



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT
6:00 PM ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021

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

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

Media

EXCUSED: Councillor, Deb Tuohey

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.

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Tuesday October 12, 2021 to order 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. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Motion to add or delete Agenda items

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended

M/S Anstett/Anderson

THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2021-219

2. **MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, September 27, 2021 M/S Davenport/Anstett <i>That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, September 27, 2021 be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-220

3. **DELEGATIONS**

3.1		
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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.

Questions and comments received by email from TNRD Area "I" resident Gloria Mertens are attached and form part of these minutes.

5. BYLAWS

5.1		
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1		

FOR INFORMATION		
6.2	CAO Report – 2020 Annual Report M/S Roden / Anderson <i>That the 2020 Annual Report be received for information.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-221

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Heather Daniel, Headstart Coordinator, St'uxwtews Bonaparte First Nation – Request for Donation for Family Halloween Dance M/S Anderson / Anstett <i>That, the Village support the request for a donation of 10 cases water and 10 cases of juice boxes for the annual Halloween Party coordinated by Bonaparte FN Headstart program.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-222
7.2	Craig Baird, Canadian History Ehx – Town Sponsorship Podcast Episode M/S Roden / Davenport <i>That, Council endorses the proposal from Craig Baird of Canadian History Ehx. and purchase one podcast episode for \$250 featuring Ashcroft.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-223
FOR INFORMATION		
7.3	Ambulance Paramedics of BC – Invitation to meet re: Initiatives and solutions available to communities	
7.4	Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot – Venture Connect Celebrates 10 Years Helping Stay Open in Rural BC	
7.5	Flip Chart	
	M/S Anderson / Anstett <i>That, the information correspondence items be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-224

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager M/S Davenport / Anstett	CARRIED Unanimous
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	<i>That the Task Manger for October 121, 2021 be received and filed.</i>	R-2021-225
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9. NEW BUSINESS

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

10.1		
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11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden – Report M/S Anstett / Anderson <i>That, Mayor Roden’s Council Report be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-226
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport – Report M/S Roden / Anstett <i>That Councillor Davenport’s Council Report be received for information.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-227
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	Section 90 (1) (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality. M/S Roden / Davenport	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-228
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	M/S Roden / Anderson <i>That, the Closed Meeting Agenda Item 4.1 Motion to appoint the Fire Chief be released to the Regular meeting of Council for Tuesday October 12, 2021.</i> <i>CARRIED-Unanimous-C-2021-40</i> 4.1 Appointment of Fire Chief Councillor Anstett recused himself being in a conflict of interest as a member of the Fire Department at 6:30 pm and returned to the meeting at 6:50pm. Council reviewed and discussed the Fire Chief applications at length and resolved the following motion to appoint the Fire Chief. M/S Roden / Anderson <i>That, Council appoint Josh White as the Fire Chief of the Ashcroft Fire Rescue for a four year term ending October 14, 2025 and that a meeting be scheduled with Chief White to select the Deputy Chief as per the Ashcroft Fire Rescue Constitution.</i> <i>CARRIED – Unanimous- C-2021-39</i>	
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14. ADJOURNMENT

M/S Anstett / Davenport

That, the Regular Meeting of Council for Tuesday October 12, 2021 be adjourned at 7:07 pm.

CARRIED – Unanimous- R-2021-229

Certified to be a true copy of the
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of
Council held Tuesday October 12, 2021

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden,
Mayor

Att.

ASHCROFT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 12, 2021

FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC GALLERY

6.2 CAO Report 2020 Annual Report

The Annual Report is mandated to come out in June. How long of an extension did municipalities get to prepare and send in the report?

Pg 17 Safety Committee: Is this part of WorkSafe BC for employees only? The blurb indicates that the committee “ensures all public owned properties and buildings are safe for staff and public”. If this is the case, I am wondering if there have been any discussions to make the village office more accessible for seniors, including a simple change to replace the entrance door knob to a door lever or to work on the ramp so that it is more functional?

Pg 19 Council Meeting Listing for 2020

I would like to make a comment on my disappointment in this council changing the COTW structure so that open dialogue with the public is no longer enshrined in the procedural bylaw. I know that it was a unique opportunity for the public to engage openly with Council at Committee of the Whole meetings and that it was established by a former Council because of concerns with respect to public engagement. It is unfortunate that Council decided to follow this path.

I am, however, very pleased at the increase in the number of public notices and social media posts to outreach more of the populace. I have not seen regular posts at the Post Office as I thought was going to be implemented.

Pg 21 Financial Services

I note that the BI system has been in place now for about two years. As I have mentioned before, financials are very difficult to follow when the reports are made verbally and illegible from a citizen’s perspective on screen. I think there should be a mention of this in the Annual Report and that upon request members of the public can receive printed reports.

Pg 22 Permissive Tax Exemptions

It looks like these exemptions will be maintained until 2024 because of the 5 year bylaw. I am wondering if any organizations can apply for a tax exemption before 2024 if they fill in the applicable application and go through the review process?

Pg 23 Human Resource Services

In 2019 Human Resources listed 2 summer students, but there was no mention of summer students in 2020. Were there no summer students employed in 2020? If there were summer students employed would this be additional to the 3 managers, 4 inside staff, 9 outside public works staff and 8 seasonal staff?

Should there not have been a mention of the termination of the last CAO, who was with the village for only six months, and cost to the village?

Pg 25 Planning Development Services

I would like to know where the photo was taken from? This shot is used many times by the Village and I am unable to identify it as a in the Village of Ashcroft.

Pg 26 Approving Officer Function

I notice that the approving officer function was contracted out in 2019 and now is done in-house by the Chief Administrative Officer. When did this occur and was there any resolution to this effect? What was the impetus for the change?

Pg 27 Operational Services

Water Treatment Plant

I am wondering why the village keeps perseverating on the supposed fact that the Water Treatment Plant came in under budget. The WTP budget was for two different water capacity plants: one at 125 L/s for \$8.6 million and the other 100L/s for \$7.9 million. Our WTP capacity is 100L/s so that should have cost taxpayers \$7.9 million and that was with a contingency of close to 15%. I think it is disingenuous to declare the WTP as being under budget when on budget would have been, for what was received, \$7.9 million and not \$8.6 million.

In addition, the Village paid top dollar for a trial run of the WTP and the engineering company should have been held accountable for the sudden requirement for another \$800 000 for sand separators.

Pg 29 Sewer Treatment Plant

In 2019, 22 tonnes of bulk effluent were hauled away and in 2020 50 tonnes of bulk effluent were hauled away. The population of Ashcroft did not double. Why did the effluent double?

Water Consumption Data

In 2019, it was stated that water consumption data would be available in 2020. I did not see any such data. This should be included in the report.

Pg 39 Protection Services

It is reported that Fire Chief Josh White retired, but as per the closed meeting released resolution, it was stated that he had resigned. Which was it?

Pg 45 Current Projects

In the list of current projects, it states under Evacuation Route Planning that a walking path escape route had been established in 2020. Where exactly is that pathway and how was the community informed about it?

I note also that in 2019 that the Off Leash Dog Park was mentioned, but no mention of it in 2020. Once again I think it disingenuous to not mention the fact that the community group backed away from the unreasonable commitment put upon the group in 2020.

7.3 Ambulance Paramedics

At the HUB Market a couple of weeks ago, ambulance paramedics indicated that there are two FTE now stationed in Ashcroft. Will the Village be communicating this information? If so, how and when? In addition, could it be clarified if the paramedics will be assisting in primary emergency care or will they only be providing transportation of emergency cases? Is there an agreement in place for weekend assistance when doctors are unavailable?

11.1 Mayor's Report

Under the **Economic Development and Tourism meeting**, it is mentioned that UniTea has received funding for Facade Improvement. UniTea has just moved into a new building, so I question why would that building need a facade improvement?

Gold Country Communities Society meeting

I see some work being done at the McAbee Fossil Beds. I am wondering if there was any discussion on this development?

11.4 Davenport Report

Could you explain the discussion on “Fair Equity of Fund Distribution”?