

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held January 23, 2023 in the Council Chambers.

Present:	Mayor:	S. Disney
	Councillors:	T. Carty, B. Johnston, B. Pages
	CAO:	J. Humphries
	CFO:	J. Brown

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Village of Masset acknowledges the un-ceded traditional territory of the Haida Nation on which this meeting is held.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Pages, seconded by Councillor Johnston to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

### **Council Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023**

Moved by Councillor Carty, seconded by Councillor Johnston that the January 9, 2023 Council meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

### **Harbour Authority Minutes November 24, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Johnston, seconded by Councillor Carty that the November 24, 2022 Harbour Authority Committee minutes be endorsed.

CARRIED

## **PETITIONS AND DELEGATES**

### **1. VIRL Presentation**

Ben Hyman, Executive Director for the Vancouver Island Regional Library reviewed with council the updated status of the new library for Masset. He stated that this project was initiated in 2016 but the project has been stalled in that past couple of years. There are concerns that issues with the current library building may impede service continuity in the near future. After receiving input from Old Massett Village Council some

modifications were made to the plans and the revised plans will be going to the VIRL Board for approval. If the plans for the building are approved at the January 28, 2023 VIRL Board meeting, the project could be shovel ready by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. If not approved, it will go to the next VIRL Board meeting scheduled at the end of March 2023.

The updated plans for the building include the library, office space, some computer spaces and a separate area for the Haida Immersion Program. It is an approximately 4,000 square foot building.

Moved by Councillor Pages, seconded by Councillor Johnston that a letter of support for the Masset library project be sent to Vancouver Island Regional Library.

CARRIED

## **2. Sgt. Damon MacDonald - Masset RCMP**

Sgt. MacDonald reviewed his 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report with council. Their detachment received just under 200 calls during this period and a majority were liquor related. A warrant was recently executed and drugs and weapons were seized at the 1700 Block of Collison. Charges have not been laid yet as they are waiting for the Crown Prosecutor to review case.

The detachment is short two staff members that recently left but should be replaced in March 2023.

Sgt. MacDonald stated that on January 31, 2023 it will be legal for people to carry 2.5 grams of opioids (ie. Cocaine, Meth, Fentanyl). It will be decriminalized for the end user but will not be legal to sell. He stated that this was introduced in a means to fight against the stigma of drug addiction and see it more as a disease. However, if Council does not want people to be using drugs in public they will have to draft and adopt a bylaw that the RCMP can enforce.

Moved by Councillor Johnston, seconded by Councillor Pages that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter report from RCMP Sgt. MacDonald be received.

CARRIED

## **3. Dr. Matthew Menard**

Dr. Menard wanted to meet with council regarding the nursing shortages at the Masset Hospital which could result in the closure of the ER department and patients requiring care having to go to the hospital in Daajing Giids.

**VERBAL REPORTS OF COUNCIL/CAO/CFO**

Councillor Johnston and Councillor Carty attended the Harbour Committee meeting.

Councillor Carty had a phone conversation with Marilynne from the Haida Gwaii Renewable Energy Co-operative.

Josh Humphries informed Council that the Destination grant has gone to the second phase of the application process and needs a Class C estimate which he is working on, Councillor Currie will not be able to attend the Oceans Forum and he needed to know if any other Councilors were interested in attending so that the travel grant application could be submitted. Mayor Disney stated that she would be interested in attending.

Councillor Pages attended a NW Regional Hospital and a North Coast Regional District meeting.

Mayor Disney spoke to Dr. Menard regarding issues at the hospital and Brionne Lavoie regarding the cannabis application.

Moved by Councillor Carty, seconded by Councillor Pages that the verbal reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NB-1 Frontier Cannabis Retail Application**

Moved by Councillor Carty, seconded by Councillor Johnston to receive the minutes from the Public Hearing regarding the Retail Cannabis Application from Frontier Cannabis Inc.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Carty  
Seconded by: Councillor Johnston

WHEREAS the Village of Masset recognizes Frontier Cannabis Inc. has applied to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) for a Non-Medical Cannabis Retail Store (CRS) licence proposed to be located at 1627 Main Street, Masset, BC; and

WHEREAS Section 33(1) of the *Cannabis Control and Licensing Act* prevents the LCRB from issuing a CRS licence without a positive recommendation regarding the CRS licence application from the Village of Masset; and

WHEREAS in order to consider the application and provide the LCRB with a written

recommendation with respect to the application, the Village of Masset provided the public with an opportunity to submit written comments prior to the January 23, 2023 Public Hearing and to participate in said Hearing; and

WHEREAS based on the comments received with the majority referring to the positive health, safety, and economic aspects of having a legal non-medical cannabis retail store in the community, and from the presentation by the applicant to members of Council detailing the location and operations of the proposed retail store;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Masset approve the Non-Medical Cannabis Retail application by Frontier Cannabis Inc. based on public input and information received.

CARRIED

**NB-2 Haida Gwaii Renewable Energy Symposium**

The Village of Masset received an invitation to attend the Haida Gwaii Renewable Energy Symposium being held March 11 & 12, 2023 at the Haida Heritage Center in Skidegate. There is an opportunity for someone from the Village of Masset to speak at the symposium on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 1:00 pm. Councillor Carty will attend on behalf of the Village of Masset.

Moved by Councillor Carty, seconded by Councillor Pages to receive the Invitation to Participate in the Haida Gwaii Renewable Energy Symposium.

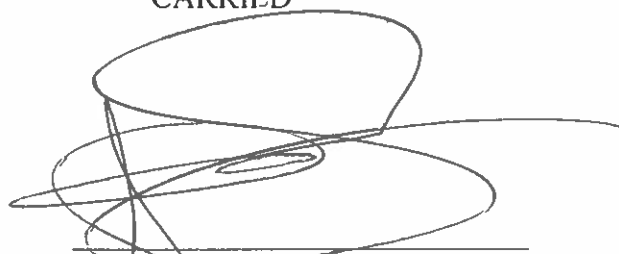
CARRIED


**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Pages that the meeting be adjourned at 9:22 pm to a closed session.

CARRIED

  
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Recording Secretary

  
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Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Certified Correct, Administrator