meadows – UBCM Resolution – Farm Property Tax System	
7.22	TNRD New Release - TNRL Writer-In-Residence Comment on the date in Ashcroft	

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1		
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	Street Safety WG Meeting Notes	
10.2	Enhancing Parks Rec. and Culture WG Meeting Notes	
10.3	Para Transit System – Minutes for Wednesday August 21, 2024	
10.4	Managing Infrastructure and Assets WG Meeting Notes	
10.5	Governance Public and Intergovernmental Engagement WG Meeting Notes	
10.6	Community Planning and the Natural Built Environment WG Meeting Notes	

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden UBCM – Mayor Roden noted this is the third time Ashcroft has been invited to share a success story at UBCM.	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Lambert	

12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1	M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, Council moves to a Closed Meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1 (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-137
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1		
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14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday August 26, 2024, at 7:21 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of
the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
Council held Monday, August 26, 2024.

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden,
Mayor