

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers on Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at 5:30 pm

Mayor S. Storey presided. Councillors present were C. LePoidevin and A. Fennema.

Staff present was Chief Administrative Officer R. Holland.

Public present: N. Delong.

Meeting Called to Order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda:

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

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda.

Resolution 03-23-154

Carried

**Delegations & Guests:** 

Regular Council Minutes, March 9, 2022 None

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2022, be adopted as presented on this day and that such Minutes as read set out all the business before Council that day and fully and properly record all the resolutions and bylaws passed and adopted by Council at that meeting.

Resolution 03-23-155

Carried

In Camera Minutes March 9, 2022

MOVED/SECONDED that the In Camera Council Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2022, be adopted as presented on this day and that such Minutes as read set out the business before Council that day and fully and properly record all the resolutions and bylaws passed and adopted by Council that meeting.

Resolution 03-23-156

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes:

None

# Reports on Council Activities:

#### **Councillor LePoidevin**

None

#### **Councillor Fennema**

She attended a meeting at Autumn Services on March 10th.

#### **Mayor Storey**

At the most recent meeting of the Board of Directors at the RDBN, District Manager, Jill Park of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Vanderhoof presented. Mayor Storey was able to bring up several concerns related to the Community Forest. She brought up the importance of increasing the area base for the Fraser Lake Community Forest. Mayor Storey also voiced concern about the Old Growth deferrals.

Mayor Storey participated in a call with the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The purpose of the call was to discuss issues with connectivity and emergency preparedness.

Minister Nathan Cullen was introduced as the new Minister of Municipal Affairs

Mayor Storey was able to voice her concern relating to the province's decision around funding for broadband infrastructure relative to the evidence that was developed through the speed test study that was commissioned by NDIT. Mayor Storey updated Minister Cullen on the initiatives undertaken by the Village of Fraser Lake to address those connectivity challenges. She noted, she was still having regular problems with her internet service, regardless of the upgrades that were made by Mascon.

Mayor Storey attended the Partnership Agreement celebration between Nadleh and Marco. The event was held at the Little Rock Lake Lodge. Mayor Storey noted that Chief Larry Nooski is retiring at the end of the month. She was able to thank him publicly for his years of service. Mayor Storey felt Chief Nooski was a great partner, and his retirement will be a loss to both Nadleh Whut'en and this region.

Mayor Storey advised that Elton Louis and Ken Solonas are heading a committee to plan the 2022 Indigenous Days celebration. They are interested in holding the event in the Village of Fraser Lake. Again, they would like use of the Arena and sports fields for their festivities. They have invited Mayor Storey and EDO Christie to participate in the organizing committee meetings which are scheduled for every Tuesday.

In her activities with the NCLGA, Mayor Storey participated in a meeting with Minister Shirley Bond. She noted there were other Ministers on the call as well. The British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission was discussed. Minister Bond does not want the north to loose their current level of representation.

Mayor Storey attended an update on the Artemis Gold Blackwater Project. The project organizers are currently registering businesses who may wish to apply to provide services and/or supplies to the project. Site preparation is scheduled to begin this month. Construction of major works is scheduled to begin this fall. Artemis Gold is looking for up to 300 employees for the two-year construction period of this project. Mayor Storey commented how it would be nice to have a subdivision ready for the new residents that could come from this development. She feels the Village needs land for this purpose.

Mayor Storey commented on a conversation with MP Taylor Bachrach at the RDBN Board Meeting. The vaccine mandates were discussed. Mayor Storey commented on community concerns. She felt it was a good conversation.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 03-23-157

Carried

# Accounts payable:

The accounting reports were presented.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$809,169.84

**Resolution 03-23-158** 

Carried

#### **Correspondence List:**

None

## **Business from the CAO:**

#### **Boat Launch Improvements:**

MOVED/SECONDED to install the concrete pads at the boat launch, to award the work to Shotgun Construction and to expend \$16,600.00 from general revenues for this project.

Resolution 03-23-159

Carried

# Amendment of the Employee Benefits – Rates of Pay policy

The minimum wage will increase from \$15.20 to \$15.65 as of June 1, 2022. this will impact the wage paid to High School Summer Students, who are typically paid minimum wage.

MOVED/SECONDED to amend the Village of Fraser Lake/ Employee Benefits/Current Rates of Pay policy to reflect the increase in the minimum wage by increasing the High School Student rate of pay from \$15.20 to \$15.65.

Resolution 03-23-160

Carried

# **Community Compost Area:**

CAO Holland provided Council with an update on this proposal. The RDBN is happy to receive branches and wood materials to 6 inch diameter at the Transfer Station. They are also happy to receive yard waste such as grass clippings at the Transfer Station. They are aware that most residents from the Village and Area D have been dropping off these materials at the Village Compost Area. So, although they have always been willing to accept these materials, they were seeing little of this material delivered to the compost area.

The RDBN would like the Village to contribute toward the cost of preparing for the arrival of these materials at the Transfer Station. They would like to construct concrete block stalls for grass clippings. This will allow machinery at the Transfer Station to scoop up the yard waste accumulations.

CAO Holland advised the cost of relocating the compost area is estimated at \$5,000.00.

MOVED/SECONDED to expend up to \$5,000.00 to purchase concrete blocks and signage as needed in the process to move the community compost area from its current location to the RDBN Transfer Station.

Resolution 03-23-161

Carried

#### Complaints:

Dog Complaint:

Councillor LePoidevin witnessed this event. He stated both dogs were off leash. Following a brief dog fight both dogs jumped into the complainant's vehicle and a brief dog fight continued. When the dogs were separated, both parties took control of their animals and left the scene.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the CAO reports.

Resolution 03-23-162

Carried

#### **Staff Reports:**

CAO Holland presented the proposed schedule for Canada Day events. The celebrations return to pre COVID activities. Administration has invited

Council to participate. A member of Council is typically present during the search for the Hospitality Hostages. Following their capture, members of Council take the hospitality hostages for dinner on the evening of June 30<sup>th</sup>. Council has also assisted with the serving of breakfast at the Pancake Breakfast on July 1<sup>st</sup>. CAO Holland noted a dunk tank has been ordered as one of the fun activities. He encouraged members of Council to sign up to be dunked. Staff will also be seeking volunteers from the RCMP and the local school staff.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Staff Report.

Resolution 03-23-163

Carried

**Reading List:** 

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the reading list.

Resolution 03-23-164

Carried

**New Business:** 

Mayor Storey:

Mayor Storey commented on Indigenous Day celebrations. She feels there should be a contribution in the budget to allow the Village to contribute toward the event. She feels it is a good event. She would like to contribute toward the Youth Ambassador. Mayor Storey suggested up to a \$200.00 contribution.

CAO Holland advised Council can use funding from the Legislative Discretionary funding for such purposes.

Mayor Storey commented on how nice it was to see employees wearing their Village of Fraser Lake winter coats. The coats identify employees and members of council at work and conferences. She would like to explore the cost of summer jackets with the VFL crest and names of the wearer.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive new business

Resolution 03-23-165

Carried

**Bylaws:** 

The Corporation of the Village of Fraser Lake

<u>Council Compensation and Allowance Bylaw No. 831, 2022</u>

MOVED/SECONDED to conduct the fourth and final reading of

the Corporation of the Village of Fraser Lake Council Compensation and Allowance Bylaw No. 831, 2022.

Resolution 03-23-166

Carried

### In Camera:

As per Section 90(2)(b) of the Community Charter which states a part of a Council Meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

MOVED/SECONDED to move the Regular Meeting to In Camera under Section 90(2)(b) of the Community Charter at 6:25 pm.

Resolution 03-23-167

Carried

Return to the Regular Meeting at 6:49 pm

**Next Regular Meeting of Council:** 

April 13, 2022, at 5:30 pm

# Adjournment:

MOVED/SECONDED that the March 23, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at 6:49 pm.

Resolution 03-23-170

Carried

Certified Correct:

Sarrah Storey, Mayor

Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer