



The Corporation of the Village of Salmo

REGULAR MEETING #18-23 MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Salmo held in Council Chambers at 423 Davies Avenue in Salmo, B.C. on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

<u>In Person:</u>	CAO/CO Ange Qualizza
Mayor Diana Lockwood	Brandy Jessup
Councillor Melanie Cox	Members of the Public - 4
Councillor Jonathon Heatlie	
Councillor Jennifer Lins	<u>Electronically:</u>
Councillor Kenzie Neil	Members of the Public – 0

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lockwood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA:

R1-18-23

Moved and seconded, that the draft agenda of Regular Meeting #18-23 of Tuesday, October 24, 2023 be adopted as amended from *Council Procedure Bylaw No. 663, 2014* Schedule “B” to include a New Business section, a Presentation on the Transit Study results, a Bylaw Development & Review section, a Public Question Period, and an *In Camera* section.

Carried.

DELEGATIONS:

The Headwaters Podcast

Jayne Moye, reporter for The Headwaters Podcast, presented Council with information on their new project of finding an unnamed mountain peak and creating a name for it. The mountain peak she has identified is located near Porcupine Lake. She asked for feedback on potential names and noted there is a process she would have to go through in order to actually tag the peak with a name.

Departure

Jayne Moye departed the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

NIL

SUMMARY OF TRANSIT STUDY RESULTS: DR. SARAH BREEN & JONNAH RONQUILLO

Jonah Ronquillo presented the results of the Salmo & Area Transit Study. Based on the survey, there is a large number of individuals that would use public transit if it was improved. The improvements mentioned included more routes, convenient schedules, and reliable service. The recommendation based on the results indicates that the existing service should be replaced with a 5-day per week, 3 times a day service to Nelson and Trail.

Departure

Dr. Sarah Breen and Jonah Ronquillo departed the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

MINUTES: (Note: See official minutes and agenda package for copies of applicable reports.)

R2-18-23 Moved and seconded, that the draft minutes of the Regular Council
Regular Meeting #16-23 meeting #16-23 of Tuesday, September 26, 2023 be adopted as
September 26, 2023 presented.

Carried.

R3-18-23 Moved and seconded, that the draft minutes of the Special Council
Special Meeting meeting of Monday, October 16, 2023 be adopted as presented.
October 16, 2023

Carried.

BYLAW DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW:

R4-18-23 Moved and seconded, that the “*Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw #751,*
Permissive Tax *2024*”, having had three readings, be reconsidered and adopted.

Exemption Bylaw #751,
2024 – Adoption

Carried.

Councillor Cox and Councillor Heatlie recorded as opposed.

REFERRALS FROM DELEGATIONS: NIL

REFERRALS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS: NIL

OPERATIONAL REPORTS:

R5-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the written
Civic Works report as presented by Civic Works Foreman Fred Paton dated October
18, 2023. (see *Appendix A*).

Carried.

R6-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council direct staff to proceed with extra
1995 Plow Truck – repairs to the engine in the current 1995 Plow Truck at an estimated
Motor Repairs cost of \$10,000, with the funding to come from the Civic Works
Machinery and Equipment reserve account.

Carried.

R7-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the written
Fire Department report dated October 1, 2023 provided by Fire Chief David Hearn for
the period of September 2023. (see *Appendix A*).

Carried.

R8-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council direct staff to bring back a report to
Notice of Motion Council on work completed to date on a new fire truck, where we are
at with design, finance options, including a timeline of the next 12
months for Council on the process to come.

Carried.

R9-18-23
Bylaw Enforcement
Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the written report on bylaw enforcement for the period of September 2023. (see *Appendix A*).
Carried.

R10-18-23
Administration
Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the written report as presented by CAO Qualizza regarding the CBT Basin Charge Up grant. (see *Appendix A*).
Carried.

Strategic Plan
NIL

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

R11-18-23
Accounts Payable
Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the list of accounts payable cheques and electronic fund transfers from September 22, 2023 to October 19, 2023 totaling \$222,531.30.
Carried.

R12-18-23
Treasurer’s Report
Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the Treasurer’s report for September 2023.
Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION:

R13-18-23
Michael Lentsch Re:
Inquiry Regarding
Zoning Plan and
Property Development
at 420 Fourth Street -
#43
Moved and seconded, that Council direct the CAO to update Mr. Lentsch on the next zoning meeting date.
Carried.

R14-18-23
Salmo Valley Youth &
Community Centre Re:
Letter of Support for
Salmo Valley Fund
Application - #46
Moved and seconded, that Council approve the request of the Salmo Valley Youth & Community Centre to provide a letter of support for their application to the Salmo Valley Fund in the amount of \$1,000 to assist with the costs associated with their healthy food program.
Carried.

R15-18-23
Salmo Ski Team Re:
Letter of Support for
Salmo Valley Fund
Application - #47
Moved and seconded, that Council approve the request of the Salmo Ski Team to provide a letter of support for their application to the Salmo Valley Fund in the amount of up to \$800 to assist with the costs associated with hiring an additional Junior Coach for the 2024 season.
Carried.

R16-18-23
Moved and seconded, that Council approve the request of the Salmo Snowboard Club to sponsor their application, if required, to the Salmo

Salmo Snowboard Club Valley Fund in the amount of \$1,000 to assist with the costs associated
Re: Sponsorship with their new program aimed at expanding recreational offering for
Request for Salmo youth in the community.
Valley Fund Application Carried.
- #49

R17-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council supports the Village of Salmo to
Rural Economic apply to the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Project
Diversification & in the Building Capacity stream for planning services.
Infrastructure Project Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

R18-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council receive for information the
following correspondence from:

- (1) UBCM Re: 2023 UBCM Convention - #44
- (2) UBCM Re: Legislation to Regulate the use of Illicit Drugs in
Public Areas - #45
- (3) RDCK Re: Board Report on the UBCM Complete Communities
Program - #50

Carried.

MEMBER REPORTS & INQUIRIES:

Councillor Cox Councillor Cox reported that she attended the Transit Study results
presentation on October 20, 2023.

Councillor Heatlie Councillor Heatlie reported that he has yet to meet with Heather
regarding the mining project but he was informed that the only
outstanding item is the solar panels.

Councillor Lins Councillor Lins had nothing to report.

Councillor Neil Councillor Neil had nothing to report but asked about lighting around
the bluffs by the old tourist booth as it is really dark. Mayor Lockwood
responded that it had been discussed a while ago and only solar
lighting would work as there is no power near there. It was noted this
could be put on the strategic plan.

Mayor Lockwood See *Appendix B*.

R19-18-23 Moved and seconded, that the verbal and written reports of Mayor
Verbal & Written and Council be received for information.
Reports of Mayor & Carried.
Council

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD: NIL

Departure Brandy Jessup departed the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

IN CAMERA RESOLUTION:

R20-18-23 Moved and seconded, that the meeting be closed to the public under
8:50 p.m. Sections 90(1)(c)(g) of the *Community Charter*.

Carried.

RECONVENE OPEN MEETING: Council reconvened the regular meeting at 9:31 p.m.

RISE & REPORT:

R21-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council agrees to release the following
motion from their *In Camera* session:

That Council rescind the appointment of Brandy Jessup as the
Corporate Officer for the Village of Salmo.

Carried.

R22-18-23 Moved and seconded, that Council agrees to release the following
motion from their *In Camera* session:

That Council appoint Brandy Jessup as the Deputy Corporate Officer for
the Village of Salmo.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved and seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:32 p.m.
R23-18-23

Carried.

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

Originally Signed By:

Diana Lockwood

Mayor

Ange Qualizza

CAO/Corporate Officer

APPENDIX A



The Corporation of the Village of Salmo

Report to Council

Report Date: October 18th, 2023
Meeting Date: October 24th, 2023 (#18-23)
From: Fred Paton, Civic Works Foreman
Subject: Civic Works Report for October, 2023

1. **OBJECTIVE**

To update Council on Civic Works operations.

2. **DISCUSSION**

2.1. **Summer Activities**

- (a) Large Equipment Storage Building final inspection booked. Waiting on building doors to be completed by the contractor and then everything will be complete. Equipment has been moved and is being stored in the building.
- (b) Prepping winter equipment for upcoming season.
- (c) Glendale Bridge repair project has been awarded and work will commence.
- (d) Office roof repair project now complete.
- (e) Ongoing work towards Wastewater Treatment Plant compliance.
- (f) Dates scheduled for:
 - (i) Fall clean up October 25th & 26th, 2023
 - (ii) Chlorination November 3rd, 2023

2.2. **Attachments:**

- (a) Flyers.



Fall Clean-up

The Village of Salmo Civic Works Crew will be picking up **ORGANIC MATERIAL ONLY** from all residents during the following days:

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25th & THURSDAY OCTOBER 26th, 2023

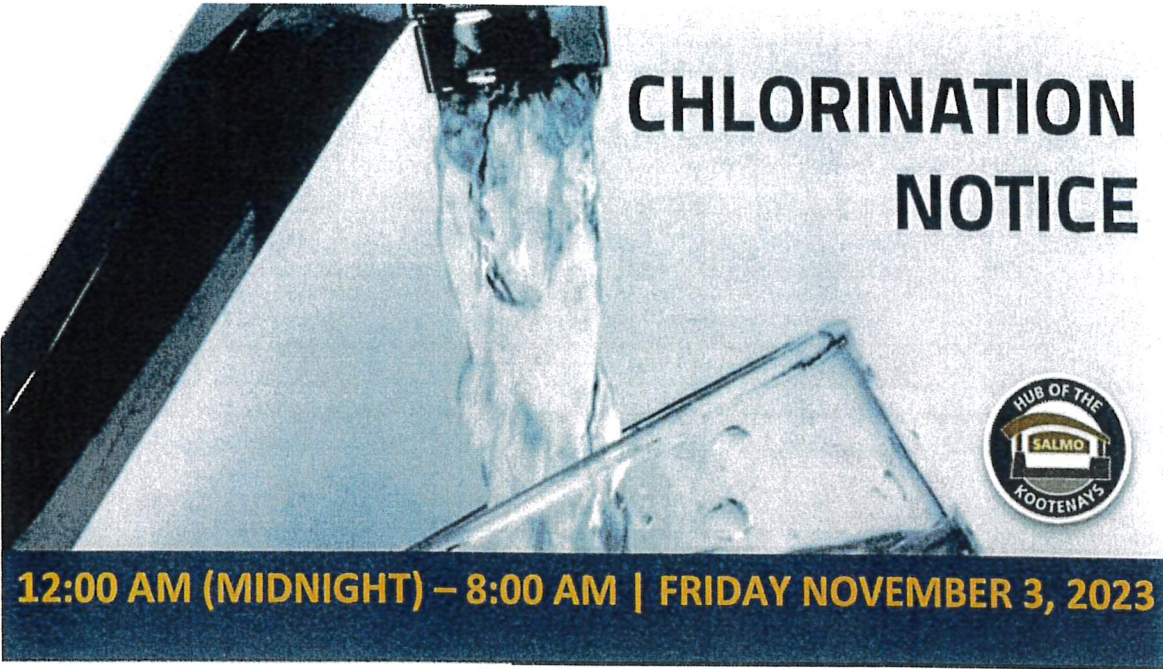
Be Prepared.

- ▶ Please have all organic material out by 8am for pick-up.
- ▶ Tree cuttings should be tied and left in one location.
- ▶ All other organic materials such as grass, leaves, etc. must be bagged in transparent bags.
- ▶ **Rocks, corrugated cardboard, all recyclable and household materials WILL NOT be picked-up.**




Exploring Our Future. Together.





CHLORINATION NOTICE



12:00 AM (MIDNIGHT) – 8:00 AM | FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2023

The Village Civic Works crews will be chlorinating the Village Water System as part of the annual Maintenance.

Residents are asked to refrain from use of sprinklers, washing machines or any extra water usage during this period of time.

Anyone that may have an adverse reaction to chlorine should take appropriate precautions ahead of time.

Chlorine smells may resonate in the water for up to 2 days following the disinfection process. Please call the Village office at (250)357-9433 if you have any inquiries.



The Corporation of the Village of Salmo

Report to Council

Report Date: October 18, 2023
Meeting Date: October 24, 2023, 2023 (#18-23)
From: Fred Paton, Civic Works Foreman
Subject: 1995 Plow Truck – Repair Motor

1. OBJECTIVE

To inform Council on the requirement to complete more repairs to the 1995 Plow Truck motor.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1. On October 11th, 2023, the mechanic was completing the previously approved repairs to the plow truck motor it was discovered that the plow truck needs to have more repairs to the motor in order to complete the full repair.

The price for the extra motor repairs is estimated at \$10,000 including taxes. The Civic Works Machinery and Equipment reserve account was \$157,768.97. Council already approved \$20,000 leaving \$137,768.97 available.

3. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

3.1. That Council direct staff to proceed with extra repairs to the engine in the current 1995 Plow Truck at an estimated cost of \$10,000, with the funding to come from the Civic Works Machinery and Equipment reserve account.

3.2. Attachments:

- (a) Estimate from Bill's Heavy Duty for repairs.



Bill's Heavy Duty Enterprises (2004) Ltd.
 169 Hughes Road Castlegar BC V1N 4M5
 Phone: 250-365-7713
 Fax: 250-365-3988
 bhd@billsheavyduty.ca

Terms: Net 30 days
 I hereby acknowledge my indebtedness and authorize the below repair work to be done along with necessary materials. You and your employees may operate the above mentioned vehicle for purposes of testing, inspection or delivery at my risk. An express mechanic's lien is acknowledged on the above vehicle to secure the amount of repairs thereto. You are not responsible for loss or damage to the motor vehicle or its content due to collision not due to your negligence; or due to fire, theft or other casualty regardless of whether or not such fire, theft or other casualty is due to your negligence, and you and your agents are hereby released from any and all claims for such loss and damage.

Customer Signature: _____

SOLD TO: THE VILLAGE OF SALMO PO BOX 1000 SALMO, BC V0G 1Z0		ADVISOR RYAN HERNANDEZ		21		DOCUMENT # EB01453	
MAKE MODEL YEAR INTERNATIO 4700		1995		COLOR		I.S. DATE	
V.I.R. 1HTSCAAR2SH 697438		FUEL D		CYL. 6		DATE IN 10/11/23	
YOUR KEY		STOCK #		A/C Y		DATE OUT 10/11/23	
CELL OR HOME PHONE (250) 357-9433		ADDRESS # VIL2		P.O. NUMBER		TRANSMISSION Open	
WORK PHONE		LICENSE #		STATUS Open		TAG #	

Note :

12D	Qty	Description	Price	Amount
+A-		REPAIR FOR EXTRA ENGINE DAMAGE - CAMSHAFT & TAPPETS DAMAGED - OIL PAN VERY RUSTY		
	1.00	NAV 1820850C95 CAMSHAFT, AS	3561.63	2428.32
	1.00	NAV 1894236C92 KIT, TAPPETS	4300.15	2866.65
	1.00	NAV 1823740C93 PAN ASSY OI	2190.16	1493.25
		Labor		1,550.00
		Parts		6,788.22
		Total Operation A :		8,338.22
Z-		SHOP SUPPLIES		
		SHOP SUPPLIES		155.00
		Other		155.00
		Total Operation Z :		155.00
		Total Labor		1,550.00
		Total Parts		6,788.22
		Total Other		155.00

SERVICE ESTIMATE ONLY ***DO NOT PAY***

		** SUBTOTAL	8493.22
X	855380549RT0001	** T1	424.66
	1002-1047	** T2	594.53

SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF ITEMS AND SERVICES LISTED, ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS NOTED AND AGREEMENT TO FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT Date _____ Signature _____	PAY THIS AMOUNT: \$9512.41
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Fire Chief's Report: October 01, 2023

Regular Council Meeting #18-23

Since the last report on September 1st, 2023 the Salmo Fire Department responded to 17 calls:

6	Jaws Calls	2	Burn Complaints	2	Structure Fires
1	Commercial Fire Alarm	1	Lift Assist	1	Vehicle Fire
2	Electrical Calls	1	Hazmat	1	Smoke Report

DESCRIPTION

September was an extremely busy month for calls for us, with some significant calls.

In the very early hours of September 1st Salmo Fire Department was paged to a single vehicle MVI on Airport near Sheep Creek. Crews arrived to find a vehicle on its side blocking one lane. The driver had been ejected and was laying in the middle of the other lane. Crews provided initial first aid until the ambulance arrived and transported the victim to hospital. Fortunately there is very little traffic on Airport Road at that time of the morning, as the victim was very hard to see laying in the road.

On the afternoon of September 15th crews were dispatched to a reported structure fire at the Salmo Hotel. Our crews arrived to see the cedar roofing fully engulfed in flames along the outside deck on 4th Street and also Railway Avenue. Crews were able to fairly quickly knock down the bulk of the visible flames, but it took some time to extinguish the hidden flames. We were able to contain the fire to the outside deck, and no fire entered the building and the main roof of the hotel remained intact. There was very little smoke in the building, and very little water considering the thousands of gallons of water we used. Thirteen members of the Salmo Fire Department, as well as thirteen members of the Ymir Fire Department spent many hours battling the blaze.

In the evening of September 20th crews were dispatched to a single vehicle MVI on Kootenay Pass. There was very little detail provided to us as far as location or severity of the incident. Crews arrived to find a vehicle 100 feet over a steep and rocky embankment, with the driver still inside the vehicle. Using a series of ropes were set up to bring the victim safely up the bank in a basket stretcher to the waiting ambulance.

On September 22nd Salmo Fire crews responded to another call for the Jaws on Kootenay Pass. Once again there was very little detail provided to us as far as location or severity of the incident. Crews provided first aid and then assisted the ambulance crews in packaging and loading the victim. Unfortunately the person succumbed to their injuries before they reached the hospital.

We experienced more issues with the Fast Attack truck this month. It went into de-tune mode once, and on the next occasion it went into limp mode (where we were only able to drive 5 km/h) The wait to get the vehicle into Nelson Ford was much too long to wait to have an emergency vehicle seen. Bill Baird replaced another couple of pollution sensors and the vehicle has not acted up on the many calls we have responded to in the last few weeks.

FILE 7380-20

A technician from Hub Fire Engines is still scheduled to be in Salmo in mid-October to do his annual service on the pumps on the fire trucks, and an annual pump test on E5.

Misc.

The replacement of our old engine is a priority, as the wait time to get a new engine is roughly 3 years. If this engine is not replaced by the spring of 2026, resident's fire insurance rates could go up significantly. I know that James was working on this with me, but with his departure from the village, I do not want to have this important purchase forgotten about.

We have had another new member join our ranks in the last month.

Originally Signed By:

David Hearn, Fire Chief



Bylaw Officer's Report: Sept 1, 2023 to Sept 30, 2023

Regular Council Meeting #18-23

Complaints:

INFRACTION TYPE	NO. OF INFRACTIONS	RESOLUTION
Unsightly	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) complaint about an unsightly residence. The Village will be taking action to gain compliance.
Traffic	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) complaint about tree branches extending onto the roadway and causing line of sight issues for pedestrians and traffic. The Bylaw Officer went and assessed the situation and the Village will be taking action to gain compliance.
Animal Complaint	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) complaint about a resident with a large amount of cats and kittens that are free roaming and causing the neighbours issues. This is an ongoing issue and the SPCA is involved. I notified the SPCA and I will follow-up to ensure compliance.
Garbage	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) complaint about a resident leaving bags of garbage out daily causing increased bear activity in the area. The bear is dragging the garbage into neighbouring yards. The Bylaw Officer attended and spoke to the resident. Compliance was achieved.
Business License	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) complaint about a business owner operating his business out of his residence when it is not permitted. The complainant said it was creating a lot of noise and disrupting their lives. This is not the first complaint, and the business owner signed an agreement when his business license was issued agreeing to not operate out of his home. He also had informed the Village that he had secured an industrial space to work out of that is outside of Village limits. The Bylaw Officer attended the residence and spoke to the resident. The resident also called the Village Office and agreed to stop operating out of his home. Will follow-up to ensure compliance.

Nil

Enforcement

INFRACTION TYPE	NO. OF INFRACTIONS	RESOLUTION
Garbage	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bylaw Officer left two (2) notices on residences that had been putting their garbage out days before garbage day which was attracting bears. One (1) of the notices was instructing the resident to clean up the garbage that a bear scattered all over neighbouring properties. Compliance was achieved.
Traffic	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bylaw Officer stopped and spoke to the owner of a truck that was parked diagonally in an alley. The owner complied and moved the truck. The Bylaw Officer spoke to a resident that had an uninsured truck parked on the Village laneway. The resident relocated the truck. Compliance achieved.
Unsightly	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bylaw Officer delivered one (1) infraction notice to a residence with long grass. Compliance achieved.

Information submitted by:
Fred Nevakshonoff, Bylaw Officer

Originally signed and approved by:
Ange Qualizza, Chief Administrative Officer



The Corporation of the Village of Salmo

Report to Council

Report Date: October 17, 2023
Meeting Date: October 24, 2023 (#18-23)
From: CAO Qualizza
Subject: Columbia Basin Trust Basin Charge Up Program

1. OBJECTIVE

To update Council on the Columbia Basin Trust Charge Up Program project, this report is for information only.

2. UPDATE

Council made a motion to approve this project February 14, 2023,

That Council approve energy efficiency upgrades and solar power installations for the Village Office and Civic Works shop under the Columbia Basin Trust Basin Charge Up Program, and further approve Village funding up to \$26,175 towards the project costs.

Staff executed the agreement on February 24, 2023, and the Village received a payment of \$70,000 from the Columbia Basin Trust for this project in March of 2023.

Due to staff turnover, this approved and funded project has not advanced.

This report is to update Council that this project is advancing, and that I have been in touch with the Columbia Basin Trust to confirm a possibility of an extension if needed.

This project is to be completed with a final report submitted by December 15, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
CAO Qualizza



The Corporation of the Village of Salmo

Request for Decision

Report Date: October 17, 2023
Meeting Date: October 24, 2023 (#18-23)
From: Mayor Lockwood
Subject: Rural Economic Diversification & Infrastructure Project

1. OBJECTIVE/DIRECTION

To ask Council to support an application to the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Project.

Motion;

That Council supports the Village of Salmo to apply to the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Project in the Building Capacity stream for planning services.

2. BACKGROUND

The second Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Project (REDIP) intake is currently open, closes October 30, 2023.

Kaslo was recently successful in an application to build capacity, and we have a great starting point for an application.

CAO Qualizza and I met with Jen Comer to discuss a potential application for the Village of Salmo.

Ms. Comer's advice:

I would encourage the Village to look at the "Building Capacity" stream. It is limited to communities under 2,500 people (but the fine print on page 7 of the applicant guide says "communities with populations up to 500 over the respective limits are encouraged to apply"). The fund is intended to help small communities build internal capacity for economic development, including funding staffing positions. It is a maximum of \$100,000 and does not require any matching funding. The grant deadline is October 30th.

*Cheers,
Jen*

*Jen Comer (she/her)
Regional Economic Operations Branch – Regional Manager Central Kootenay / Revelstoke
Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation*

3. **APPLICATION DETAILS**

To support local economic development, Salmo is well positioned to advance a municipal Lands Strategy that includes objectives to support affordable housing, attract development, and support community economic development by reconsidering our KP Community Building project.

- Municipal Lands Inventory which will include site specific properties to assist with identifying developable lands,
- Lands disposition policy,
- Zoning bylaw completion,
- Update our recreational needs assessment to support an application for the KP Community Building project as a community economic development project, the Community Building will support year-round community focused activities and a wide variety of events.

Objectives

#1 To increase the rate of industrial and commercial growth in the community.

#2 To support and increase the level of recreational activities and facilities of our community with a renewed application for the KP Community Building.

#3 Attract investment with a commitment to sustainable economic development.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Lockwood

APPENDIX B



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SALMO REPORT FROM MAYOR/DIRECTOR

MAYOR LOCKWOOD

Mayor Report for Council Meeting held on October 24, 2023.

Salmo & Area G Emergency Preparedness: Next meeting October 23, 2023

Fire Department:

Citizen Engagement:

RDCK:

Board: The board will be writing a letter to Premier Eby and Minister Rob Fleming requesting the Provincial government make transit one of its top priorities for funding.

The hiring of three (3) full time, permanent Assistant Supervisors, with the start date to be no earlier than January 1, 2024, and a cost of \$288,783, will be allocated to Resource Recovery A102.

The Board approved an amount not exceeding \$45,000 per year to be included in the draft 2024-2028 Financial Plan for Service S100 General Administration to continue delivering the Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisor (KBFA) Program co-funded by RDCK, Regional District of East Kootenay, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary and Columbia Basin Trust, and the Board approved accepting the responsibility of managing the contract for KBFA through the RDCK development and community sustainability department.

Director Hewat and Vandenburghe were appointed to the Regional Invasive Species Working Group.

RDCK staff spoke with all the CAO's in the Central Kootenays about working together on the Housing Action Plan and how Area's and municipalities can work together while meeting the needs of the communities.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Flo Meter funding of \$13,000 was approved.

Salmo & Area G Recreation Commission: We did not have quorum for this meeting on September 11, 2023, so the next meeting will need to be determined.

Economic Trust of the Southern Interior – BC (ETSI-BC): Transit funding to help with driver training etc. has been extended to October 30, 2023.

West Kootenay Hospital Board: Next meeting October 25, 2023

Nelson, Salmo, E, F, & G Regional Parks: Next meeting November 14, 2023. The Village will be open for public to attend if they so choose to.

Other meetings of note:

UBCM: UBCM for myself is an educational experience giving me insight for new ideas, learning best practice, and making connections across the province.

In the study session "A Conversation on Decriminalization and Public Use", it was interesting to hear both sides of the concern. The public is learning how to separate the need for helping a person then making them a criminal for using an illegal substance. I came away with more questions than I went in with. The three-year exemption by Health Canada will hopefully give government enough time to see if this was the right or wrong answer. Municipalities are putting in Bylaws now so there is no drug use in parks, playgrounds, as well as some other public spaces such as where smoking is prohibited.

I spoke at the "Small Talk Forum" on removing the referendum and alternate approval process (AAP) from fire apparatuses. I discussed how the taxpayer doesn't get a say over park land purchase (which is nice to have) but doesn't save lives and infrastructure like fire apparatuses can. I shared the panel with Fire Commissioner Brian Godlonton and Director of Finances Ministry of Municipal Affairs Joshua Craig which both spoke after me, and the moderator allowed me to finish the conversation. This was a very timely conversation since just three days prior, Salmo had a major fire in our downtown core and with out this fire equipment, we would have had to have an extremely large number of buckets to stop this fire.

Walking Tour on Accessibility did not take us far from the convention center to see how many barriers there are for people. It was very insightful how doing just the little thing can make a difference such as most floors having tile now, and running a thick piece of tape from the door to the front counter can help with sight impaired and decrease anxiety. When putting in door openers, have them at height appropriateness - someone with no arms cannot push a button with their foot when it is at waist height – and having an elongated button would be much better. Some things to think about: raised or sunken objects on sidewalks, putting objects on clear windows, having a lower desk for someone in a wheelchair, voice activation on websites, just to name a few.

The clinic for "Renovating the Public Hearing Process" was a packed house. The speaker talked about public hearings and how a lot of the times they become unruly and disrespectful. SFU Centre for Dialogue is working in partnership with the BC Legal Institute and reviewing the whole process and how the legislation could be changed to make it a better process.

I always look forward to the Trade Show, but this year I only got to about 10-12 booths as it was only on for a day and a half and there were lots of sessions and clinics to take in. The Trade Show usually gives me the opportunity to discover new products for our community and new ideas that may work in our community.

The Resolution Session is always an experience; this year some members were pulling their resolution from the agenda to be heard at that moment. I had not experienced that before and did feel it slowed down getting through the resolutions in the order presented.

Salmo's resolution NR32 Long-Term Burrowing for Fire Apparatus Acquisition was amended to add AAP and change the language to local governments (not just municipalities). This passed unanimously.

I had a Ministry meeting with Minister Kang about the importance of fire equipment. These volunteer fire departments are protecting provincial highways as well as their communities. Small communities need every penny to purchase these expensive pieces of equipment; therefore, we need the province to remove the referendum and AAP to purchase these fire apparatuses.

Mayor's and chair Highway 3 Coalition: Next meeting TBD

Ministry Meetings: Minister Ma and Kang continue keeping local governments updated on the drought situation.

IHA Mayor's and Chairs regional meeting: TBA

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor/Director Lockwood