

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the **DISTRICT OF MISSION COUNCIL** held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Hall, 8645 Stave Lake Street, Mission, British Columbia, on May 11, 2015 commencing at 12:05 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Randy Hawes  
Councillor Pam Alexis  
Councillor Carol Hamilton  
Councillor Jim Hinds  
Councillor Rhett Nicholson  
Councillor Danny Plecas  
Councillor Jenny Stevens

Staff Members Present: Glen Robertson, Interim Chief Administrative Officer  
Rogine Battel, Manager, RCMP Administration  
Kris Boland, Manager of Finance  
Inspector Ted De Jager, Officer in Charge, Mission RCMP  
Haylee Gould, Administrative Assistant  
Kirsten Hargreaves, Manager of Social Development  
Jenny Hill, Administrative Clerk  
Chris Knowles, Manager of Information Services  
Tina Penney, Acting Manager of Corporate Administration  
Jennifer Russell, Deputy Corporate Officer

Members of the Public: ± 4

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

SC15/049  
MAY 11/15

Moved by Councillor Stevens, seconded by Councillor Alexis, and  
RESOLVED: That the May 11, 2015 Special Council Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

### 3. BYLAWS FOR CONSIDERATION

SC15/050  
MAY 11/15

Moved by Councillor Stevens, seconded by Councillor Alexis, and  
RESOLVED: That 2015-2019 Financial Plan Bylaw 5495-2015, a bylaw to establish the Financial Plan for the years 2015 to 2019 be **adopted**.

CARRIED

SC15/051  
MAY 11/15

Moved by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Alexis, and  
RESOLVED: That 2015 Tax Rates Bylaw 5496-2015, a bylaw to impose property tax rates for the year 2015 be **adopted**.

CARRIED

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

SC15/052  
MAY 11/15

##### **Stone Soup Initiatives and Homelessness Discussion**

Kirsten Hargreaves and Paul Horn presented a report entitled 'Stone Soup: Phase One Report Out' to Council as a grass-roots plan to address the problem of homelessness in the District of Mission. It was noted that this issue reached a crisis point in Mission in the summer and early fall of 2014.

The report identified three strategies required to address the problem: preventatives (to ensure fewer people become homeless), proactive (to reduce the current homeless population), and reactive, (to manage negative impacts or crises). The themes of the report focused on coordination, research, education, communication/collaboration, capacity, and to review, revise and report results.

The initiative has been divided into three phases with Phase One now in the process of being concluded and Phase Two beginning:

Phase One – gather data from service providers, homeless people and the general public. Provide the report and options for Council to identify items to be further costed and planned.

Phase Two – present the planned and costed items for final approval. The plans are to include concrete outcomes and the items are to be taken to other groups.

Phase Three – interventions undertaken. To be reviewed at set intervals. Revise and adjust interventions as needed.

The report noted that homelessness has a diverse range of causes but is largely an issue of poverty. Although there are many people at risk of homelessness, youths and seniors are particularly vulnerable.

The report identified the following issues relating to homelessness within the District:

- Visible poverty and behavioural confrontations in the downtown area;
- Homeless encampments and deaths near the CNR tracks;
- Open drug abuse and the discarding of bio-hazardous needles in the vicinity of the mission library, museum and downtown steps; and
- A growing problem with drug related crime, coupled with an under-resourced RCMP force.

Council was invited to ask questions during the presentation. Some items of discussion which resulted from the questions included: identifying people at risk, how to include stakeholders and the community as a whole, community education, education and accountability for service providers and recipients, fiscal implications, legalities around confidentiality and disclosure, effective avenues of communication, services/facilities currently available and/or needed, accessibility to detox, health and mental health services, affordable housing options, timelines, and collaboration with other branches of government and community service organizations.

Ms. Hargreaves and Mr. Horn provided an overview of 35 approaches for Council to review, ranging from short to long term, and from minimal to substantial budget impacts. It was requested that Council review the options and identify, at most, ten priority items to be investigated further and to provide a timeline for a response to further investigation, including costs for time, money and other resources. It was also requested that Council advise what other groups, individuals or governments they would like approached. Council was also asked to identify any concerns or limits they would like to establish and to what degree Council would like to allocate financial and human resources in developing the items for Phase Two.

Discussion ensued, and it was noted that Council would be able to provide further direction before the Wellness Committee planning session scheduled for May 29, 2015.

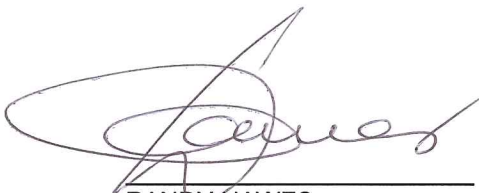
## 5. ADJOURNMENT

SC15/053  
MAY 11/15

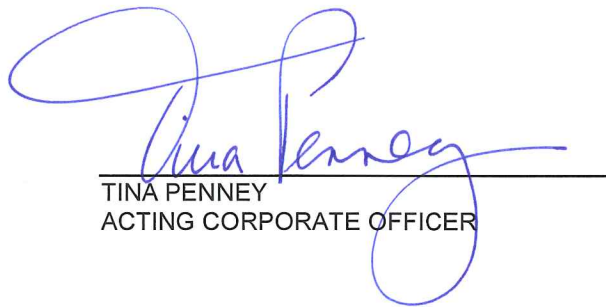
Moved by Councillor Plecas, seconded by Councillor Nicholson, and  
RESOLVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.



RANDY HAWES  
MAYOR



TINA PENNEY  
ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER

