



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 5:30 pm

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Mayor S. Storey presided. Councillors present were C. LePoidevin, K. Watt-Senner, A. Fennema and J. Jenkinson.

Staff present were R. J. Holland, CAO, J. Pacheco, Fire Chief and D. Christie, Economic Development Officer

**Meeting Called to Order  
At 5:30 pm.**

**Agenda:**

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda and declare new business.

Resolution 12-09-334

Carried

**Delegations & Guests:**

No delegations  
No guests

**Minutes:**

**Regular Council Minutes,  
November 25, 2020**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Minutes of November 25, 2020 be adopted as read 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 12-09-335

Carried

**Business arising from  
the Minutes:**

None

**Reports on Council  
Activities:**

**Councillor LePoidevin**  
Nothing to report

**Councillor Watt-Senner**  
Nothing to report

**Councillor Jenkinson**  
Attended a Tier 1 conference call meeting of the Omineca Regional Response group (ORR).

**Mayor Storey**

Attended the same ORR Tier 1 conference call. She commented the meeting provided updates but nothing major. Things are going well in Vanderhoof and area in terms of protocols.

Mayor Storey has been busy with NCLGA and UBCM business. Those activities relate to her positions on both associations.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 12-09-336

Carried

**Accounts payable:**

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$810,877.04.

Resolution 12-09-337

Carried

**Correspondence List:**

None

**Business from the CAO:**

**2021 Regular Meeting of Council schedule:**

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the 2021 Village of Fraser Lake Regular Meeting of Council schedule.

Resolution 12-09-338

Carried

**2021 FLESS Student Bursary:**

MOVED/SECONDED to provide a student bursary to a graduating student from the Fraser Lake Elementary Secondary School (FLESS) and to expend \$1,000.00 from the 2021 budget for that purpose.

Resolution 12-09-339

Carried

**2020 UBCM Evacuation Route Planning:**

MOVED/SECONDED to support the submission of an application to the 2020 UBCM Evacuation Route Planning Fund by the Regional District Bulkley-Nechako on behalf of the Village with the understanding, if the grant is approved, the RDBN will

receive and manage the grant funding. The RDBN is submitting the application on behalf of the RDBN, Burns Lake, Fort St. James, Granisle, Houston, Smithers, Fraser Lake and Telkwa for \$25,000 for this regional evacuation route planning exercise for a total of \$198,154.27.

Resolution 12-09-340

Carried

**2021 NDIIT Internship Program:**

MOVED/SECONDED to apply to the Northern Development Initiative Trust for \$50,000.00 under the 2021 internship program and to authorize up to \$20,000.00 in additional financial support from the 2021 budget to meet the requirements of this program for wage top up and benefits, assuming success in our application.

Resolution 12-09-341

Carried

**2020 Christmas/Holiday Office Hours:**

MOVED/SECONDED to close the Village Office on December 24<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Resolution 12-09-342

Carried

**COVID-19 Implications to Recreation:**

CAO Holland noted Provincial Health Orders have suspended adult hockey and adult curling. As such, Minor Hockey are the only users of the arena facility. The last practice for Minor Hockey is December 17, 2020. Administration is proposing to close the C.H. Foote Memorial Arena over the Christmas holidays. Our Arena staff will still conduct twice daily checks of the ice plant but otherwise our arena staff will be available for other duties such as snow clearing over the Christmas holidays. Minor Hockey resumes activities in January 2021. Re opening of the arena will coincide with those dates; assuming Provincial Health Orders allow.

Discussion. Agreed.

**2021 Project List:**

CAO Holland noted the list has been compiled by Village Administration and staff. The list identifies Village infrastructure and amenities that requires attention.

Current Projects are activities that are underway or for which we have applied for funding. These projects will continue into 2021. Current Projects can be expected to consume a significant amount of staff time in the coming year.

The proposed projects have not yet started. They hold varying levels of urgency but will require attention in the next couple of years.

Regardless of our existing obligations to the current projects, there is room to start planning for other activities. Choices will need to be made around what comes next. This list is provided before the holidays to provide Council time to consider the list. Budget discussions will begin in January 2021.

Mayor Storey commented she would like to see an addition on the Fire Hall at some time in the future.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the 2021 Capital Projects list.

Resolution 12-09-343

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to receive CAO Reports.

Resolution 12-09-344

Carried

**Staff Reports:**

Fire Chief Joe Pacheco presented his annual report. The Fire Department has responded to 62 calls for service in the first 11 months of the year. In 2020, training was a significant activity. The training facility at the airport has allowed the fire department to provide some very high-quality training to their membership. Fire Chief Pacheco noted a significant amount of equipment was replaced this past year. Looking to the future, Fire Chief Pacheco encourages the Village to set aside an annual contribution for Fire Truck replacement. He noted the significant cost of a fire truck. Currently, a new truck is estimated at \$500,000.00. In ten years, it could very be as much as \$750,000.00.

Mayor Storey asked about response to medical calls outside of the municipality.

Fire Chief Pacheco advised the Fire Department no longer responds to medical calls outside the municipal boundary. He cited issues around compensation.

CAO Holland noted our First Responders used to respond to medical calls outside the municipal boundaries, however, following a motor vehicle accident involving our rescue truck, we examined the service and identified several liabilities and concerns that could not be resolved. The support service was suspended. Concerns included no remuneration for our first responders, no workers compensation coverage while on the call, no reimbursement for operational expenses such as fuel or wear and tear on our vehicles, and no process to claim for lost, damaged or expended equipment. The most significant concern, however, was the lack of indemnification for our first responders. In the event of a mishap, the liability would be placed squarely on the shoulders of the municipality.

Administration advised these concerns were discussed with the lead Provincial representative of the BCEHS program. They do not provide funding to Fire Departments providing this type of support to Medical Calls. Administration also discussed this issue with the RDBN. The RDBN felt this is a provincial responsibility and as such should not be undertaken by the RDBN.

Mayor Storey asked who was left to respond to medical calls.

Fire Chief Pacheco noted the BC Ambulance crews are responsible for these responses.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Fire Chief's annual report.

Resolution 12-09-345

Carried

## Staff Reports

Economic Development Officer, Dave Christie presented on four funding opportunities which are recommended for applications.

**NDIT Economic Development and Capacity Building grant program.**

MOVED/SECONDED to apply to the Northern Development Initiative Trust Economic Development and Capacity Building program for up to \$55,000.00 to maintain our Economic Development Officer's position in support of the economic health of our community

Resolution 12-09-346

Carried

**NDIT Love Northern BC program**

MOVED/SECONDED to apply to the Northern Development Initiative Trust for up to \$1,200.00 for the 2021 Love Fraser Lake program in support of local businesses.

Resolution 12-09-347

Carried

**UBCM Emergency Preparedness Fund – Emergency Operations Centre funding stream**

MOVED/SECONDED to apply to UBCM for up to \$25,000.00 from the Emergency Preparedness Fund under the Emergency Operations Centres and Training funding stream to wire the building for an emergency generator to develop the Fraser Lake Professional Building as an EOC and to purchase a trailer for the emergency generator to provide operational flexibility for our EOC.

Resolution 12-09-348

Carried

**UBCM Emergency Preparedness Fund – ESS Funding Stream**

MOVED/SECONDED to apply to UBCM for up to \$25,000.00 from the Emergency Preparedness Fund under the Emergency Support Services funding stream to wire the C.H. Foote Memorial Arena for a generator for use in emergencies as a reception centre.

Resolution 12-09-349

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to receive staff reports.

Resolution 12-09-350

Carried

**Reading List:**

None

**New Business:**

**Councillor Watt-Senner**

Noted an election sign from the Provincial Election was still up. EDO Christie noted he had contacted someone associated to the candidate. They will ensure the sign is removed.

**Councillor Fennema**

Noted she had received a survey from the RCMP. Does this survey require a Village response or is it for individual response?

A brief discussion followed. Most members of Council have completed the survey.

Councillor Fennema has heard concerns about over crowding in the Sticks & Stones Pub. She has heard the pub is full of pipeline workers.

Councillor LePoidevin commented he sees the RCMP driving by or at the pub during night shifts. It is their responsibility to enforce provincial health orders.

Mayor Storey commented on the Fraser Lake Saddle Club. She would like to see if the Village can assist the Saddle Club with their plans for an indoor arena. She feels this could support local tourism and retention of residents.

Mayor Storey has been asked to build a rainbow cross walk-in town.

Mayor Storey commented on the loss of the radio station found at 99.9 Fm.

Councillor Jenkinson noted there is a transmitter up at the mine. This is a rebroadcast service that is funded by the RDBN and led by Don Webster of Fort Fraser.

Mayor Storey plans to speak with the RDBN as she would like to see a stronger, more reliable signal.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive new business

Resolution 12-09-351

Carried

**Bylaws:**

None

**Next Regular Meeting of Council:**

January 13,2021 at 5:30 pm

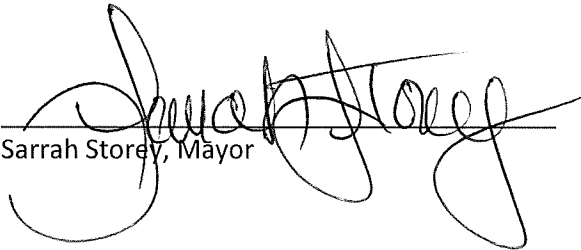
**Adjournment:**

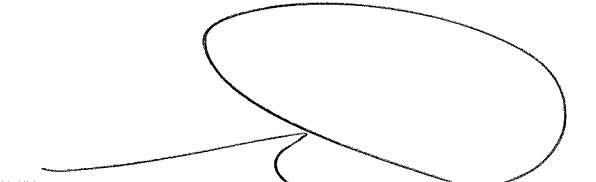
MOVED/SECONDED that the December 9, 2020 Regular Meeting of Council be now adjourned. 6:10 PM

Resolution 12-09-352

Carried

**Certified Correct:**

  
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Sarah Storey, Mayor

  
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Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer