



**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT**

**MINUTES**

**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021**

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden  
 Councillor, Marilyn Anderson  
 Councillor, Jonah Anstett  
 Councillor, Nadine Davenport  
 Councillor, Debra Tuohey

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer  
 Yoginder Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer  
 Brian Bennewith, Director of Public Works

Media – 1

EXCUSED:

**CALL TO ORDER**

Due to the Public Health Officer Ministerial Order M0192, the Regular Meeting of Council is closed to the public but will be broadcast by the HUB Online Network.

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Motion to add or delete Agenda items*

*Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended*

**M/S Anderson / Anstett**

*“THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, March 22, 2021 be adopted as presented.”*

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2021-68

**2. MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 8, 2021 <b>M/S Roden / Davenport</b> <i>“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 8, 2021 be adopted as presented.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-69
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**3. DELEGATIONS**

3.1	Vision Check for Ashcroft – Presentation by Anne McKague; regrets Hannah Franes is unable to attend Urged Council to embrace Where Wellness Awaits brand Anne expressed concern regarding the impacts of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change,</li> <li>• bio diversity collapse</li> <li>• demise of small- town BC</li> </ul> Ashcroft is a sanctuary from drive through communities and is beautifully situated on the banks of the Thompson River	
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	<p>Anne is concerned that we have turned our backs on the Thompson and Bonaparte Rivers and suggests that Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• check vision and stewardship of the rivers</li> <li>• value our heritage, history and natural environment</li> </ul> <p>How do we attract people to enjoy our community? Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create entry point to the Village furnished with rocks and native plants a sanctuary for people, pollinators, birds etc.,</li> <li>• Bring ecology into town, low water native plants flourish here</li> <li>• Engage and employ youth, perhaps they could design a mural</li> <li>• Plant a tree demonstrate love for youth at the skate park</li> <li>• Some places with best view of the river are unutilized</li> <li>• Provide opportunities to socialize and recreate</li> <li>• Provide year-round bathroom facilities</li> <li>• Care for our trees, develop tree canopy especially in the downtown core</li> <li>• Inventory and educate plant trees for shade habitat and air quality as climate change continues</li> <li>• Encourage business to green scape</li> <li>• Sidewalks need to be developed throughout the community</li> <li>• Engage the community to help develop this vision of Ashcroft</li> </ul> <p>There were some technical difficulties at the end of the zoom presentation. Council thanked Anne for her 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.*

Media – N/A

Resident – N/A

TNRD Area Resident:

6.1 Review of Burning Bylaw – Urged Council to consider health, smoke, neighbourhood air quality and insurance implications. Reminded Council that Fire Department live burning is permitted with permission by VOA.

6.3 Urban Systems – query regarding engineering cost for Sand Separator project

7.10 Council endorsed Universal Pharma Care by providing a letter of support. Brad Vis voted to defeat the bill; will Council follow up with MP Vis?

10.2 Query regarding ALR process impacting project conversation between AIB and VOA.

10.4 Community Garden – The plan includes a 6ft fence; fences are not inviting. It may be more pleasant to have the garden more unfenced.

6.2 Addition of an open question period at the end of the Council agenda – comments:

- Public consultation appears to be eroding;
- Agendas have moved to a digital format;
- Community Forum formats have changed to virtual;
- COVID is restricting in person attendance;
- Questions are not answered due to not being an agenda item;
- Include Public Notices of COTW, Notice of Motions in the monthly newsletter;



- COTW meetings allowed public to interact with Council the new Procedures Bylaw restricts this;
- Provide opportunity for open dialogue with the public – in a public forum;
- Two public input sections may be uncommon practice, but so are Working Groups.

**5. BYLAWS**

5.1	N/A	
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**6. STAFF REPORTS**

<b>REQUEST FOR DECISION</b>		
6.1	<p>CAO Report – Burning Bylaw Consideration of Public Engagement  <b>M/S Tuohey / Anderson</b>  <i>“That Council begin the preliminary bylaw review by establishing the process for public engagement, direct staff to develop questionnaire and bring back for revue at the next Council meeting.”</i></p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council discussed moving forward with public engagement process but is not considering changes to the bylaw at this time.</li> <li>• There was a general consensus that it was time to begin the conversation as this has been on the task for some time.</li> <li>• Considerations must include impact to residents’ health, mental health and quality of life</li> <li>• Public engagement process must be all inclusive, we want to have a healthy community to support our logo and tag line</li> <li>• Suggestions to invite Fire Chief to address concerns</li> <li>• Virtual approach concern was raised for some of the residents</li> <li>• Many residents use Virtual format, we must engage all residents of Ashcroft until such a time as when we can add public meetings to the process.</li> <li>• Those most affected by a change in the burning bylaw are those that are least likely to participate in a virtual meeting</li> <li>• This will be a lengthy process</li> <li>• First steps should be a preliminary virtual meeting and include a stand-alone survey mailed out as part of the process</li> <li>• May be able to use the HUB as a resource for public engagement</li> </ul>	<p><b>CARRIED</b>            Unanimous            R-2021-70</p>
6.2	<p>CAO Report – Public Request to Include Question Period at End of Agenda  <b>Discussion opportunity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment that not all questions have to come through Council to be addressed, most residents are comfortable calling the office</li> <li>• Delegation provides opportunity to present and engage with Council</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request is to add time at the end of the meeting for questions</li> <li>Suggestion: consider comment section at the beginning of the agenda pertaining to agenda items, Council listens as per public forum. Question period is at the end and enables community member to ask a question for clarification.</li> </ul> <p>Staff to bring report back to next meeting</p>	
6.3	<p>DPW &amp; CFO Report – Sand Separator Tender <b>M/S Anstett / Tuohey</b> <i>“That Council approves the lowest cost tender as recommended by the Village’s Engineers, Urban Systems from Drake Excavating Ltd. in the amount of \$233,900.00.”</i></p> <p>Clarification requested by Council in regards to past experience with the contractor – No previous experience but contractor has excellent references.</p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-71
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
	N/A	

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

<b>FOR ACTION</b>		
7.1	<p>City of New Westminster Letters to Minister of Labour and Minister of Tourism re Support for Laid-off Hotel and Tourism Industry Workers <i>Letter of Support Requested</i> <b>M/S Roden / Davenport</b> <i>“That Council send letters of support to the Minister of Labour and Minister of Tourism as per samples provided.”</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-72
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
7.2	Mayor of Spallumcheen – Support for 988 Crisis Line	
7.3	Glencore Canada Corporation – Notification for Crown Land Tenure for Brenda Mine site (Tracking Number: 100335369)	
7.4	CN Announces Cyrus Reporter as Vice-President, Government and Regulatory Affairs	
7.5	FCM – March 15, 2021 Communique – FCM Board Nominations are open	
7.6	Mental Health, Climate Change Events and COVID-19 Invitation to participate in Community Survey	
7.7	Thank you for Supporting the Resolution on the Overdose Crisis	
7.8	Public Health Canada – Got a Creative Idea to Promote COVID-19 Vaccines in your Community?	
7.9	City of Pit Meadows – Fair Taxation from Railway Operations & Industrial Parks	
7.10	Thank for Endorsing Canada Pharmacare Act Bill C-213	
7.11	School District No. 74 Board Bulletin	
7.12	Flip Chart Information Correspondence	
	<p><b>M/S Roden / Anderson</b> <i>“That the information items be received and filed.”</i></p>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-73

## 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	CARRIED
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	<b>M/S Roden / Anstett</b> "That the Motions List be received and filed for information."	Unanimous R-2021-74
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**9. NEW BUSINESS**

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

10.1	Emergency Response Plan and Evacuation Update Working Group Meeting Notes – March 9, 2021	
10.2	Potable Water to Ashcroft Indian Band Working Group Notes – March 11, 2021	
10.3	North Ashcroft Reservoir Working Group Notes – March 15, 2021	
10.4	Community Garden – Heritage Park and Tree Assessment WG Notes – March 17, 2021	

**11. COUNCIL REPORTS**

11.1	Mayor Roden – Report Letter from South Cariboo Sportsmen Association thank you for Council support	
11.2	Councillor Anderson - Report	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey	

**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		
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**13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING**

13.1		
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**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S Roden / Anderson**

"That the Meeting of Council for March 22, 2021 be adjourned at 7:18 pm."

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2021-75

Certified to be a true copy of the  
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of  
Council held Monday March 22, 2021

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Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

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Barbara Roden,  
Mayor