

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 5:30 pm

Mayor S. Storey presided. Councillors present were J. Webb, A. Fennema and J. Jenkinson.

Staff present were CAO R.J. Holland

Meeting Called to Order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda:

Mayor Storey called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda.

Resolution 10-11-310

Carried

Delegations & Guests:

Fraser Lake Men's Shed Association – Request for support John Stafford introduced himself, Jon Fennema and Kees Duyn. The Men's Shed is taking steps to purchase of 80 Cougar Street. They need more space for their operations. They are requesting the support of the Village by way of a resolution of support from Council for their application to the Northern Healthy Communities Fund from Northern Development Initiative Trust.

Mayor Storey noted how exciting it is that the Men's Shed is working to purchase this building, both for their Association and for the community. Mayor Storey thanked the Men's Shed for coming to Council and said that this discussion would be returned to later in the meeting.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting, September 27, 2023

MOVED/SECONDED that the Council Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2023, 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 10-11-311

Carried

Minutes of the Public Hearing, September 27, 2023

MOVED/SECONDED that the Public Hearing Minutes of September 27, 2023, 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 10-11-312

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes:

None

Councillor Reports:

Mayor Storey

Mayor Storey attended the RDBN Agricultural Land Commission presentation on September 28. 48% of British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve is in the Northern region. She has information to distribute to Council at the next meeting.

On September 29, Mayor Storey met with Sandy regarding the drone initiative that took place in 2021-2022.

On September 30, Mayor Storey went to the Truth and Reconciliation Day that was held at Lejac. She presented gifts to both Chiefs on behalf of the Village.

Mayor Storey spoke with Sandra Fergusson from Connexus on October 7th about the Better at Home program. Mayor Storey connected her with Diane Harder, the President at Silver Birch to see is they could work together on an application for Assisted Living in Fraser Lake. A Fraser Lake & District Senior Citizen Housing Board meeting has been scheduled for mid October to discuss this proposal.

Mayor Storey attended the 2023 UBCM Convention in Vancouver from September 16 to 22. During her week at the conference Mayor Storey moderated a session on Modernizing Emergency Management regulations. She also assisted with the Cabinet Town Hall on Housing. Mayor Storey and Council, met with Premier David Eby, the Minister of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation and Kevin Falcon, Leader of the Official Opposition. Discussions centered around the challenges facing the Village of Fraser Lake.

Mayor Storey attended plenary sessions on Mindfulness and Stress Reduction, Decriminalization of Drugs, and Beyond Balance and Barriers. Mayor Storey also took part in several round table discussions on a variety of topics. Mayor Storey met with Tyler Bannick from CN Rail, and board member from the North Central Local Government Association.

Several receptions were offered during evening hours during the week of UBCM. Mayor Storey attended the reception hosted by BC Emergency Services, the Coastal GasLink reception, and the Artemis Gold reception.

Councillor Webb:

Councillor Webb arrived in Vancouver for UBCM on September 17th. Over the course of the week, she attended many plenary sessions, on topics such as Building Economic Resiliency, Policing and Public Safety Modernization, a Policy Session on Resolutions, and a session on Natural Asset Management.

Throughout the week Councillor Webb also attended meetings with different Ministers to talk about the Village of Fraser Lake and community needs that can be addressed with provincial support.

Councillor Webb commented on how there are many communities in British Columbia who are facing similar challenges to those in Fraser Lake. She enjoyed discussing supports and opportunities being used in other communities that could benefit Fraser Lake moving forward.

Councillor Jenkinson

Councillor Jenkinson attended UBCM conference with the rest of Council from September 18 to 22. He attended plenary sessions on Building Economic Resiliency, Health Impacts of Wildfires, Cyber Security, AI Digital Transformations, and several round table discussions. Councillor Jenkinson found there to be a lot of value in making connections with those from different communities, as well as meeting with different ministers and agencies, such as Northern Health where he presented on behalf of the Mayor.

Councillor Fennema

Councillor Fennema also attended UBCM from September 18 to 22. She found a lot of benefits from attending this conference. Councillor Fennema found the Minister meetings to be very important as they were able to show how much they cared about getting things done for the Village of Fraser Lake. Councillor Fennema noted that she attended plenary sessions on the Decriminalization of Drugs and another about Invasive Species and what can be done about this in our communities.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Council Reports.

Resolution 10-11-313

Carried

Accounts payable:

The accounting reports were presented.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$115,389.92.

Resolution 10-11-314

Carried

Correspondence List:

None

Business from the CAO:

Artemis Gold - Land Use Compensation Agreement

Artemis Gold is constructing a 134 km transmission line from the Glenannan Hydro Station to the Blackwater Gold mine site down the Kluskus FSR. The hydro transmission line will cross the Fraser Lake Community Forest. The combined length and width of the Right of Way will occupy approximately 38.2 hectares of the Community Forest. The Land Use compensation agreement is intended to compensate the Fraser Lake Community Forest for the lost productivity the transmission line will cause. The land use agreement establishes a right of way for Artemis Gold to access, construct and maintain the transmission line across the Community Forest during the term of the agreement.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to accept the terms of the Land Use Compensation Agreement as proposed by Artemis Gold for the construction of the transmission line and establishment of a Right of Way across the Fraser Lake Community Forest by Artemis Gold.

Resolution 10-11-315

Carried

Aerator Parts

The wastewater lagoon aerators are in poor condition and need repairs to ensure they remain operational until the new aeration system is installed in 2024. To bring the aerators up to operational condition, a variety of aerator parts are needed. These repairs or rebuilds are intended to ensure the responsible operation of our wastewater treatment facility that in turn ensures our effluent discharge remains in compliance with our wastewater permit requirements.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to purchase aerator parts to maintain the operational viability of the aerators and to expend up to \$41,010.00 from the Northern Capital and Planning Grant Reserve for that purpose.

Resolution 10-11-316

Carried

Community Economic Development Strategy

CAO Holland presented the Community Economic Development Strategy to Council. This document contains a lot of information about what is possible for the Village and will be a helpful resource for people to use.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the 2022 Community Economic Development Strategy.

Resolution 10-11-317

Carried

Long-Term Service

As of October 1st, 2023, Cameron Campbell has been employed by the Village for 25 years. This is an achievement and Council would like to celebrate this long service by having a coffee with Cameron and providing him with a small token of appreciation for his years of service to the community.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive business from the CAO.

Resolution 10-11-318

Carried

Staff Reports:

None

Reading List:

None

New Business:

Councillor Fennema inquired about the seedlings that were planted in the Community Forest this year. She was concerned about the survival of seedlings this year due to the drought conditions this summer.

CAO Holland advised a survey is completed in year 3, following planting. This survey determines the survival rate of the seedlings that have been planted. This survey is not scheduled for another two years.

CAO Holland noted, our foresters arrange for planting in the early spring when the soil is moist. This gives the trees the best potential for survival.

Councillor Fennema asked if residents are still being asked to put their garbage out early in the morning on the day of pick up rather than the night before.

Mayor Storey replied residents are still being asked to put their garbage out early in the morning on the day their garbage is picked up.

Councillor Fennema had a conversation with Chamber of Commerce President Darrel Tetz about Halloween. He asked if Council would be available to help with serving again this year. Mr. Tetz is currently working on the poster for the event on October 31st.

Mayor Storey inquired about fireworks.

CAO Holland confirmed that fireworks have been ordered for Halloween.

Mayor Storey let Council know that Coastal GasLink donated 10 picnic tables to the Village. The wooden tables were dropped off at Public Works.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if they as Council could advocate to the Regional District Waste Management and ask why they cannot accept the sludge from the Village.

CAO Holland updated Council on actions taken. A request has been sent to the Northern Authorizations Department of the Ministry of Environment. Administration has asked the Ministry to review the RDBN's permit and to consider amendment of that permit to allow acceptance of sludge. Under certain circumstances, the RDBN has been accepting sludge at the Clearview facility. CAO Holland would like to see sludge acceptance to be a universal thing, not selective as it is today.

A discussion followed.

Mayor Storey asked how the inspection at the Curling Rink went on October 11th.

CAO Holland reported that the Architect was there. A walk through was conducted. It will be a couple weeks before the ice plant can be turned on for the Curling Rink as there are a few things that need to be completed first.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if there will be a Grand Opening for the completion of Phase I of the Curling Rink/Community Hall Project.

CAO Holland told Council that on November 24th the Curling Club is planning a fun-spiel. This may be an opportunity to hold a soft opening of the Phase I improvements. The building could be under construction

again next year with the advancement of Phase II. For a grand opening, CAO Holland recommended that event occurs after the completion of Phase II.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 10-11-319

Carried

Bylaws:

None

In Camera:

As per 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 considered 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 they were held in public.

MOVED/SECONDED to move the Regular Meeting to In Camera under Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter at 7:09 pm

Resolution 10-11-320

Carried

Return to Regular Meeting:

Return to Regular Meeting at 7:43 pm.

MOVED/SECONDED to support the Fraser Lake Men's Shed application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust for funding through the Northern Healthy Communities fund to assist with the purchase of 80 Cougar Street, Fraser Lake, B.C.

Resolution 10-11-323

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to sign the Shared Tower Statutory Right of Way agreement to erect a telecommunications tower on Village property on the south side of Langley Avenue.

Resolution 10-11-324

Carried

Next Meeting of Council:

Adjournment:

Regular Meeting October 25, 2023, at 5:30 pm

 ${\tt MOVED/SECONDED\ that\ the\ October\ 11,\ 2023,\ Regular\ Meeting\ of\ Council}$

adjourn at 7:45 pm.

Resolution 10-11-325

Carried

Certified Correct:

Sarrah Storey, Mayor

Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer