

DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE
SPECIAL MEETING
HELD IN THE MAYOR'S CHAMBERS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2009 AT 1:00 P.M.

Present **Council:** Acting Mayor Clayton Stacey, Councillors Webster, Johnson, Johansson and Quibell
 Staff: Charles Nash, CAO, Vikki Bochon, Deputy Clerk
 Telus: Bill Hain, Telus Planning Manager and Phil Harder, Telus Contractor
 Other: Bill Lindsay, Cindy Lewis, Andrew Purvis and Bob Bach

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:06pm by Acting Mayor Stacey.

TELUS BROAD BAND PROPOSAL

Telus Planning Manager, Bill Hain and Telus Contractor, Phil Harder, met with Council to provide a proposal to have a Fibre Optic Line for High Speed internet service brought into Hudson's Hope directly from Fort St. John and to see what options were available. This service would provide the District with high speed internet access, which is much faster and more reliable than the service we have now.

At this time the District of Hudson's Hope is provided with Telus Internet Service from a direct line of sight Radio Shot that comes from Fort St. John to Bullhead Mountain Tower. A fibre optic line brings the service into the core area of Hudson's Hope, from Bullhead Mountain. This Proposal would allow the District to receive all of Telus's service through a fibre optic line direct from the provider, via existing fibre optic line from Moberly Lake.

Mr. Hain explained that in 2003 Telus planning department had completed a project to have fibre optic service brought into the Moberly Lake area from Dawson Creek to Chetwynd and into Moberly. This plan also included running the line from Moberly Lake into Hudson's Hope in the future. The fibre optic line was over sized to accommodate future extension to Hudson's Hope. Running a line directly from Fort St. John to Hudson's Hope would be far more expensive than the proposed plan to run the line from Moberly Lake, (Lake Shore Drive) into Hudson's Hope. It would be approximately 20km longer and was never part of Telus's original plan. The estimated cost for the line carrying on from the Moberly Lake project would be approximately \$2.5 million for complete installation. These costs can be reduced by the support of other Crown Corporations, such as BC Hydro and the Ministry of Transportation. With BC Hydro's support we would look at the option of running the line from Moberly Lake on their Power Poles instead of underground installation. The District could also look at the Ministry of Transportation to possibly allow line access on the Peace Canyon Bridge rather than stringing the line across the Peace River. Mr. Hain also suggested the District look at funding within the Telus Deferral Account setup for communities that qualify. The funding available could potentially eliminate all costs, in certain circumstances. But it was made clear that it was very unlikely all money's would come from the Telus Deferral Account. At this time Hudson's Hope is not on the list and we need to research what the process would be to get added to it. Another option would be to have the District solicit other partners for this project such as, BC Hydro, Ministry of Transportation and Northern Health. It would be important to approach Northern Health on this issue as they are an existing customer of Telus and should support such a project.

For further information a slide presentation was presented at the meeting and is attached to these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Acting Mayor Clayton Stacey and Seconded by Councillor Webster;
"That this Special regular meeting be adjourned." (3:15 p.m.)

Certified Correct:

Clerk

Acting Mayor