



**Village of Lytton  
AGENDA – Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee**

**Virtual over Zoom  
Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 4:00 pm**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

**2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**2.1 Agenda for the June 1, 2022 Citizens’ Advisory Committee meeting**

**2.2 Addition of Late Items**  
*THAT the Select Committee adopt the agenda for the June 1, 2022 Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee as presented/or amended.*

**3 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**3.1 Minutes for the May 18, 2022 Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee be adopted** Pg: 2-5

*THAT the minutes for the May 18, 2022 Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee be adopted as presented/or amended.*

**4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**4.1 Update on Member Recruitment**

**5 NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Building Amendment Bylaw No. 711, 2022** Pg: 6-27

**5.2 Ollie Harrison May 18, 2022 Letter Response**

**5.3 Status Report on Debris Removal and Unmet Needs Committee**

**6 REPORTS**

**6.1 Committee Member reports**

**8 ADJOURNMENT**

**Village of Lytton**  
**DRAFT Minutes – Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee**

**Virtual over Zoom Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 4:00 pm**

**Attendees:**

**Committee Attendees:** Chair Melissa Michell, Jessoa Lightfoot, John Haugen, Ollie Harrison, Jade Baxter

**Regrets:** Dylan Taylor

**Staff Attendees:** Lori Wiedeman, A/CAO

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Michell called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

**2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

2.1 Agenda for the May 18, 2022 Citizens’ Advisory Committee meeting.

2.2 Addition of Late Items

5.2 New Business – Letter to Homeowners re Clean-up and Rebuild

Moved by Member Lightfoot seconded by Member Haugen THAT the Select Committee adopt the agenda for the May 18, 2022 Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee as amended.

**CARRIED**

**3 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

3.1 THAT the minutes for the April 20, 2022, Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee be adopted

Moved by Member Lightfoot seconded by Member Harrison THAT the minutes for the April 20, 2022, Citizens’ Advisory Select Committee be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

*NOTE: Minutes to be amended to reflect that the motion that the CASC passed regarding gift cards was amended by Council at their regular meeting.*

**4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

4.1 Committee Positions Open – three vacant spaces



## Memo

**DATE:** June 1, 2022  
**TO:** CASC  
**FROM:** Recovery Project Manager  
**SUBJECT:** May 18 Letter from Olive Harrison

To: CASC Members, CAO, Other staff, Lytton Home Owners and Members of the public

RE: Response to May 18 Letter from Olive Harrison

Please accept my regrets for missing the meeting tonight. I wanted to address the letter from Olive and hope this format will suit the committee. I will be available for the next meeting and can discuss in greater detail at that time if required.

It is completely understandable that Olive, and others, continue to be shocked at the lack of visible progress on the clean-up of properties in the Village. Despite appearances however, a significant amount of work has been completed to remove barriers and establish a team capable of completing the work throughout the summer.

Since receiving our first grant from the provincial government (February 2022), the Village has acted swiftly to hire an environmental consultant, archaeologist and prime contractor. Over the last three months, we have worked with the Kumsheen Heritage Management Committee and the Province to expedite a Heritage Investigation Permit for the entire Village. We developed work plans, had them reviewed and have added all uninsured properties to the Permit. The recovery team communicated directly with uninsured property owners to obtain Right of Entry Permits so we could rightfully access their private properties. Our environmental consultant has completed testing of surface debris on all uninsured properties in the Village and have starting testing soils. We continue to work with the Heritage Branch to obtain Site Alteration Permits for all properties that are registered archaeological sites in the Village and ensure the any chance finds do not hold up the remainder of the project. Our prime contractor has obtained their notice of project from Worksafe BC and mobilized to complete the surface debris removals on the municipal properties and private properties in the Zone 1 areas. We have prioritized our work to allow for unfettered access to the CN Rail Bridge to allow Westside residents a means of access when high-water closes the Ferry in the coming days. We continue to plan our work in an expedited manner and work through the very real challenges on a daily basis.

Lytton First Nation has taken a very similar approach to their recovery and the Village has learned from their good work and leveraged their same contractors and consultants.

Steel River is supplying a portion of the modular homes to LFN. They have not been involved in any part of the debris removal or remediation on IR17 or IR18. If they have implied this, it is a misrepresentation of the work they have been hired to do. Further, Steel River did not supply a bid to complete the clean-up and rebuild for the Village, they supplied a bid to act as the project manager and their bid was not successful. Our prime contractor is one of the largest and most capable civil & environmental remediation firms in the province. They have been selected because of their ability to complete the work in a professional, respectful, and safe manner. I am confident in their abilities.

The cost of debris removal that is noted (\$33,000) is not representative of the true cost of the work. This value is only for the items that would be considered insurable under home-owners policies. The insurers have disclosed that almost all insurance policies will have a shortfall or become "underinsured" based on the true costs of remediating the properties back to a state that home-owners can rebuild. The Province has committed to assisting any uninsured or underinsured home-owner and the Village is working with residents and Insurers directly to ensure this work is completed.

In June, our prime contractor will be mobilizing additional equipment into the Village to help expedite the debris removals and soil remediation. Up to this point, we have been working through the required administrative tasks to provide them with additional properties to access. BC Hydro has now commenced clean-up of their infrastructure and at the time of this meeting will likely be completed.

I understand that this information is simply my account of some of the work completed to date and does not allow for back and forth conversation or questions, for that I apologize. I hope some of this information is useful to the committee and to Olive and her family.

I look forward to standing before you at the next CASC meeting if requested.

Respectfully,

James Heigh, Recovery Project Manager

*Attached: May 18 Letter from Olive Harrison*

CASC meeting May 17, 2022

Committee Members, CAO, Other staff, Lytton Home Owners and Members of the public

David & I visited our property 2 weeks ago. I was certainly shocked by how little has been done in the clean up. This was my first time back 10 months after the fire due to a back injury and my inability to travel. There were still power lines lying everywhere and our deepfreeze is still sitting in the burned out remains of our lot. Why hasn't hydro been in to clean up their lines. This is beyond disgraceful for a company that we pay to do a service for us.

According to David who was at our site in October it looks exactly like it did then. I'm not sure what I was expecting but I did expect that the deepfreeze would be gone. If LFN has been cleaned up and are ready to rebuild they why are we sitting much the same as we were after the fire. The excuse of no money doesn't cut it anymore. In fact there are no excuses left in the book. Either you want the home owners and businesses to come back and rebuild or you don't. To me it looks like the latter.

And now I'm hearing that Steel River, who are doing the LFN rebuild came in with a low bid last August to get this cleanup and rebuild done but apparently were pushed aside in favour of a contractor who placed a much higher bid. This wasn't a rumour I heard. It came right from someone in Steel River. If this is true maybe someone should be looking into this.

Also this cost of \$60,000 for each lot to insured home owners like us for clean up of our lots is ridiculous when the contractor was hired at 33,000 to clean up each of ours and the uninsured lots. This is costing time and money sorting this out. So even if this is settled in our favour its still a travesty that it even happened.

No more excuses. We the homeowners have been more than patient. Its time to put some man power towards getting this clean up done. The day we were there there were 2 excavators working. It costs X number of dollars to clean up each lot. Why are there only 2 excavators trying to do the entire village. This isn't about cleaning up one homeowner. Its about cleaning up an entire village. We aren't faulting the workers. They no doubt are doing a good job with what they are given for equipment. We are just asking why the company contracted to do this work isn't putting more resources into it.

Moved by Member Harrison second by Member Haugen THAT the following individuals be contacted to be considered for recommendation to Council for appointment to the Citizen's Advisory Select Committee:

- Karen Kimble
- Angie Brown
- Cleanne Coughlin

**CARRIED**

#### 4.2 Citizens Advisory - Internal Communications

Committee discussed communications between the Council and the Committee and requested that when items are referred to the CASC at Council, that the CASC members be advised of the referred item, the expected date it will be on the CASC agenda, along with any relevant background information.

Committee discussed the need to have accurate information in the Village of Lytton communications regarding gift cards as there has been confusion with some property owners who don't live on their property as a principle residence.

The Committee requested an update from staff on the progress of creating an Unmet Needs Committee.

The Committee discussed opportunities for Village residents to meet with politicians that have visited the community. Proposed that if Zoom could be used, the politicians could have conversations with those who are not currently physically in the town. The Committee suggested that the Village contact the Chamber of Commerce as well for interested individuals.

## 5 NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Criteria for Approving Filming Requests

Moved by Member Harrison second by Member Lightfoot THAT the Citizen's Advisory Select Committee make the following recommendations to Council for the development of a Filming Policy for the Village of Lytton:

- Priority should be on clean up and rebuilding the Village. Filming should not interfere with this;
- Private property owners should be approached to give permission for the filming if their property will be used;
- Focus on filming for fundraising or educational purposes vs. commercial; and

- That the Village be provided with stock footage from the filming for future use.

**CARRIED**

## 5.2 Letter to Homeowners re Clean-up and Rebuild

The following letter was read aloud by Member Harrison:

CASC meeting May 17, 2022

Committee Members, CAO, Other staff, Lytton Home Owners and Members of the public

David & I visited our property 2 weeks ago. I was certainly shocked by how little has been done in the clean up. This was my first time back 10 months after the fire due to a back injury and my inability to travel. There were still power lines lying everywhere and our deepfreeze is still sitting in the burned out remains of our lot. Why hasn't hydro been in to clean up their lines. This is beyond disgraceful for a company that we pay to do a service for us.

According to David who was at our site in October it looks exactly like it did then. I'm not sure what I was expecting but I did expect that the deepfreeze would be gone.

If LFN has been cleaned up and are ready to rebuild they why are we sitting much the same as we were after the fire. The excuse of no money doesn't cut it anymore. In fact there are no excuses left in the book. Either you want the home owners and businesses to come back and rebuild or you don't. To me it looks like the latter.

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Also this cost of \$60,000 for each lot to insured home owners like us for clean up of our lots is ridiculous when the contractor was hired at 33,000 to clean up each of ours and the uninsured lots. This is costing time and money sorting this out. So even if this is settled in our favour its still a travesty that it even happened.

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Olive Harrison  
Member, Citizen Advisory Select Committee  
Village of Lytton

The Committee requested to have James Heigh, Recovery Project Manager, respond to the letter, and come speak at their next meeting.

The Committee requested to have the Chair Michell include this letter and the concerns it outlines in her report to Council at the June 8, 2022, regular Council Meeting.

## **6 REPORTS**

### **6.1 Committee Member reports**

Jessoa Lightfoot Requested a staff report for the next meeting with an accounting of the gift cards regarding the amount left and any expiry dates.

Ollie Harrison Looking forward to a report to Council regarding the gift card and cash donations and having the information highlighted in a Village of Lytton Newsletter.

## **8 ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment of the May 18, 2022, Citizens' Advisory Select Committee

Moved by Member Lightfoot THAT the May 18, 2022 Citizens' Advisory Select Committee be adjourned at 5:37 pm.

**CARRIED**

Next meeting to be held on June 1, 2022, 4:00 PM



**8.1 Adjournment of the June 1, 2022, Citizens' Advisory Select Committee**

***THAT** the June 1, 2022 Citizens' Advisory Select Committee be adjourned.*

*Next meeting to be held on June 15, 2022*