

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 In Council Chambers

#### Those in Attendance:

Council: Mayor Storey

Councillor Watt-Senner Councillor Fennema Councillor Jenkinson

Staff: Rodney Holland, Chief Administrative Officer

LeEtta LaFontaine, Recreation Director

Public: Norm DeLong

**Andrew Ambery** 

#### Agenda:

Mayor Storey called the meeting to order at 5:31 and called for a motion to adopt the agenda and requested the declaration of any new business.

Resolution 06-26-242 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema "Motion to adopt the Agenda"

Carried

**Delegation:** 

None

# Minutes from the Previous Meetings:

Resolution 06-26-243 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Fennema "Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 12, 2019"

Carried

# **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

None

### **Councillor Reports:**

Councillor Fennema, June 21<sup>st</sup> attended the Indigenous Day Tri-Community Celebration. She participated in the parade as well. Councillor Fennema has received many positive comments about the event and about our three communities celebrating together.

On the evening of June 25<sup>th</sup>, Councillor Fennema attended the Special Meeting of Council to discuss grants from the Canada Infrastructure Program for Rural and Northern Communities.

Councillor Jenkinson attended the Special Meeting of Council on June 25th. He's also brokered a donation between Centerra Mines and the Fraser Lake Fire Rescue Training Society. Centerra has donated a washroom facility for the new fire training centre at the airport.

EDO Christie and our museum summer student, Arianna Chmelyk, met with Councillor Jenkinson at the mine for a tour. The purpose of the tour was to provide Ms. Chmelyk with a better understanding of the mine history.

Councillor Jenkinson has also been working with CAO Holland and Director of Public Works Vern Hilman on a potential donation of gravel by Centerra Gold for the Park Drive ditch project.

Councillor Watt-Senner spent June 19<sup>th</sup> sanding and staining the "Welcome to Fraser Lake" signs. Dawn LePoidevin and Lorraine Armatage showed up and planted flowers at the base of the Welcome signs. Councillor Watt-Senner commented on how much she appreciated Mrs. LePoidevin's and Mrs. Armatage's donation of time, plants and soil.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Regional District Meeting on June 20<sup>th.</sup> The Regional District is looking at connectivity issues around Northern BC. The whole Highway 16 corridor outside of Prince George is impacted by this issue. They are trying to find solutions to provide, good quality high speed internet, so people can not only work here, but can stay connected to outside areas.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Special Meeting of Council on June 25th.

Mayor Storey participated in the Grade Two School Field Trip at the Village office on June 13th. The Fire Chief, Recreation Director, Economic Development Officer and Ambulance attendants participated. The children seemed to thoroughly enjoy their visit and their interactions with the different presenters. Mrs. Schulz was very pleased with how the visit went and plans to involve her class again next year.

On June 21<sup>st</sup> Mayor Storey participated in the Tri Community Indigenous Day Celebration parade. Mayor Storey felt the entire event was amazing. People were surprised how emotional the day was. All three communities were very pleased at how well everything went. Mayor Storey complimented the work of our staff and other participants that worked to put the day together.

Mayor Storey stopped by Jason Regnier's new office at the Mall. While there, Chief Corinna Leween of the Cheslatta Carrier First Nation passed by. Mayor Storey, Jason Regnier and Chief Leween had a brief conversation. Chief Leween has asked to be invited to the next Tri Council Meeting.

Resolution 06-26-244 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Jenkinson "Motion to receive the Councillor Reports"

Carried

# **Accounts Payable:**

Resolution 06-26-245 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner "Motion to receive Accounts Payable and Payroll in the amount of \$228,588.44"

Carried

Councillor Fennema asked for more information regarding the payment to Black Press for the Vacation Planner in the amount of \$315.26; cheque #28191.

This is an annual publication that is distributed to Visitor Centres in the region; Fraser Lake, Ft. St. James and Vanderhoof. The Vacation Planner is intended to highlight our community and community events with the goal of attracting visitors.

Councillor Fennema asked about the \$20.00 payment to the Farmer's Market; cheque 28198.

Director of Recreation LeEtta LaFontaine responded to the inquiry. This is an annual fee. Recreation sets up a tent at the Community Market to advertise Village services.

Councillor Fennema asked for information about the payment to MADD Canada in the amount of \$156.45; cheque #28204.

This is the Village's annual support for the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Canada booklet.

# **Correspondence List:**

Resolution 06-26-246 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Watt-Senner "Motion to receive the Correspondence List"

Carried

### **Business from the CAO:**

Request Letter of Support for the Crisis Centre:

Fraser Lake Crisis Centre intends to apply to Red Cross Canada under the 2018 BC Wildfires fund. The Crisis Centre is requesting a Letter of Support for their application. During the 2018 Forest Fires, the Fraser Lake Crisis Centre assisted many evacuees; providing articles of clothing, household goods and food. They would like to replenish these supplies with this funding. EDO Christie is aiding the Crisis Centre with their application.

Resolution 06-26-247 M/S Councillor / Councillor

"Motion to send a letter of support to Red Cross of Canada: BC Fires 2018 in support of the Crisis Centre application for financial compensation for evacuee support during the 2018 forest fires"

Carried

Application for a Development Variance on Lot B, Taluk Avenue:

Andrew Ambery of 558 Tunasa Drive owns two adjoining lots and has applied for a Development Variance request for Lot B, Taluk Avenue. The Development Variance will allow Mr. Ambery to build a 20'x30' shop in which to store personal property.

As per our Development Approval Procedures Bylaw No. 684, 2008, property owners within 30 meters of the subject property have been notified by mail. To the date, there have been no concerns or comments lodged by adjacent property owners. They were also invited to appear in person to address Council at this Regular Meeting. None have responded to that offer.

Resolution 06-26-248 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema "Motion to support Andrew Ambery's request for a Development Variance Application for Lot B Taluk Avenue, Fraser Lake, B.C. to enable the construction of a 20'x30' shop" Carried

**Hospitality Hostages:** 

The Hospitality Hostages program is a Council led initiative. The program began approximately 21 years ago. The success of the program depends on the involvement of members of Council. CAO Holland provided an overview of the activities the Hostages or "guests of honour" have been treated to in the past.

This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the capture of Al . He has returned each year since to join in on our Canada Day celebrations. CAO Holland proposed celebrating this milestone by re capturing Al and his companion and inviting them to be our "guests of honour" for our 2019 Canada Day festivities.

A discussion followed. Members of Council volunteered for various activities. Council agreed, we should offer the distinction of being our 2019 Hospitality Hostages to Al and Lucia.

Resolution 06-26-249 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/Councillor Jenkinson "Motion to receive CAO Reports"

Carried

# **Staff Reports:**

CAO Holland presented a staff report on behalf of the Director of Public Works; Vern Hilman. The Staff Report covers the week of June 10 to 14, 2019

- -Relocated the floating dock from the Wharf. Some fabricating is required so that it fits onto the existing floats on the west side of boat launch
- -The concrete sidewalk at boat launch has been completes. Some damage was experienced after hours while the concrete dried. Although the area was covered with plywood and protected with barricades, someone drove over the corner. The area needs to be completed with some minor landscaping.
- -Loose gravel remains an issue in middle of parking area at boat launch. This will be attended to through plate packing as material hardens over time. Barriers are in place at boat launch as well
- -The Park Drive water main was being pressure tested for final super chlorination. The contractor found a leak in a flange on the Lagoon side of tracks. They were repairing this and hoped that they will complete the hook up to Village Main next week. The contractor hired a licenced testing and chlorination company to

conduct the super chlorination and testing. All water hydrants are in and services are to the property lines for Park Drive residents. The Park Drive road surface is to be sculpted and seeded.

-The community Vehicle garage was interrupted because of other works obligations the contractor was obligated to complete last week. The garage is being constructed in good order and the quality is very good. The contractor has been pleasant to work with.

The concrete slab will be completed in front of the garage door when other construction is finished. Pad ended up 3" higher than planned because of the requirement of additional insulation under main floor slab.

- -Cross walk line painting is complete.
- -Buds Electric has installed LED lighting at Rec Complex.
- -Superior Fencing has been given confirmation to complete the Commercial Sani Dump fencing and to replace the missing fence at the Park Drive CN Rail site; across from the White Brick building.
- -The Lower Mouse Mountain Trails were mowed and fallen trees cut away
- -Industrial Park, Vacant area by Hotel, and the area below the water plant to the railway tracks has been mowed.
- -Grass along Park Drive has been mowed.
- -Industrial lot for Radloff Road Contracting is witnessing preparation work for shop. Clean land clearing soil is being brought over to the sledding hill.
- -The Machine Shop slab was poured at Industrial Park. Services were connected, and tests completed and recorded for filing.
- -The Museum cable fencing has been completed around the mining equipment.

A rough sand paint was added to the shovel exhibit base.

- -The Waste Water Lagoon aerators were serviced and re-installed for lagoons
- -The Water plant has been running very well.
- -Clinton Eagen and Giles Weselowski have been spending 3 mornings per week training with Jeff Graham. Any repairs or concerns are addressed by these three as additional training. It is our desire that Clinton will be able to handle the water plant operation to allow Jeff to take much needed holidays.
- -The annual application of calcium to gravel roads in the Village has been completed; except for the areas of Park Drive impacted by the construction of the Water Main extension project.

Mayor Storey expressed gratitude for the good work done by the Public Works Yard crew.

Resolution 06-26-250 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema "Motion to receive the CAO Reports"

Carried

### Reading List:

Resolution 06-26-251 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor Fennema "Motion to receive the Reading List"

Carried

Councillor Fennema asked if it was standard practice to thank granting agencies for their support of the Village?

Mayor Storey suggested it may be appropriate to forward a card thanking New Gold for their donation. Mayor Storey felt it would be nice to have an assortment of thank you cards on hand for members of council to use when needed.

Resolution 06-26-252 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Jenkinson "Motion to purchase Thank You cards for council to have on hand"

Carried

Resolution 06-26-253 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Fennema "Motion to look into the cost of creating and printing personalized Thank you cards for the Village of Fraser Lake Council to use"

Carried

Resolution 06-26-254 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Jenkinson "Motion to approach David Luggi for a photo to use for the Village of Fraser Lake Thank You cards"

Carried

#### **New Business:**

Councillor Watt-Senner reported having received a complaint from someone driving past the Village Office. The person making the complaint saw 5 Village employees planting a tree in the front of the Village Office. Councillor Watt-Senner feels the Village needs to be more fiscally responsible in terms of labour. Last week, Councillor Watt-Senner reports seeing three summer students in a vehicle that was being used to water trees. She feels this is a one-person activity and wonders why there were three people involved.

Councillor Watt-Senner added she viewed a Face Book post. The author of the post stated they were saddened by the state of Fraser Lake. The writer had written Fraser Lake was much prettier in the past. They complained about weeds in the flower beds and stated the junipers need pruning.

Mayor Storey noted she did not know the specifics of these events; however, our Public Works employees are busy.

CAO Holland explained the day 5 employees were seen out front of the Village Office was our tree planting day. CAO Holland was likely one of those five, as he was providing direction as to where the tree was to be planted and how it was to be planted. There were three people planting the trees and one person watering them once planted. On the day in question, tree planting was the focus. The Public Works crew removed 10 dead trees and planted 14 live trees between 08:00 am and 11:30 am. CAO Holland noted the Director of Public Works assigns duties to our Public Works employees. On the tree day, a concerted effort was made to get the job done. That involved a larger crew completing this job in a relatively short period of time.

As for flowers, CAO Holland advised the available budget funded the purchase of hanging baskets. The budget has been restricted to that purchase as they are typically easier to maintain then flower beds. Our student watering person maintains our hanging baskets and the many trees we have planted around town. We have paid for flowers around the museum at the request of the Historical Society. They water and maintain those flowers.

Councillor Jenkinson commented that during budget talks, Councillor Watt-Senner had offered to champion an "adopt a bed program" with the goal of engaging volunteers to plant and maintain flower beds around the Village. Councillor Jenkinson agrees its important to have well kept flower beds in town and feels it will be important the Village budget for a person and the cost of flowers and plants in coming years.

Councillor Watt-Senner would like to assign a Councillor liaison for Public Works.

Mayor Storey stated she would like to take time to consider that suggestion. She is concerned about how that would be perceived by our Public Works employees.

Councillor Jenkinson felt this is an opportunity that would give Public Works a connection to Council.

Councillor Watt-Senner stated she welcomed the effort by Dawn LePoidevin and Lorraine Armatage to plant flowers at the base of the Welcome signs. She added, she feels Council is not following up on diary date initiatives. She does not feel Council resolutions are being followed up on.

CAO Holland stated Administration maintains a resolutions list. Administration and staff act on those resolutions as capacity allow.

Councillor Jenkinson stated he would like to see the resolution list every two weeks with a report of what action has been taken; what has been addressed and what is ongoing. Councillor Jenkinson feels there is not enough communication between Administration and Council. He would like more detailed reporting.

Councillor Fennema asked about the connectivity initiative?

Councillor Watt-Senner stated she was not at liberty to discuss the matter further other then to say, the Regional District is looking for improvements to the service.

Councillor Fennema asked about the Adult Learning Centre. Where is this initiative? CAO Holland stated the acquisition of the Adult Learning Centre has been ongoing for the past 3 to 4 years. School District 91 has been talking about disposing of the property. The Village has indicated our interest. The Village provided School District 91 with a written offer to purchase to ensure the property maintains its community service centre status. The building is home to Nechako Valley Community Services, CNC and Progressive Employment (Work BC). Other potential tenants for the property include Community Futures, Adult Probation, and Court Services. The previous Council felt it important to maintain public ownership of the building to ensure the space was available for these community service providers.

In a recent discussion with the School District 91, the Superintendent of Schools suggested a sale price that was substantially higher than what was offered. CAO Holland has asked our EDO to speak with our potential funding partners to see if the funding opportunities that existed in the past are still available today. If SD91 requires this new price, the new package will be brought back to Council for consideration.

CAO Holland noted it is not clear when SD91 intends to dispose of this building. The Superintendent of Schools will attend the Regular Meeting of Council on July 10<sup>th</sup>. This may be a good time to further that discussion.

Mayor Storey spoke about creating a youth hub. She stated this is forward thinking. The youth hub would meet the future needs of working parents who need child care services. Mayor Storey was clear it was not her intention to disrupt existing services, however, should a retirement occur, the community would be in trouble. Mayor Storey also noted the lack of capacity of current daycare providers to provide care for infants.

Mayor Storey feels this is an issue that should be taken to the community. She would like to speak with community members, business operators and area First Nations to determine the need.

She would also like to bring Michelle (last name unknown) to Fraser Lake to present on this funding opportunity. Mayor Storey stated creating a Youth Hub in Fraser Lake is consistent with the Provincial Government's promise to provide \$10.00 per day daycare.

Councillor Watt-Senner stated she feels a need to develop an up to date Strategic Plan to identify strategic priorities before moving forward. She commented there are a lot of good ideas surfacing but feels the Village needs to determine what is needed to keep people here.

Councillor Jenkinson agreed. He stated he still doesn't have a clear picture of what this Youth Hub consists of. He asked Mayor Storey for a summary of this initiative and what it will do for the community.

Mayor Storey spoke about scheduling the next Tri Council Meeting. Nadleh Whut'en will host the next meeting. After a brief discussion, it was agreed there was not enough time before summer break to schedule the meeting. The preference is for September 12 or 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Storey noted there are a few things happening around Forestry. She would like to work with our First Nations to obtain a shared "area-based tenure" for our communities.

UBCM registration opens on Tuesday July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Storey noted TransCanada Pipeline is holding a Job Fair at Nadleh Whut'en at 12:00 to 4:00 pm. Mayor Storey noted this job fair was not advertised to the wider audience. She wondered why?

Resolution 06-26-255 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Jenkinson "Motion to receive New Business"

Carried

### **Bylaws:**

Resolution 06-26-256 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner "Motion to conduct the third reading for the Village of Fraser Lake Official Community Plan to complete the adoption of Bylaw No. 809, 2019"

Carried

Mayor Storey called for discussion. No discussion.

#### In Camera:

Resolution 06-26-257 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/Councillor Fennema "Motion to adopt the In-Camera Minutes of the Meeting held June 12, 2019"

Carried

### **Next Meeting of Council:**

Next Council Meeting on July 10th, at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers.

#### Adjournment:

Resolution 06-26-258 M/S Councillor Fennema "Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 pm"

Carried

**Certified Correct:** 

Rodney J Holland, Chief Administrative
Officer