

**DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009 AT 7:28 P.M.**

Present **Council:** Acting Mayor Johansson; Councillors Stacey, Webster, Quibell, Summer and Johnson
 Staff: C. Bonnick, Administrator; B. Mercereau, Deputy Clerk
 Other: K. Lund, D. Ferguson, G. Pringle, S. Gordon, C. Montgomery, D. Fisher, R. Ward, R. Jackson, R. Brown, R. Karst, M. Brerton, B. Misewich, D. Boullion, A. Dragest, P. Gunderson, C. Johnson and K. Hawkins

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:28 pm.

CW1 Talisman's Proposed Road Extension North of Beryl Prairie (6660-20)

029/09

Moved by Councillor Webster and Seconded by Councillor Johnson;
"That Council appoint Acting Mayor Johansson as chair of the Committee of the Whole."

CARRIED

Acting Mayor Johansson advised that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the proposed road extension that would connect the North Beryl Prairie Road to Lahagarte Road in Farrell Creek. She also advised that although the District of Hudson's Hope does not have any jurisdiction to make decisions on whether the road would be built or not, Council still felt they should determine what the residents opinions were and forward those comments to Talisman Energy Inc. A roundtable discussion ensued with members noting the following:

- R. Ward, 10712 Dr. Greene Street, advised that impacts on the Farrell Creek Road and hill should be considered if all the heavy traffic will be routed that way, as well as safety concerns as there is no runaway lane on the Farrell Creek hill;
- R. Ward requested that more policing be place when heavy traffic is coming through the community;
- D. Ferguson, 12313 Beaton Street, questioned whether there are any road restrictions in the town site, such as a dangerous goods route;
- R. Brown, 4559 Reschke Road, advised of the negative impacts he believes the road would cause; decrease of business to local companies in Hudson's Hope, loss of the competitive edge to Fort St. John companies, and traffic would only be transferred from Beryl Prairie Road to Farrell Creek Road;
- R. Brown discussed the Resource Development Policy that Council adopted which stated that they would like to decrease environmental impacts as much as possible and thus building a new road would be causing many impacts;
- G. Pringle, 4269 Beryl Prairie Road, questioned how the proposed road extension would affect Beryl Prairie Road upgrades and maintenance;
- R. Jackson, Box 518, stated that the road extension would not be completed in 2009 and therefore the same amount of traffic would be seen on both the Beryl Prairie and Farrell Creek roads for the coming year or more;
- R. Jackson advised that 7 kilometres of new road would need to be constructed; and
- K. Hawkins, 6793 Beryl Prairie Road, stated the negative impacts of heavy traffic on the Beryl Prairie Road including litter, dust, and large vehicles taking up most of the road way.

Council members provided the following comments:

- it was Talisman's initiative to construct the new road to alleviate traffic through the town site and Beryl Prairie subdivision;
- there are major road concerns with the increase in traffic;
- with the current economic state the timeline for the proposed road being built may be pushed further into the future;
- some of the proposed road extension is already in existence with logging and other roads through that area;
- some of the environmental impacts of these industries may be reduced with the proposed road extension, as this would allow vehicles a shorter route to transport goods and large vehicles;
- Talisman has stated that they are committed to providing local benefits to the community through generation of employment, business opportunities, royalty payments and taxes;
- if vehicles are routed through the Farrell Creek Road they will be able to have a hard surface and safer route than the Beryl Prairie Road; and
- need to discuss with the Ministry of Transportation the need for runaway lanes on both the Canyon Drive and Farrell Creek hills, especially with the increase of large vehicle traffic.

030/09

Moved by Councillor Johnson and Seconded by Councillor Summer;
"That this issue be postponed until the February 9, 2009 regular meeting so that representatives from Talisman can be present to respond to questions."

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

031/09

Moved by Councillor Quibell and Seconded by Councillor Stacey;
"That this Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned." (8:00 pm)

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

Clerk

Mayor