



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 23, 2019 In Council Chambers

Those in Attendance:

- Council:** Mayor Storey
Councillor LePoidevin
Councillor Watt-Senner
Councillor Fennema
Councillor Jenkinson
- Staff:** Rodney Holland, Chief Administrative Officer
Dave Christie, Economic Development Officer
LeEtta LaFontaine, Recreation Director
- Public:** Norm DeLong
Pete Lovell
Shawn Lank
Desiree Ens
Shay Werner
Ali Yahbuckland
Isaac Wood
Lexa Sanders
Mira Farrell
Cody Van Werkhoven
Matthew Share

Agenda

Mayor Storey called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

Mayor Storey asked for a motion to adopt the agenda and requested the declaration of any new business.

Resolution 10-23-347 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Jenkinson
"Motion to adopt the Agenda"

Carried

Delegation

Mayor Storey welcomed the students of the FLESS Grade 11 Social Studies Class and invited them to provide their presentation.

The Grade 11 Socials Studies class is planning a trip to Victoria, B.C. They are seeking assistance for travel and meal expenses and have submitted a Grant-In-Aid Application. The trip to Victoria aligns with their class studies about government. They have developed an itinerary and plan to visit the British Columbia Parliament Buildings to learn more about how political decisions are made. While in Victoria, they will also visit the Royal BC Museum to learn more about the history of British Columbia, Immigration, and First Nations People. During their stay in Victoria, the class will visit the Omni Max Theatre to watch an educational film. Another day will be devoted to a tour of the University of Victoria campus, Observatory, Lecture Hall and Auditorium.

The group has contacted various businesses and MLA Rustad for financial support. They project the cost of the trip to be \$4400.00.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked for more information about their fund-raising activities.

A general discussion between Council and the students followed around potential sources of funding.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if any of them were planning a political career. The unanimous answer was it was too soon to know if a political career would be the choice.

Mayor Storey thanked the students for their presentation and for creating an opportunity for more information and understanding about politics in British Columbia.

Minutes from the Previous Meetings

Resolution 10-23-348 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor LePoidevin

“Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 9th, 2019”

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Councillor Jenkinson inquired about cheques written to VanCon listed on the last two meeting financials.

CAO Holland noted these payments related to services rendered. VanCon was contracted to haul the gravel donated by Centerra Gold from the Endako Mine site to Fraser Lake.

Resolution 10-23-349M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to receive the Business Arising from the Minutes”

Carried

Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

Senior's Snow Plowing:

This discussion was tabled at the October 9th Regular Meeting of Council.

Council had asked for more information about the acquisition, installation and use of a snow gate on the Village grader.

CAO Holland advised the Director of Public Works, Vern Hilman, has investigated a snow-gate for the grader and has stated it is not his preference. The Director of Public Works prefers to continue using the bobcat to clear the plow furrow at the end of driveways. Although the snow-gate would capture much of the plow furrow on the right side of the grader, snow will spill off the left side the plow. With most of our driveways set opposite of each other, Director of Public Works Vern Hilman feels the snow gate will not alleviate the requirement to remove the snow furrow from the street end of each driveway. The snow gate works well when driveway access is staggered rather than opposite of each other.

Specific to the Village Senior's Snowplowing program, CAO Holland recommended the status quo for the 2019/2020 snow clearing season with notification to residents of a new policy for 2020/2021.

Councillor Watt-Senner is concerned about the Village's capacity to continue this program in its current structure. With one hundred eligible households, the program is not sustainable. She'd like to see a cut off for the low-income seniors. Our community is unique in that we are the only ones providing this service to our seniors. Councillor Watt-Senner notes this municipal service takes away opportunity for a local snow-clearing businesses or student's who wish to make money shovelling snow.

Councillor LePoidevin agreed with Councillor Watt-Senner. He would prefer to incorporate a low-income barrier or something similar to sort through who can afford to clear their own driveway and who needs assistance. He referred to the criteria used by the Better at Home program.

Councillor Jenkinson inquired about the Better at Homes subsidy for low income seniors and would this cover the seniors who are in the low-income barrier for snow removal.

Discussion.

Mayor Storey suggested to table the conversation until more information can be gathered. The decision will then be put in the Village Newsletter for public information.

Councillor Watt-Senner voiced her concern around delaying the decision. With cold weather on the horizon, the likelihood of snow is certain. She does not want to see our seniors caught in a situation where they have not been able to plan. Councillor Watt-Senner would like to see those requiring the service referred to the Better at Home program and if the Better at Home

program does not have sufficient resources to meet the increased demand, to see the Village make a donation to the program to ensure the Better at Home program has the necessary funding to clear the driveways of Village of Fraser Lake seniors who can't afford to clear their snow themselves for the 2019/2020 snow season.

Resolution 10-23-350 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Jenkinson

“Motion to cancel the Village of Fraser Lake seniors snowplowing program and to refer seniors requiring this service to the Better at Home Program”

Carried

Opposed: Councillor Fennema

Councillor Reports

Councillor LePoidevin attended the Integris Credit Union public meeting where they announced Integris Credit Union will be coming to Fraser Lake. This is great news and he'd like to thank everyone involved for their work that made this happen so smoothly.

Councillor LePoidevin apologized for missing the Grand Opening of the Burn Building. He has heard nothing but praise for the event and the accomplishment.

Councillor Watt-Senner reported on the Regional District Board Meeting. A delegation presented on Emergency Response Management and reporting requirements. They have changed legislation to stop companies from walking away from their responsibilities on contamination. Industries operating in the RDBN will be required to remediate their sites before leaving.

Kiel Giddens, Public Affairs Manager from TC Energy presented on community investments. Over \$8M has been spent in the communities the pipeline impacts. Monies allocated to various communities are on a case-by-case basis.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Special Meeting of Council where Council discussed their activities at UBCM. She felt that meeting was fantastic and is looking forward to the Strategic Planning meeting.

Councillor Watt-Senner also attended Integris' Public Announcement. It is very good news for our community.

Councillor Jenkinson attended the Special Meeting for UBCM reports and thanked everyone for representing the Village of Fraser Lake in such a professional manner. Great job.

Councillor Jenkinson attended the official opening of the Burn Center and provided kudos to everyone that worked on it. He feels this will be an asset to this community in the years to come.

Councillor Fennema attended the grand opening of the Burn Centre. She's proud of the fact the three local communities are working together and that it is working out so well.

She attended an Autumn Services meeting where they announced the funding they have received. Autumn Services will be doing upgrades with the funds.

Councillor Fennema attended the Special Meeting on October 16 to discuss UBCM. She expressed how proud she was to represent the community there. She learned a lot through the various educational sessions and made some great connections.

The Integris announcement was exciting and was an important accomplishment for our community.

She also attended a meeting of the Historical Society. With reference to report that was provided to Council, Ruth Schmidt hadn't included her hours to the total of volunteer house. Ruth Schmidt's volunteer hours adds another 91 hours to the number of volunteer hours for a total of 380 hours.

Mayor Storey reported she and CAO Holland drove out to the active logging site on the Community Forest. This is an exciting development for our community. We have asked the contractor to take a couple of photos of the first load. Mayor Storey also collected photos of the feller buncher working in the Community Forest.

Mayor Storey felt the Fire Training Society had a wonderful open house for their new Burn Building. She congratulated the Fire Training Society's president Dave Christie for this significant accomplishment. It was a perfect day for the event, and everyone did a great job with their presentations. Mayor Storey commented it was nice to see so many members of the public attend. She also recognized the donation of the washroom facility by Centerra Gold. That donation is much appreciated.

Following the event at the Training Centre, Mayor Storey attended Autumn Services for a cheque presentation by NKDF. These funds will go towards doing more things for the community through Autumn Services. Mayor Storey believe these improvements will benefit everyone.

Mayor Storey attended the Special Meeting of Council and presented on her activities while at UBCM.

Mayor Storey agreed with earlier comments about Integris Credit Union's announcement; this is great news. Integris Credit Union will be open for business in Fraser Lake two days a week. There may be more hours of service initially to get things moving. This will provide two jobs in our community as well. The Integris ATM will be in place as soon as possible.

CBC Radio interviewed Mayor Storey just before the meeting tonight. Feedback on the interview was good. Thank you to EDO Christie and CAO Holland and everyone in involved for helping this to happen. She would like to send a letter sent to Integris to thank them for opening in town.

Resolution 23-10-351 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Watt-Senner
“Motion to receive the Councillor Reports”

Carried

Accounts Payable

Resolution 23-10-352 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor LePoidevin
“Motion to adopt Accounts Payable and Payroll in the amount of \$109,972.64”

Carried

Councillor Jenkinson asked for more information about the payment to KGC Fire Rescue Inc. for the Auto Extrication Course; cheque #28439 refers. Was this the training Mount Milligan brought their rescue crew down for?

EDO Christie explained it was. The Village collected course fees from all participants. Those course fees were then paid the company. The Village of Fraser Lake was simply the flow through.

Correspondence List

None.

Business from the CAO

FLESS Social Studies Class – Grant-in-Aid Application:

CAO Holland commented, the Village budgets \$4,000.00 per year for grant in aid purposes. This year there have been few applications. The grant in aid fund holds \$

Councillor Fennema supports this trip. She feels the students will benefit greatly. Her hope is they develop a better understanding of the importance of voting and good citizenship.

Resolution 10-23-353 M/S Councillor Fennema/Mayor Storey

“Motion to contribute \$800.00 towards the FLESS Social Studies Class Grant-In-Aid Application”

Defeated

Councillor Watt-Senner shared she wasn't comfortable to give more funds to the group than the amount they have raised.

Discussion.

Resolution 10-23-354 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/Mayor Storey

“Motion to pay \$40.00 per student towards the FLESS Grade 11 Social Studies Class trip to Victoria to offset travel and accommodation cost for a total grant in aid of \$540.00”

Carried

Bulk Water Sales & Wastewater Disposal Rates – Policy Proposal:

The fee schedule for Bulk Water Sales and Wastewater Disposal have been discussed previously.

CAO Holland believes there was not enough information at the time of the last discussion. This new information is being presented for Council's consideration.

For water and wastewater there are expenses to produce the product or provide the service. In the case of potable water, 40 cubic metres cost \$44.00 to produce. 40 cubic metres of wastewater has a corresponding cost of \$175.98 to treat. Persons and companies residing outside the boundaries of Fraser Lake are interested in purchasing our treated water and disposing of their wastewater into our Wastewater treatment Facility. If we are to take on these activities, we should ensure we cover our costs and put aside enough extra for future maintenance, repair and replacement. Having said this, there is a point where we can price ourselves out of the market. As a viable revenue stream that would have a positive impact on our Village, we should price ourselves competitively. Revenue received through these services would be used to build our water and wastewater reserves. Administration has received inquiries from both Falcon camp services and Horizon North for disposal of wastewater. Should these activities result in additional costs due to the provision of these services, rather than impacting our operating budget, Council can choose to expend funds from these financial reserves through resolutions of Council.

Mayor Storey moved to go In-Camera.

In-Camera Meeting:

Resolution 10-23-355 M/S Mayor Storey/ Councillor LePoidevin

“Motion to move In-Camera under Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter which states a part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being discussed relates to negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if there were held in public at 6:30 pm”

Carried

Return to the regular meeting of Council:

Councillor Jenkinson asked if a bylaw hadn't already been created on Water and Wastewater rates. Did it need to be cancelled first?

CAO Holland responded, that yes Council had authorized specific rates but that had not yet been placed into either a policy or bylaw. Council is at liberty to change rates based on new information. The policy proposal will set out whatever rates Council chooses to adopt.

Discussion.

Resolution 10-23-357 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Jenkinson

“Motion to set the fee for Bulk Potable Water Sales to \$0.06 per gallon and the Wastewater Disposal Fee at \$0.07 per gallon”

Carried

Fraser Lake & District Historical Society Report:

CAO Holland presented the report that was provided by the Fraser Lake & District Historical Society.

Mayor Storey commented on the significant number of volunteer hours. She noted Ruth Schmidt’s volunteer hours add an additional 91 hours to the total for 380 volunteer hours. Mayor Storey asked for a letter to each of the volunteers thanking them for their service.

Discussion.

Request for Development Variance – Watt-Senner:

Councillor Watt-Senner declared a conflict and left the council chamber.

CAO Holland explained a development variance application has been received to build a 12’X20’ garden shed on the vacant lot located at 175 Carrier Crescent. The Village of Fraser Lake Zoning Bylaw No. 683, 2008 does not allow an accessory building on an empty lot. Property owners are required to construct their principal residence on the property first.

Council may choose to waive this requirement to allow a specific activity. In this case, the construction of a 12’x20’ garden shed.

If Council agrees, Administration will notify the registered owners of properties within thirty metres of the subject property. They will be informed of the development variance application and asked to identify any concerns that may impact their interests in the own property.

Typically, we try to give property owners several weeks to consider their input. A public meeting is scheduled to allow Council to receive comments or concerns about the application.

Should any concerns surface, they should be considered before Council authorizes this development variance or denies it.

Discussion.

Resolution 10-23-358 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor LePoidevin

“Motion to support the Development Variance application for 175 Carrier Crescent and to proceed to the public consultation stage”

Carried

Strategic Planning:

December 16th has been set aside for Strategic Planning. CAO Melany Helmer from Fort St. James will facilitate the session. This is a full day activity with a 9:00 to 4:00 pm.

Adult Learning Centre, 298 McMillan Avenue:

School District 91 has accepted the Village's offer to buy the Adult Learning Centre. This purchase ensures affordable space for a number of Community Service providers. Current tenants include Nechako Valley Community Services, Progressive Employment and CNC. Adult probation, Court Services and Community Futures have also indicated an interest in space in the building.

This purchase is an economic diversification initiative. Administration would to make applications to NDIT, NKDF and the RDBN in support of the purchase plus the cost of energy upgrades. Insulation, lighting, windows, constructing an entry vestibule and addressing the heating system. Both NDIT and NKDF have grant intake dates in the next month. Administration is requesting authority to make those applications.

Staff have conducted initial inquiries with these funding partners. This was a project that was discussed with them several years ago. They remain supportive of the project.

Resolution 10-23-359 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Jenkinson

"Motion to apply to NDIT for up to \$98,000.00 to purchase and renovate the Adult Learning Centre located at 298 McMillan Avenue to create a Community Service Centre"

Carried

Call for discussion. No discussion.

Resolution 10-23-360 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Jenkinson

"Motion to apply to NKDF for up to \$98,000.00 to purchase and renovate the Adult Learning Centre located at 298 McMillan Avenue to create a Community Service Centre"

Carried

Call for discussion. No discussion.

Resolution 10-23-361 M/S Councillor Fennema/Councillor Jenkinson

"Motion to apply to the Regional District Bulkley Nechako through their Gas Tax Grant in Aid program for up to \$98,000.00 to purchase and renovate the Adult Learning Centre located at 298 McMillan Avenue to create a Community Service Centre"

Carried

Call for discussion. No discussion.

Resolution 10-23-362 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor Fennema

"Motion to receive the CAO Reports"

Carried

Staff Reports

None

Reading List

Resolution 10-23-363 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor Fennema
“Motion to receive the Reading List”

Carried

Councillor Jenkinson requested colour emails when there is a graph enclosed to be able to see the different sections in the graph more clearly.

Councillor Fennema commented on the Cattlemen’s Association letter regarding connectivity. She noted connectivity is a requirement in business as most services are going online and paperless.

Mayor Storey asked for more information about the Asset Management Planning Study funding of \$10,000.00. She asked if this was enough.

CAO Holland explained it isn’t enough, but this was what was available from that funding source. This source provides 100% funding for the first \$5000.00. The second \$5000.00 is 50/50. The Village will have to contribute \$5,000.00 to receive the full benefit of the \$10,000.00 grant.

New Business

Councillor LePoidevin asked for an update on the Community Forest.

Mayor Storey responded; Ken Schmidt has the contract for Cutting Permits 1 & 2. CAO Holland has been working with our Registered Forester, Jason Regnier. Hiring local contractors is the focus.

CAO Holland explained Ken Schmidt has contracted the logging and hauling for Cutting permits 1 & 2. The choice of contractors is made at the recommendation of our Forester; Jason Regnier. Although the Community Forest is being managed as a Municipal Service, CAO Holland would like to see the establishment of a Community Forest Board. The members of the board would then be tasked with making decisions around planning, marketing of fibre and how the Community Forest pursues our values of watershed quality, wildlife habitat, maximizing the use of low grade fiber, considering recreational value and local employment.

Councillor LePoidevin asked where the wood was going.

CAO Holland said it is going to the company with the best offer. Each cutting permit is offered to our local mill first; however, a competitive market price is required.

Councillor Jenkinson requested an update on the electric vehicle charging stations.

CAO Holland advised this is a BC Hydro initiative. The Village has offered several sites to BC Hydro. It will be their decision which site will be used.

EDO Christie added the electric Vehicle charging stations are 100% funded by BC Hydro. The Village will be asked to cut the grass and plow the snow. Otherwise, BC Hydro will maintain the charging stations and manage the use of electricity. The installation of these stations will occur in 2020/21. The design of the charging stations holds quite a large footprint compared to what was originally discussed. Staff will continue to work with BC Hydro to assist the process.

Discussion.

Councillor Fennema asked about installing a concrete floor in the Curling Rink? Would a concrete floor lessen the workload needed to prepare the ice for curling each year?

Discussion.

Mayor Storey reminded Council of Hallowe'en and Remembrance Day activities.

Councillor Watt-Senner volunteered to MC the laying of wreaths at the cenotaph. She will wear her red serge for Remembrance Day.

Discussion.

Mayor Storey would like to find a way to thank the businesses in our community for hanging in during the hard times. She would also like to thank the local volunteers. She asked council for ideas.

Discussion.

Resolution 10-23-364 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to receive New Business"

Carried

Bylaws

Resolution 10-23-365 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to conduct the fourth and final reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Permissive
Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 810, 2019"

Carried

Call for discussion. No discussion.

Next Meeting of Council

Next regular Council Meeting at 5:30 pm on November 13th, 2019.

Adjournment:

Resolution 10-23-366 M/S Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 pm"

Carried

Certified Correct:

Sarrah Storey, Mayor

Rodney J Holland, Chief Administrative Officer

