

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST, 2006
AT 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:	L. Pepper	Mayor
	G. Neely	Councillor
	A. Bazinet	Councillor
MEMBERS ABSENT:	B. Hay	Councillor
	D. Vye	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 additions to the Agenda of **Communications** #8 UBCM, dated 15 August, 2006 re Business Case – Full Time Funded Coordinator for the BC Municipal Safety Association, #9 UBCM, dated 18 August, 2006, re Ambulance Survey, **New Business** #2 Letter of Reference for James Kerr, #3 Mayor Pepper, re Trip to Norway, #4 Mill Property Taxes – Discussion with Mike Burns.

DELEGATIONS – Nil

MINUTES from Council and Committees of Council

399/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held 09 August, 2006 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING from Minutes and Meetings - Nil

MINUTES from Other Organizations - NIL

COMMUNICATIONS

Incoming Mail Log

400/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Incoming Mail Log for the period 05 August, 2006 to 21 August, 2006 be received.

CARRIED

Letter to Dr. Symon

401/06

It was duly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to Dr. Symon requesting his attendance at the meeting with VIHA on September 26, 2006 pointing out that as the contract is with him it is imperative that he be in attendance as a key stakeholder.

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CARRIED

Receipt of Miscellaneous Communications

402/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from:

1. UBCM, dated 4 August, 2006, re Seniors Housing and Support Conference cancelled;
2. Minister of Community Services, date 09 August, 2006, re Competition Council Report. be received.

CARRIED

Minister Ida Chong – Appointments with Minister at UBCM

403/06

It was duly moved and seconded that Mayor Pepper request an appointment with the Honourable Ida Chong, Minister of Community Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors' and Women's Issues at the 2006 UBCM Convention.

CARRIED

Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Funding Opportunities for Water & Transportation Projects

404 /06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from Federation of Canadian Municipalities, dated 10 August, 2006 re New Funding Opportunities for Water & Transportation Projects be referred to the Public Works Committee.

CARRIED

Ministry of Health, Promoting Age-Friendly Rural & Remote Communities

405/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from The Ministry of Health, BC Recreation and Parks Association, 2010 Legacies Now, and UBCM, dated 16 August, 2006, re An opportunity to participate in a national project promoting Age-Friendly Rural and Remote communities be received and further that the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to make application for Port Alice to be considered as a pilot community through this project.

CARRIED

ICBC, Zero Crash Month

406/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from ICBC, dated 18 August, 2006 re Zero Crash Month be received and further that Mayor Pepper proclaim October 1, - October 31, 2006 Zero Crash Month in Port Alice; and further that a copy of the letter and proclamation be sent to the RCMP, Port Alice Detachment, for their information.

CARRIED

UBCM, Business Case-Full Time Funded Coordinator for the BC Municipal Safety Association

407/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from UBCM, dated 15 August, 2006, re Business Case-Full Time Funded Coordinator for the BC Municipal Safety Association be referred to the next Council Meeting and further that the Chief Administrative Officer prepare a financial report indicating what the relative costs of this position will be for

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Port Alice.

CARRIED

UBCM – Ambulance Survey

408/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the communication from UBCM, dated 18 August, 2006, re Ambulance Survey be received and further that Mayor Pepper meet with Chandra Hovde, Unit Chief, to complete the survey.

CARRIED

REPORTS - Nil

BYLAWS

Anti-Smoking Amendment Bylaw No. 522, 2006

409/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the “Village of Port Alice Smoking Control Amendment Bylaw No. 522, 2006” be reconsidered and adopted.

CARRIED

Permissive Exemption from Taxation (Legion) Bylaw No. 523, 2006

410/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the “Village of Port Alice Permissive Exemption from Taxation (Legion) Bylaw No. 523, 2006” be read for a first time.

CARRIED

Permissive Exemption from Taxation (Wharf) Bylaw No. 524, 2006

411/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the “Village of Port Alice Permissive Exemption from Taxation (Wharf) Bylaw No. 524, 2006” be read for a first time.

CARRIED

Permissive Exemption from Taxation (for Occupiers of Municipal Property) Bylaw No. 525, 2006

412/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the “Village of Port Alice Permissive Exemption from Taxation (for Occupiers of Municipal Property) Bylaw No. 525, 2006” be read for a first time.

CARRIED

Permissive Exemption from Taxation (Library, Public Worship Properties and Health Clinic) Bylaw No. 526, 2006

413/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the “Village of Port Alice Permissive Exemption from Taxation (Library, Public Worship Properties and Health Clinic) Bylaw No. 526, 2006” be read for a first time.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Alderwood Acres – Notice of Rent Increase

414/06

It was duly moved and seconded that the Notice of Rent Increase for mobile home pad #61 which stores belongings for Village of Port Alice Search & Rescue, dated 16 August, 2006 be received and further that the \$10.00 per month rental increase be approved for payment effective 01 December, 2006.

CARRIED

James Kerr – Letter of Reference

415/06

It was duly moved and seconded that, as per Mr. James Kerr's telephone request to Mayor Pepper, a letter of reference be written for Mr. Kerr, representative of Forest Capital, who performed his duties in a professional manner during the negotiations to find a new owner for the pulp mill.

CARRIED

Mayor Pepper – Trip to Norway

Mayor Pepper informed Council that he has been invited to travel to Norway to attend the Aquavision Conference from September 22nd to October 1st. This trip is funded by the Province of British Columbia and other sources. This conference will provide invaluable information on developing finfish aquaculture. There is potential for the North Island to capitalize on this industry, therefore Mayor Pepper has accepted the invitation to attend.

Mayor Pepper – Discussion with Neucel Director, Mike Burns

Mayor Pepper informed Council that he had a telephone conversation with Mike Burns, of Neucel Specialty Cellulose Ltd. regarding payment of property taxes. Mr. Burns informed Mayor Pepper that the other directors were not aware of some of the financial decisions that were being made by Mr. Richard Bassett and explained that the company has hired a consultant, John Calabrese to assist them with reorganizing their finances.

Mr. Burns is aware of the importance of paying the property taxes and is also aware that Council can not forgive the penalty that has been assessed on unpaid current taxes. Mr. Burns is asking that consideration be given to pay the taxes by instalments throughout the remainder of the year.

Nuecel – Payment of Property Taxes

416/06

It was duly moved and seconded that Mr. Burns be informed that the Village of Port Alice will accept payments for property taxes on an instalment basis.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

Ozzie Vezina – Relocation of Seniors Centre

After hearing rumours that the Village will be shutting down the Seniors Centre Ozzie Vezina asked Council if this is fact or fiction. The seniors have plans to make improvements to their deck and would like to proceed if possible.

Mayor Pepper informed Ozzie that closing the seniors centre and relocating them was a recommendation that was presented to Council by the Transition Committee. Council has not acted on this recommendation. Some members of Council are concerned with the access to the building, the general state of repair of the building and concerns with the previous infestation of rodents in the building. However there are no immediate plans to close the building.

Ozzie also asked what would become of the Thrift Store and the Dance Studio if the seniors centre was closed.

Council assured Ozzie that there are no immediate plans to close the building. If Council is forced to make this decision another location would be found, for all users, before the building is closed.

Ozzie asked Council for a letter stating that they could proceed with their building improvements as that there are no immediate plans to shut the building down.

Mayor Pepper informed Ozzie that this item would be discussed at the next Regular Council Meeting and he would be informed of Council's decision immediately thereafter.

Sue Shaw – Media

1. If the mill doesn't pay their taxes can the Village of Port Alice put a lien on the property quicker than last time?

Mayor Pepper

There are provisions under the Community Charter that can be followed if it is deemed appropriate.

2. If Port Alice is to become an age friendly community what projects will be considered?

Councillor Neely

Improved access to washrooms in our public buildings would be one project to be considered.

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Sue mentioned that there is a need for benches throughout the community as we have seniors who walk from the top streets of the community and when they return home have a long climb with nowhere to have a seat to rest.

Sue also mentioned the need for washrooms (portables) on the upper holes of the Port Alice Golf Course.

Sue was informed that the Port Alice Golf Course is private property and not under the municipalities jurisdiction.

3. What is the purpose of Mayor Pepper's trip to Norway and how is it funded?

Mayor Pepper

The trip to Norway is for the purpose of learning about finfish aquaculture and to determine if our coast would be a suitable location for this type of industry. The funding for the trip comes from several different sources with the Province of BC, Northern Economic Development and the Salmon Farmers Association being some of the major sources.

4. When the Village borrows money, where do the funds come from?

Mayor Pepper

The Municipal Finance Authority.

Councillor Neely

1. If you own water front property can you install access to the water?

Mayor Pepper

You would need to obtain foreshore rights through the Dept of Water, Land and Air and obtain permission and follow the rules of set out by the Dept. Fisheries and Oceans.

Adjournment

It was duly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:10 PM to In-Camera to deal with legal, labour, land or litigation matters.

CARRIED

Certified Correct _____

Chief Administrative Officer

Mayor

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Confirmed this _____ day of _____, 2006.