

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Thursday, February 9, 2023

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Gladys Atrill – via Zoom
Shane Brienen – left at 11:23 a.m., returned at 11:44 a.m.
Martin Elphee
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Chris Newell
Michael Riis-Christianson
Stoney Stoltenberg
Sarrah Storey
Henry Wiebe

Director Absent Leroy Dekens, Village of Telkwa

Alternate Director Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

CALL TO ORDER Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m.

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

OATH OF OFFICE Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services conducted the Oath of Office for Annette Morgan, Alternate Director, Village of Telkwa.

**AGENDA &
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Brienens
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2023-2-1

"That the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 9, 2023 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole
Minutes – January 12, 2023

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director McGuire

C.W.2023-2-2

"That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2023 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Tax Implications

Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer provided an overview of the budget process and the Consumer Price Index memorandum information provided at a past meeting.

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer provided an overview of the Tax Implication memorandum. The following was discussed:

- Most of the non-market changes are new residential construction and pipelines
- Major (all jurisdiction services) and Rural services
- Increase in assessments
 - o Residential, commercial, industrial - regional average 11.5%
 - o Some areas have higher assessments than the regional average
 - o Balance of higher assessments vs. lower assessments
 - o Taxation not based on market value of assessment
 - o Taxation impacted by new construction/or deconstruction of industrial facilities – these are non-market factors
 - o Consideration of future new construction and new industrial construction
- Based on inflation, market, and keeping the same level of services there is a need to consider an increase in taxation
 - o Major factors are wages/remuneration and increased fuel costs
- Environmental Services revenue benefited from pipeline waste
- Asset management impacts are mainly to fire department budgets.

Break for lunch at 12:03 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Tax Implications

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

C.W.2023-2-3

"That staff target a 6% property tax increase for the 2023 budget."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Service Area Budgets

Mr. Illes provided an overview of the Service Area Budgets memorandum.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Regional District Para-Transit
 - o 2024 budget appears to be unsustainable
 - o Staff will be bringing forward options
- Recreation and Culture
 - o To be reviewed in the future
- Invasive Plant Control
 - o Metrics
 - o Discuss further at the Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting
- Vanderhoof Pool
 - o Awaiting requisition from the District of Vanderhoof
- Smithers Victim Services
 - o Participation of Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural), Town of Smithers and Village of Telkwa in the service.

Service Area Budgets

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Wiebe

C.W.2023-2-4

"That the Service Area Budgets be included in the 2023 Regional District Budget."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2023-2-5

" That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1)(c) of the Community Charter for the Board to deal with matters relating to the following:
• Labour relations."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Storey

C.W.2023-2-6

"That the meeting be adjourned at 11:10 a.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
Corporate Services