

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2006
AT 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:	L. Pepper	Mayor
	A. Bazinet	Councillor
	G. Neely	Councillor
	D. Vye	Councillor
MEMBERS ABSENT:	B. Hay	Councillor
ALSO PRESENT:	G. Morrison	Chief Administrative Officer
	S. Shaw	Media
	O. Vezina	Spectator

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Pepper.

ADDITIONS / DELETIONS to the Agenda

Council accepted the addition to the agenda of Communications #12 City of Port Alberni, dated 17 May, 2006, re Support Small Rural Communities Recreational Facilities, #13 Ministry of Small Business and Revenue, dated 18 May, 2006, re Property Tax Deferment Program for Seniors, #14 UBCM, date 17 May, 2006, re Copy of letter to School District No. 85, re School Community Connections Program, #15 Claire Trevena, dated 18 May, 2006, re Copy of letter to George Abbott, Minister of Health.

DELEGATIONS - Nil

MINUTES from Council and Committees of Council

241/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING from Minutes and Unfinished Business

Recommendation from the Public Works Committee Meeting of 4 May, 2006 – (Min. No. 208/06 – Referred to 24 May 2006)

Transfer Station Recycling – White Goods

242/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Public Works Foreman contact both Can-Am Recycling and Budget Steel to enquire about their terms and conditions for supplying a 40 yard container for waste metal products, and further that the information be brought to the next Public Works Committee meeting for discussion.

CARRIED

City of Coquitlam - Seniors Advocacy Project

243/06

It was duly moved and seconded that Min No. 215/06 be rescinded, and further that the Council of the Village of Port Alice support the resolution passed by the City of Coquitlam as follows:

WHEREAS there are no coordinated seniors' advocacy services funded by any level of government;

AND WHEREAS the senior's population is increasing dramatically at the same time that government funding cutbacks are severely impacting seniors;

AND WHEREAS this gap in social policy is leading to potential abuse of seniors, causes unnecessary anxiety to seniors and their families, and places additional stress on municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Village of Port Alice has previously expressed concerns to the Province regarding legislation such as the Community Care and Assisted Living Act – specifically with respect to legislation's narrowness of application and lack of provisions for accountability and monitoring for facilities supplying housing, care or services to seniors;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- a) The Village of Port Alice supports in principle the establishment of Regional Senior's Advocacy Offices (RSAC) as proposed by the Senior's Advocacy Steering Committee as a means of providing security and protection to seniors by ensuring they have an independent voice to advocate for senior's rights in accordance with federal, provincial and municipal legislation;
- b) this resolution be forwarded to the UBCM and the FCM for endorsement;
- c) this resolution be forwarded to the provincial government requesting support for this BC initiative; and
- d) The Village of Port Alice will collaborate with other municipalities in the UBCM and the FCM to lobby the federal government for support of this initiative.

CARRIED

Mayor's Meeting with Bob Simpson, MLA, Forestry Critic

Mayor Pepper met with Bob Simpson, MLA and critic for Forest & Range on May 11th to discuss the new stumpage rates. While the lower stumpage rate is a benefit for the forest industry it could have a negative impact on Neucel, and other pulp mills, if the penalty for leaving pulp wood in the bush is not adequate. Mayor Pepper requested that the penalty amount be reviewed to ensure it is appropriate. Mr. Simpson agreed that if current practice is problematic for Neucel they will work on it. A survey, by helicopter, to look at areas where pulp wood is left will be done. Current policing vs independent policing of forest practices was also discussed.

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MINUTES from Other Organizations

244/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the minutes of the Vancouver Island North Woodlands Advisory Group, dated 27 April, 2006 be received.

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS

Incoming Mail Log

245/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Incoming Mail Log for the period 09 May, 2006 to 21 May, 2006 be received.

CARRIED

Receipt of Miscellaneous Communications

246/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from:

1. City of Victoria, dated 11 May, 2006, re reconsideration of Bill 30,
2. Sea View E.J.S. School, dated 11 May, 2006, re Thank you from Grade 3 students – drinking fountain and fish painting project,
3. Ministry of Community Services, dated 9 May, 2006, re Small Community Protection Grant program – receipt of first instalment,
4. Barbara & Peter Carter, dated 17 May, 2006, re Highway 19 North,
5. City of Nelson, dated 18 May, 2006, re Seniors Advocacy Project,
6. Canada Firearms Centre, dated 20 May, 2006, re Changes to Canadian Firearms Program, and
7. UBCM, dated 17 May, 2006, re Copy of letter to School District No. 85, re School Community Connections Program – “Making the Connection”

be received.

CARRIED

City of Trail – Lowering of City Hall Flags

247/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communications from the City of Trail, dated 11 May, 2006, re City policy for Lowering of City Hall Flags be received and further that a resolution for the Lowering of City Hall Flags be drafted and discussed at UBCM.

CARRIED

Claire Trevena, MLA – Crystal Meth Prevention Act 2006

248/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communications from Claire Trevena, dated 12 May, 2006, re Bill entitled Crystal Meth Prevention Act 2006 be received, and further that the wording for the petition be requested so a similar petition can be prepared for Port Alice residence to sign without having to travel to Port McNeill.

CARRIED

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Ministry of Community Services – 2006 Seniors’ Week Proclamation

249/06

It was duly moved and seconded that

Whereas seniors are a diverse population within a society that supports its members throughout the life continuum, and recognizes individual rights to dignity, respect, autonomy and choice, and

Whereas seniors in Port Alice through their various contributions have helped to establish a province which reflects a unique, economic, cultural and ethnic heritage, and

Whereas the Village of Port Alice is committed to ensuring that the voices of seniors are heard, and that seniors are valued as partners in shaping the future of Port Alice, and

Whereas harmony among generations can be fostered by a deeper understanding of what it means to grow old, and

Whereas Seniors’ Week is a time to acknowledge the diversity of seniors and to increase public awareness of their vital role in Port Alice society, and

Whereas Mayor Pepper, by and with the advised and consent of Council, is pleased to proclaim and declare that June 4 to 11, 2006, inclusive, shall be known as “Seniors Week” in Port Alice.

CARRIED

Karl Kliparchuk – Community Wildfire Protection Plans Grant

250/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communications from Karl Kliparchuk, dated 19 May, 2006, re Community Wildfire Protection Plans Grant be received, and forwarded to the Fire Chief.

CARRIED

City of Port Alberni – Rec. Facilities in Small Rural Communities

251/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communications from the City of Port Alberni, dated 17 May, 2006, requesting support to encourage an initiative to help small rural communities maintain quality recreational facilities be received, and further that the Village of Port Alice write to our MP in consideration and support of this initiative.

CARRIED

Ministry of Small Business & Revenue – Property Tax Deferment Program

252/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communications from the Ministry of Small Business & Revenue, dated 18 May, 2006, re Property Tax Deferment Program for seniors be received, and referred to the next Council meeting.

CARRIED

Clare Trevena, MLA for the North Island – Port Alice Health Care

253/06

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It was duly moved and seconded that the copy of the communications from Claire Trevena, MLA to the Minister of Health, dated 18 May, 2006, re Port Alice Health Care, be received, and further that a letter of thanks be sent to Claire for her support.

CARRIED

REPORTS

Purchase of Cell Phone 254/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Village of Port Alice purchase a cell phone to be used for emergency situations only, the phone service will be provided by prepaid phone care minutes. The cell phone will be located in the municipal office, and made accessible to the Public Works Dept. in the event of an emergency, by providing the dept. with a key to the office.

CARRIED

BYLAWS

Annual Tax Rates Amendment bylaw No. 521, 2006 255/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Annual Tax Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 521, 2006 be referred to the In-Camera Council Meeting.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Neely – VIHA Meeting, 23 May 2006

Councillor Neely provided Council with a brief report on the VIHA meeting she attended on May 23rd. VIHA is committed to doing something about improving the services of specialists on the North Island. It is preferred that more specialist be attracted to the North Island to serve their patients rather than send the patients south for consultation or treatment.

QUESTION PERIOD

Sue Shaw - Media

1. How much will the property taxes be going up?
Mayor Pepper's reply – Municipal portion only 42%
2. Why did Council receive and file the letter from the City of Nelson, re Seniors Advocacy Project?
Mayor Pepper's reply – Council previously supported the Seniors Advocacy Project under the request from the City of Coquitlam,

Ozzie Vezina - Spectator

1. Is there any progress on the marina?

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Mayor Pepper's reply – The Village is waiting for funding announcement to be made.

2. How much longer are we going to have only one police officer?

Mayor Pepper's reply – When speaking with the Inspector three weeks ago he indicated that the situation has gone on long enough and that Port Alice should have the second officer soon.

Adjournment

It was duly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 7:50 PM to In-Camera to deal with legal, labour, land or litigation matters.

CARRIED

Certified Correct _____
Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor

Confirmed this ____ day of _____, 2006.