



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT  
 REGULAR MINUTES  
 FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
 AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

**PRESENT:** Mayor, Barbara Roden  
 Councillor, Jessica Clement  
 Councillor, Nadine Davenport  
 Councillor, Doreen Lambert  
 CAO, Daniela Dyck  
 CFO, Yogi Bhalla  
 DPW, Brian Bennewith

**EXCUSED:** Councillor, Jonah Anstett

Media: 1  
 Public: 1

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council to order for Monday February 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

*"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."*

1. **ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA**

N/A

2. **MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 27, 2025 M/S Clement / Lambert <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 27, 2025, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-34
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3. **DELEGATIONS**

3.1	Cam Tedford – Funeral Costs/Cemetery Space and Opportunity for our Villagelost Presentation attached and forming part of these minutes. Questions/Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification provided that the Mesa site is a registered cemetery</li> <li>• The Mesa site is irrigated, but very sloped, PW has concerns of getting equipment into the site for maintenance and burial prep.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference made to the Golder Associates report completed in 2017 regarding their findings about the Mesa and Railway Ave proposed cemetery sites.</li> <li>• Both were deemed suitable sites, but Mesa site was selected over Railway Ave to keep commercial land available in the downtown core.</li> <li>• Resolving the issues at the Mesa site will be costly for the taxpayers of Ashcroft. Not aware of grant funding for cemetery development or repairs. The Village would not see ROI for many years.</li> <li>• Municipalities are not legislated to have a cemetery</li> <li>• Village is not opposed to looking at the existing cemetery to see if there is an opportunity for extension.</li> <li>• Clarification - Fence line is our property line, the rest is CP right of way</li> <li>• Consider ground penetrating radar for the back area of the cemetery to identify if there are any remains buried or determine additional burial sites.</li> <li>• Mayor Roden thanked Mr. Tedford for his presentation noting her appreciation for bringing his concerns forward.</li> </ul>	
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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.*

There were no comments received from the public.

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	Travel Reimbursement Policy – Updated M/S Lambert / Davenport <i>THAT, Council adopt the amended Travel Reimbursement Policy No. F-03-2021 as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-35
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Variance Application 710 Elm Street M/S Clement / Lambert	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-36



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	<p><i>THAT, Council issues a "Notice of Intent" to consider approval of Development Variance Permit No. DVP-2025-01 for 710 Elm Street (LOT 1 DISTRICT LOT 378 KAMLOOPS DIVISION YALE DISTRICT PLAN KAP81072).</i></p> <p><i>AND;</i></p> <p><i>THAT, neighborhood notification be sent to property owners within 100m of the subject property to advise consideration of the proposed Development Variance Permit.</i></p>	
6.2	<p><b>CAO Report – Emergency Response Plan Updates</b>  <b>M/S Clement / Davenport</b></p> <p><i>THAT, Council approves the engagement of Holistic Emergency Management Preparedness and Response (HEMPR) to conduct a review and update of the Village of Ashcroft’s Emergency Response Plan (ERP), ensuring full compliance with the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) and Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program (IERFP).</i></p> <p><i>AND;</i></p> <p><i>THAT, Administration be authorized to sign a contract with HEMPR for these services within the approved grant-funded budget of \$40,000, ensuring the necessary updates and training are implemented effectively.</i></p>	<p><b>CARRIED</b>  <b>Unanimous</b>  <b>R-2025-37</b></p>
6.3	<p><b>CAO Report – Tender for Fire Department</b>  <b>M/S Lambert / Clement</b></p> <p><i>That, Council approves the purchase of a 2016 Morgan Freightliner Tanker for the Fire Department at a cost of \$194,000 plus applicable taxes.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CF Bhalla clarified that Rocky Mountain Phoenix is importing the tender from the USA, discussing exchange rates and other hurdles.</li> <li>• The truck requires some modification to meet our needs including the pump as it doesn’t spray while truck is in motion.</li> <li>• There may be additional expenses, but we do not anticipate them to be outside of affordability.</li> <li>• Aside from the TNRD releasing the reserved funds for the tender, the remaining costs will be covered from investment income and surplus, not capital reserves.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CARRIED</b>  <b>Unanimous</b>  <b>R-2025-38</b></p>
6.4	<p><b>EDTC Report – Marketing Initiatives Grant Application</b>  <b>M/S Davenport / Clement</b></p> <p><i>THAT, Council for the Village of Ashcroft extends its full support for the submission of an application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust’s (NDIT) Marketing Initiatives funding stream seeking financial assistance of up to \$19,275.00</i></p>	<p><b>CARRIED</b>  <b>Unanimous</b>  <b>R-2025-39</b></p>



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FOR INFORMATION		
6.5	BEO Report – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Report October-December 2024	
6.6	EDT Report – Year End Report	

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	<p>TCMHA – Request for Council to Address Key Issues at the Arena M/S Roden / Lambert  <i>THAT, the TCMHA request to address key issues at the Arena be referred to the Parks and Recreation Working Group.</i></p> <p>Questions and Comments:            Could a portable structure be used to address the ladies dressing room concern?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space, riparian area set back, water sewer connections are all issues to be considered, and cost will be a factor.</li> <li>• User groups assistance with fundraising would help the village look at ways of addressing the issues.</li> <li>• Most of our budget is operational and capital investment replacement.</li> </ul> <p>Clarification - Ladies Dressing Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dressing room utilizes the figure skating prep space under the bleachers – used to be storage area</li> <li>• No washroom/shower</li> <li>• Created the space for changing only with the intent that the ladies would change and then join their team in the other dressing room.</li> <li>• Rubber matting was installed</li> <li>• Room is approx. 15' long - space is a challenge</li> <li>• Is there other storage available. Are the items being stored at the arena able to be stored elsewhere?</li> <li>• No -items such as goalie gear and other bulky items are stored by TCMHA. Fall Fair also has storage items and the od tables and chairs from the Rodeo are in the arena.</li> </ul> <p>Water fountains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternate solution could be the installation of bar taps in the dressing rooms so water bottles could be filled</li> </ul> <p>Kraft Hockeyville – grant funding opportunity discussed – needs to be well planned in advance of intake opening. Village will support but needs a local group to champion.</p>	<p>CARRIED            Unanimous            R-2025-40</p>
7.2	<p>Ashcroft 4-H Club – Use of Community Hall            M/S Clement / Lambert</p>	<p>CARRIED            Unanimous            R-2025-41</p>

	<p><i>THAT, Council approves the Ashcroft 4-H Club request to use the Community Hall the first Tuesday every month in 2025 beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm and free use of the Community Hall for February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm for the AGM and again on March 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm for their Communications Day and an end of season gala if required.</i></p> <p>Comment - Last year the 4-H Wind Up was included in the request. Recommendation was amended to include the event.</p>	
7.3	<p>Ashcroft Hub Society – Letter of Support Councillor Clement recused herself as the Executive Director of the HUB she is in a conflict. Councillor Clement left the room at 6:51 returning at 6:53 M/S Davenport / Lambert <i>THAT, Council approves the HUB Society request and provides a letter of support for capital grant applications to replace the roof and HVAC System.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-42</p>
FOR INFORMATION		
7.4	TNRD Board Meeting Highlights – January 223, 2025	
7.5	<p>Capstone Infrastructure Corp. – Proposed Highland Valley Wind Project in the TNRD Project Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other projects with their environmental assessments completed or near completion are also being fast tracked</li> <li>• Highland Valley Copper likely to hear to about their mine extension application by this summer</li> </ul>	
7.6	<p>Film Commission updates January 2025 Mayor Roden commented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sugar Cane Residential School film is nominated for an Oscar, the film will be showing at the Paramount in Kamloops.</li> <li>• Encouraged Council to look at the interactive film map on the TNFC website.</li> <li>• Kamloops was selected as one of the top 10 cities to work/live as a movie maker. Film Commissioner disappointed that a region couldn't be nominated.</li> </ul>	

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	<p>Task Manager Question from Councillor Lambert: How will the parking signs be enforced? RCMP and Bylaw are able to ticket offenders, first step is to raise awareness of the signs and draw attention to them.</p>	
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9. NEW BUSINESS



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

10.1	Policy Review Meeting Notes Councillor Clement noted the committee has completed the review of the entire Policy Binder	
10.2	EDT -Working Group Meeting Notes Discussion: Geo Cache: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wind phone shouldn't be included, users may prefer privacy.</li> <li>• Focus on areas in Ashcroft that haven't been showcased as a priority</li> <li>• Suggestions will be finalised and forwarded to GCCS at the end of the month</li> </ul> Website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification - website to go live the first week of March</li> <li>• Being tested across all platforms – computer, tablets, handheld devices</li> </ul>	

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden TNRD Board Meeting was two weeks ago, next one is coming up in two weeks.	
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	N/A	
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
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14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, February 10, 2025, at 7:04 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of  
the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
Council held Monday, February 10, 2025.

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Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

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Barbara Roden,  
Mayor

Brief outline to council and administration re: Cam Tedford presentation to Monday Feb 10 as a delegation of one.

I would like to affirm that I have the permission of family members to use their names and details of their association to Ashcroft during the presentation.

Recently John Esau passed away. He was a long-time resident of Ashcroft His death bed wish was to have a full service with casket and viewing and live streamed service. He also wanted to be buried in our Ashcroft cemetery. John had been ill for a while, but his passing came more quickly than expected. During the last few days of his life John asked his brothers Heinz and Peter to reach out to me about the protocol to procure a burial plot in our cemetery and contact info for the funeral home. I informed Heinz that he should contact the village office, but that I was fairly certain that there were no full grave sights available. He then asked about the upper one close to John's home. Again, I advised he check with the village administration but that that cemetery was not in use.

John ended up being interned in Abbotsford close to his parents. His preparation was done there, and his service was held there. Many of us had to travel there for the funeral.

My purpose of asking for your time on Feb 10 is to present for you and the public a synopsis of my costs to attend his funeral as well as a projection of lost revenues to our community; and also, to discuss the intangible aspects of his funeral and internment having to be elsewhere.

Thanks Cam



I will break the math down in three levels. First the actual burial costs; secondly the approx. costs per adult attending (55 adults) based on standard models as well my personal receipts and thirdly the intangible / opportunity costs.

Funeral costs to include funeral expenses, director services, church service, casket, and internment = \$12,000

Personal costs = hotel \$150.60

= fuel \$102.89

= food \$150.00

= tips \$50.00 including church plate , hotel room and food

\$453.49

So if 1/3 of the attendees travelled solo =18 people X 453.49 = \$8,162

the remaining 37 travelled together which would not half the cost but would reduce some of the expenses ie. the hotel room and fuel > So lets say \$300.00 per person=\$ 11,100

For some people there were expenses for condolence card flowers, vehicle washing before procession to the grave. There was also expense for at least two families from Ashcroft that had children with them. I can't account for those expenses with accuracy.

There were 10 separate vehicles that attended the service from Ashcroft. If government travel allowance is 55 cents per km and we split out as much as 20 cents per km for fuel= 35 cents per km vehicle cost. The round-trip including procession mileage was 598 km. Therefore 598 X 10 =5980 km X .35 = \$ 2092. I realize that figure is a little ambiguous, however, those are dollars that had to be spent away Those Ashcroftians could not spend those dollars locally while their families were here in our town with them.

So in closing, I would like to point out that this was a full traditional funeral. Which I have seen in our town maybe only 20 times since Deb and I moved here and seems to be a dying ( pardon the pun) trend. The following are a few my personal thoughts regarding additional intangibles. After years of doing spring clean up in the cemetery, I have seen many out-of-town families return when the weather warms for a grave side visit as well as place flowers on death anniversaries.

Deb and I started Friendship Auto in 2006.Hienz came to work with us in fall 2011; familiar with the region because his parents camped at Barnes lake. After arriving, his brother and sister in law ,visited and bought a house on the Mesa which they rent it to a local executive.

Then John came to live and base his life from here. He worked out of town at sight C and other large projects but brought much of his disposable income home to our community.

So the opportunity to show case our community was lost to a small funeral delegation of only 55 persons ; but 35 of those attending had never been here. Comparing that to others recent services that filled our community center. If this were a 200 person funeral for a local person that wanted a traditional burial with full casket internment in Ashcroft, but our village could not provide then take; the \$30,000 X 4 and that equals 120,000 dollars or so lost.

People that have not experienced our village cant have any idea of the Real Estate affordability, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities or living in a very” desert dry” health friendly community.

So I have some suggestions...

Have a survey done of the current cemetery to see if the village owns the property at the far south end where the Siberian Elm trees are and the sand pile. Perhaps we could get a half dozen plots in there that would still pacify the riparian legislation. On the same note we maintain the lands between the east fence and the access road that we and CPKC use; is there room to move that fence back and put in many more down that entire length?

With respect to our upper ( MESA) cemetery it is ironic that John was buried in a tiered site in Abbotsford. We were able to drive close enough with the hearse that the walk by the pallbearers was limited. Why could we not put a ring road around the top side of the upper cemetery and a parking area for attendees across Mesa Vista dr to the west? If you visit the cemetery in North Kelowna many of the graves there are on a steep banks with concrete bunkers for internment. That is what we do here with our liners now so maybe a placement plan using a high abb or small excavator would work.

Finally I think that presales of plots is not necessary and they should be purchased at fair market value at time of need.

We spend a lot of money are park studies and recently the OCP revision and there is lots of talk about residential development but we have to be able to give families the ability the stay here in perpetuity

Thanks