



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 13th, 2019 In the Adult Learning Centre

Those in Attendance:

- Council: Mayor Storey
Councillor LePoidevin
Councillor Watt-Senner
Councillor Jenkinson
Councillor Fennema
- Staff: Rodney Holland, Chief Administrative Officer
LeEtta LaFontaine, Director of Recreation
- Public: Norm DeLong
Elaine Storey
- Delegation: Chris Mushumanski

Agenda

Mayor Storey called the meeting to order at 5:30 and welcomed those in attendance. She asked for a motion to adopt the agenda and for the declaration of any new business.

Resolution 02-13-043 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to adopt the Agenda"

Carried

Delegation

Mayor Storey introduced Chris Mushumanski from Nechako Valley Search & Rescue. Mr. Mushumanski presented the Annual Report highlighting the activities and accomplishments of the Nechako Valley Search & Rescue team. An overview of the Search and Rescue program and how it meshes with both Provincial and local government emergency response. The Nechako Valley Search and Rescue Team has been active since 1991. The team is recognized by the Provincial Government under Emergency Management BC. There are 80 Search & Rescue teams across the province. Although these teams are community specific, they are a highly mobile. It is common for multiple teams to come together in one location for complex searches or searches of longer duration. In 2017, volunteers from 26 different Search & Rescue teams came together to search for a missing mushroom picker in the Smithers area. During the 2018 Fire Season, NVSAR team members worked with members of the Fort St. James and Prince George SAR teams to deliver evacuation alerts and orders to residents in the Fraser Lake area. Mr. Mushumanski noted this call out was their second biggest for 2018; helping with the delivery of the evacuation alerts for the Island and Shovel Lake fires.

The Search & Rescue program is designed to be a robust system capable of supporting communities during their state of emergency; regardless of whether they have their own SAR team.

Mr. Mushumanski explained how Search & Rescue is activated. SAR is available upon request from a recognized agency. Ninety nine percent of the time, the agency requesting Search & Rescue is the RCMP or the Ambulance; in the case of a rescue. Requests from these agencies are made through the Emergency Coordinator Centre (ECC). The ECC is responsible for dispatching SAR resources and providing a Task number.

There was a brief discussion about levying costs to skiers that go out of bounds or hikers who have been negligent in their planning. Mr. Mushumanski explained this is a regular topic of discussion. Levying a fee for Search & Rescue, under negligent circumstances, is practiced in the US. In many instances, families and friends hesitate to call for assistance until it's too late. Under that model, the success rate for rescue versus body recovery is much lower than in Canada. The Provincial Association strongly advocates a no charge model for a search and rescue services. Search & Rescue would like to activate at the earliest possible time to obtain the best results. Although the US levies fees for SAR services, they are often unable to collect those fees.

Search and Rescue for lost or missing persons is the big part of their job; however, NVSAR also assists with body recovery, evacuations and evidence searches. A secondary mandate is domestic animal rescue. This is not a regular occurrence, however, three years ago NVSAR was dispatched to assist in the rescue of a dog that had fallen through the ice of a pond on the North Shore. The RCMP ultimately saved the dog in this case while NVSAR volunteers were enroute.

The NVSAR teams boasts nine members trained in swift water rescue. They are supported by four local jet boat owners who have offered their boats to the team for use on river searches and other water related call-outs. The water rescue team is trained to respond to emergencies on both flat-water such as lakes and flowing water such as rivers. NVSAR is available to operate at any time because they are qualified for night operations as well.

There has been quite a fluctuation in the number of call-outs over the past few years; however, the general trend is toward a steady increase in calls for service.

NVSAR is a volunteer agency. They are required to raise funds for equipment, training, insurance, rent and other administrative costs. They generate the necessary funds through fund-raising events, receiving donations, making applications to BC Gaming and the Provincial Government. NVSAR has been successful in raising close to \$700,000.00. These funds have been used to purchase a new response vehicle, equipment and to build a three-bay garage.

Through their fund-raising efforts they have recently had a ribbon cutting celebration for their new three-bay garage. This garage provides a home for their equipment and vehicles. The

building also has an indoor rope training/rescue climbing platform to practise over-the-edge rescue simulations as well as raise and lowers.

The SAR unit is pushing for a Provincial funding model to have a guaranteed revenue stream. Their proposal is currently with the Provincial Government and although the requested funding would cover the basics, it is not intended to address all NVSAR needs. They will continue to apply for grants and asking for donations. Mr. Mushumanski noted NVSAR has received funding from the Village of Fraser Lake in the past and they would like to ask for our support again this year.

More training is planning for the coming year. NVSAR also hopes to hold a recruitment drive. In the past, there have been team members from Fraser Lake. He hopes to have more in the future. There are benefits to the community to have someone local for a quick response to an emergency.

Mr. Mushumanski went into further detail regarding the many layers of funding they require and apply for from numerous sources. He asked the Village for support whenever possible, during conversations with other government members.

Mayor Storey asked what the budget is for their group.

Mr. Mushumanski replied that each group is recognized for what they do. The NVSAR is recognized for tracking, swift water, extended flat ice and ground rescue. They are compensated for those capabilities; however, the required amount is much more than the allotted amount they were given over the past three years. Each of these skills require regular training and updated certification.

Mayor Storey extended Council's and her personal appreciation for Mr. Mushumanski's dedication. She thanked him for what he does for the public through SAR. She enjoys seeing such a dedicated group of volunteers do such great things. She inquired how they manage to retain their volunteers if there is no compensation for what they do.

Mr. Mushumanski noted NVSAR enjoys a team of around thirty members. Most team members have between three- and eight-years service on the team. There are seven team members who have over eight years with the team. New members to the team tend to stay longer if there is no relationship involvement or children. When relationships are developed, or babies are born, their availability changes. Most volunteers in the past had outdoor experience so many had their own equipment. Mr. Mushumanski has found many of the newer members don't seem to have this experience and find the monetary investment needed to purchase their own equipment a significant barrier. Most are willing to give their time; however, it can be a deal breaker when the cost of purchasing equipment comes out of their own pocket. This is another reason for their request for Provincial Funding.

Mayor Storey voiced her concern there isn't equipment available for new recruits. That they

are expected to spend up to \$1500.00 for outdoor equipment to become a volunteer is surprising.

Mr. Mushumanski believes they do a good job informing new recruits right up front what they are expected to spend on equipment so there are no surprises. Recruits come to the team with eyes open before spending a few months training. Typically, out of ten recruits, NVSAR will see seven recruits complete their training. This seems to be the standard throughout the province. Currently, there are only two people from out of town on the team. The cost of fuel for travel isn't reimbursed for out of towners.

Mr. Mushumanski stated the Provincial Association has asked the Provincial Government for \$6 to \$10 M to provide core funding for SAR. Although the request has been made, there has been no response from the Province. Under the circumstances, NVSAR is continuing to fund raise and to make requests from Community partners.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if the donation being requested from the Village would be the same each year.

Mr. Mushumanski replied yes. NVSAR has been coming to Council with the same ask for several years now.

Councillor Jenkinson shared that neither BC Ambulance or the Fire Department can do anything on ice or water and there have been several times they have had to call on SAR to bring the person out of the water or off the ice before being able to assist that person. Councillor Jenkinson thanked Mr. Mushumanski for the number of times the SAR team has supported the local Paramedics on a call.

Mr. Mushumanski noted the public doesn't always understand when they see paramedics on shore awaiting the SAR team. They often believe the Paramedics should be doing something to help but they don't realize the paramedics aren't trained to help on water or ice. There can be serious consequences if untrained persons try to help in these situations.

Mayor Storey asked if NVSAR is reimbursed for call outs?

Mr. Mushumanski replied they are; they do get reimbursed for expenses, mileage, meals and insurance deductibles if a piece of equipment is lost or damaged on call. There is also a call-out rate that goes to offset the team expenses.

Mayor Storey asked how the team addresses wear and tear on equipment and vehicles without core funding that allows for replacement over time.

Mr. Mushumanski said those costs have historically been addressed through grant funding and donations. He agreed this is an ongoing challenge.

Mayor Storey thanked Mr. Mushumanski for his presentation and the continued dedication of the NVSAR team members.

Minutes from the Previous Meetings:

Resolution 02-13-044 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to adopt the minutes of the Special Meeting held January 15th, 2019"
Carried

Resolution 02-13-045 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to adopt the minutes of the Public Meeting held January 23rd, 2019"
Carried

Resolution 02-13-046 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 23rd, 2019 with the requested amendment"
Carried

Mayor Storey noted a small omission in the January 23rd minutes. On page 4, forth paragraph from the top under the heading "Business Façade", the sentence should read "This *is* 100% funding"

Resolution 02-13-047 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to adopt the minutes of the In-Camera Meeting held January 15, 2019"
Carried

Councillor Reports:

Councillor LePoidevin attended the FLESS Science Fair on January 30th, 2019 along with Councillor Jenkinson. It was an all-day event. Councillor LePoidevin enjoyed participating and noted there are many students who are quite talented from grade four to grade seven.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Nadleh Whut'en Cultural Day on January 28, 2019. She felt the event was phenomenal.

She attended a meeting at Silver Birch Lodge. The society is looking for funding for several projects. EDO Christie attended extending an olive branch to the Seniors from the Village. EDO Christie has offered to help with information about grants and grant writing.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Cannabis Open House on January 29th. She felt the event was well organized and informative. She thanked Village staff for organizing the event.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the LGLA Conference in Prince George from January 30-February 1st. She found the event to be very informative. She was glad she attended.

On February 12th, Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Special Meeting of Council to begin budget discussions.

On February 7th & 8th Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Strategic Planning and Budget Meetings at the RDBN. The top three priorities include:

- 1) Wildfire Response. The RDBN would like to see improvement in communication between the RD and the EOC,
- 2) Resource Benefit Alliance. The RDBN would like to see a funding agreement with the Province. An agreement would encourage economic development in the North West, Masset to Vancouver, and improve opportunities for good local jobs and sustainable, liveable communities,
- 3) Resident Attraction and Retention. The RD will be amending their out-dated Unsightly Premises Bylaw and defining their definition of 'unsightly'. Currently, someone must come forward with a complaint before an investigation is triggered. This system relies on neighbours complaining about neighbours. A different approach is being considered.

CN advises in 15 years time there will be double the rail traffic on the tracks compared to present day. It's important for our community to keep this in mind moving forward.

Councillor Jenkinson attended LGLA from January 30-Feb 1st. He enjoyed the presentations on planning, media and legal ramifications. The sessions on effective decision making, orientation and responsibility for emergency management were very helpful. He also attended presentations on Regional District Management and Public Hearings during the three-day conference.

Councillor Jenkinson attended the FLESS Science Fair and quite enjoyed the event.

Councillor Jenkinson commented about having met with a representative from Curling BC. He was touring the various curling clubs across the Province. Our Curling Club is hoping to get funding. Councillor Jenkinson also wanted to say Thank You for all the work done by the Works Department in the Curling Rink. They have some really good ideas for fixing air circulation and a few other things.

Councillor Jenkinson attended the Budget meeting.

Councillor Fennema attended the Nadleh Whut'en Cultural Event. She found the event to be very informative; learning a lot about their history and their community.

Councillor Fennema attended the Cannabis Meeting on January 28th. She also attended LGLA in Prince George; January 30-Feb 1. The conference was very informative. It provided good opportunities to make connections with other government officials from other areas.

On February 12 Councillor Fennema attended the budget meeting.

On February 13 she attended the FLESS Science Fair. She enjoyed seeing the innovations and projects. A project of note, involving significant time and effort dealt with Recycling.

Mayor Storey provided a written Council Report. Highlights included:
A “Good Governance” hand out. She asked member of Council to read the hand out and proposed to discuss it later.

January 20th Mayor Storey attended the Prince George Regional Advisory Committee meeting of NDIT

Mayor Storey attended the Natural Resource Forum January 22 to 24th. She felt it was an amazing event for networking.

On January 25th & 26th Mayor Storey attended NCLGA meetings

On January 28th she attended the Nadleh Whut’en Yah Crosse Cultural Awareness Event. This was an excellent opportunity for staff and council to learn about the Nadleh Whut’en people through traditional foods, information booths, a tour of the health Centre and artifacts.

On January 29th Mayor Storey attended the Cannabis Open House. She felt it was important to hear the messages from the panel of experts and then listen to community members on their preferences.

Mayor Storey attended LGLA from January 30th – Feb 1st. Discussions included EV charging stations for electric cars, biomass, rail traffic and their, the importance of developing an Assessment Management Policy, the benefits of water meters in leak detection, Active Management Policy and organic curbside collection.

Forums attended included decision making, evolving leadership, Rights and Responsibilities, Asset Management, etc.; Recovery of water and sewer. Reactive maintenance as opposed to proactive maintenance, long term financial planning. Our planning needs to consider what needs to be done, when does it need to be done by and replacing infrastructure before it breaks. This can save money and overtime costs, etc., Developing an Assessment Management Policy is a must before taking on new assets.

Mayor Storey attended an Economic Development Forum at Nadleh Whut’en on February 5th. Coastal Gas Link did a thank you speech to Nadleh and TransCanada. The vendor deadline has passed but TransCanada remains open to receiving more proposals from vendors. Falcon Camp Services are in partnership with Nadleh Whut’en and will be managing the camp at Lejac. Village staff will be planning recreational activities on Sunday; the camp day off. Camp will be operational from September to May for two years, estimated 1100 people in camp. This has the potential to create a lot of jobs for the three communities. EDO Christie will be speaking to the Chamber of Commerce to ensure businesses are aware of the opportunities and stretched deadline for proposals.

Mayor Storey has called UBCM about Newspaper Resolution and the Paramedic Resolutions.

There was a resolution last year, 2018-B140. This resolution was greatly debated. The membership referred it to the UBCM Executive to deal with. Awaiting provincial responses.

Councillor Fennema noted on February 20th there is a Chamber Meeting and representatives of TransCanada Pipeline will be there to explain more about the opportunities available.

Resolution 02-13-048 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion to receive the Councillor Reports"

Carried

Accounts Payable:

Resolution 02-13-049 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion to receive Accounts Payable and Payroll in the amount of \$163,886.24"

Carried

Councillor Jenkinson asked for more information about the payment for animal control; cheque #27940.

Mayor Storey explained this payment is for trapper services. A trapper was contracted to manage the beaver population at White Swan Park. The beaver population has grown to a point where they have cause considerable damage to most of the trees along the waterfront. They have also been chewing on the pilings of the Pier.

Correspondence List:

Resolution 02-13-050 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to receive the Correspondence List"

Carried

Business from the CAO:

Family Day Activities

Family activities have been planned for Family Day. This year, all activities will be held at the Arena between 10 and 2 pm on Monday February 18th, 2019. Administration successfully applied for a first-come, first-served grant of \$1000.00. Family Day is a fully grant-funded event. Everyone is welcome to participate.

Resolution 02-13-051 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to receive the CAO Reports"

Carried

Staff Reports:

Economic Development Officer—Age Friendly Council Appointment

Funding is in place to conduct an Age Friendly Assessment for the Community. One aspect of the assessment is the establishment of a fifteen-person task force. Task Force members will work with consultants to identify initiatives that will support an age friendly environment. One council member is asked to participate on the Task Force. The commitment is to attend four meetings.

Councillor Watt-Senner shared her experience as a Certified Professional Consultant on Aging. She offered to be the Council representative on the Task Force.

Resolution 02-13-052 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to appoint Councillor Watt-Senner as the Council representative to the Age Friendly Task Force”

Carried

Resolution 02-13-053 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/Councillor Fennema

“Motion to receive staff reports”

Carried

Reading List:

Resolution 02-13-054 M/S Councillor Lepoidevin/ Councillor Jenkinson

“Motion to receive Reading List”

Carried

New Business:

Councillor LePoidevin proposed to discuss Nechako Valley Search & Rescue’s request for funding.

Mayor Storey knew it wasn’t \$1000 because there wasn’t money available in the Grant in Aid fund. She wondered if this funding should be added to the budget as an annual expense.

Councillor Watt-Senner agrees and would like to see this as well.

CAO Holland advised the Village has provided NVSAR with \$500.00 per year over the past two or three years.

Discussion followed around the best way to follow through with this donation. This past summer, our Community relied on the SAR team who assisted with evacuations during the wildfires.

It was noted, the NVSAR team has applied for funding through the Province. The request was for \$6 to \$10M. This funding would be shared by the 80 SAR teams across the Province. Should they be successful in that request, their need for financial support would change dramatically. CAO Holland recommended leaving this request under the Grant in Aid program until the outcome of the request to the Province is known. The Village budgets \$4,000.00 annually for Grant in Aid. These funds are used to support Community initiatives such as Breakfast for Learning, Sports teams attending Provincials and other activities that benefit the community. Unfortunately, it is a limited amount of money.

Council agreed that even though they'd love to give more, it really isn't feasible at this point. Council agreed to donate \$500 to NVSAR team from the Village of Fraser Lake.

Resolution 02-13-055 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Jenkinson

"Motion to donate \$500 from the Grant-In Aid Fund to the Nechako Valley Search & Rescue"

Carried

Resolution 02-13-056 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor LePoidevin

"Motion to receive New Business"

Carried

Bylaws:

Resolution 02-13-057M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner

"Move to the fourth and final reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Cemetery Operations and Maintenance Bylaw No. 797, 2019"

Carried

Resolution 02-13-058 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Fennema

"Move the fourth and final reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Re-Zoning Bylaw No 800, 2018"

Carried

In-Camera:

Resolution 02-13-059 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor LePoidevin

"Motion to move the Regular Meeting to In-Camera under Section 90(1)(c) of the Community Charter at 8:03 pm"

Carried

Return to Regular Meeting:

Return to the Regular Meeting of Council at 9:35 pm.

Next Meeting of Council:

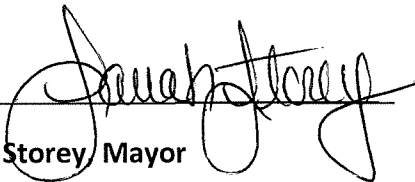
Next Regular Meeting of Council on February 27, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the Adult Learning Centre.

Adjournment:

Resolution 02-13-064 M/S Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 pm"

Carried

Certified Correct



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Rodney J Holland, Chief Administrative Officer