

Mayor McMynn opened the Special Meeting of Council at 19:00 hours on February 15, 2023, Midway Council Chambers, 661 Eighth Ave., Midway, BC.

We acknowledge that our gathering takes place on the unceded and traditional territory of the indigenous peoples of that region as well as the Metis people whose footprints have marked these lands.

The Council of the Village of Midway agrees to uphold the Guiding Principles for Responsible Conduct as per Village of Midway's Policy No. 387

Present: Mayor McMynn, Councillors Pownall, Willsey, Metcalf,  
Councillor Dunsdon absent

Staff: Lisa Teggarty CAO  
Tami Peters, Deputy Clerk

Gallery: Dr. Hasanally

**Introduction of Late Items** – Vaagen Fibre Canada – Mill closure

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded** that the February 15, 2023, Special Meeting agenda be adopted as amended to include late item Vaagen Fibre Canada Mill closure under discussion. **Carried**

**Delegation** – None

**Discussion** – Vaagen Fibre Canada discussion after In-Camera session adjourned and return to Special Meeting.

**Moved/Seconded** that we move In-Camera under Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter – Discussions respecting the provision of a municipal service at 19:01 hours. **Carried**

**Return to regular meeting at 19:58 hours.**

**Vaagen Fibre Canada** – Mill Closure -summary of telephone conversation

- CAO and Mayor McMynn spoke with Darry Reekie, Mill Manager, regarding the mill closure.
- Challenges with accessing wood fibre at market prices.
- Vaagen Fibre Canada is a non-tenured mill and has been operating in Midway without forest tenure for the past 10 years they do not have forest licences to manage Crown forests, which means they must purchase all our logs on the open market including the procurement of logs from local private landowners and woodlot owners.
- The future of the operation is uncertain.

Staff directed to write to Federal NDP Leader, Richard Canning, MLA Roly Russell, Minister of Finance, Katrine Conroy, Premier of BC, Dave Eby regarding the mill closure and how the government can help small mills without any forest tenure stay viable into the future. Councillor Metcalf will contact Dan McMaster, RFP, to give important information for letter.

Bzam Management Inc – Will start operations again 2024 and be modernizing the facility.

Government is giving each municipality \$1 billion in grant funding. These one-time funding grants are going out to every local government in B.C. to help them address infrastructure and amenities needs, such as affordable housing, road improvements, emergency services, or childcare facilities. Local government will determine what infrastructure and community amenities projects the funds will support in their community.

Moved to adjourn regarding meeting at 20:27 hours

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Mayor McMynn

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CAO Teggarty