



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council Held electronically on May 13, 2020

With Reference to Ministerial Order No. 83, Local Governments have been given permission to attend Regular Meetings in an electronic format during the COVID 19 Provincial State of Emergency to allow Local Government to focus on emergency and time restricted decisions related to finances. The electronic format is required to meet the recommendations of the Provincial Health Officer to maintain social distancing.

Those in Attendance:

Council: Mayor Storey
Councillor LePoidevin
Councillor Watt-Senner
Councillor Fennema
Councillor Jenkinson

Staff: Rodney Holland, Chief Administrative Officer
Vern Hilman, Director of Public Works
Dave Christie, Economic Director Officer

Agenda:

Mayor Storey called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Mayor Storey requested a motion to adopt the agenda and requested the declaration of new business.

Resolution 05-13-169 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion to adopt the Agenda"

Carried

No new business was declared.

Delegation:

None

Minutes from the Previous Meetings:

Resolution 05-13-170 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Watt-Senner

“Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 22nd, 2020”

Carried

Resolution 05-13-171 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/Councillor Jenkinson

“Motion to adopt the minutes of the In-Camera Meeting held April 22, 2020”

Carried

Mayor Storey called for discussion.

No discussion.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

None

Councillor Reports:

Councillor LePoidevin reported on the parade held the evening of April 28, 2020 in support of Front-Line Workers. Participation was good and he felt the community was pleased with the event.

Councillor Watt-Senner agreed. She joined in and participated in the parade. She thanked everyone who participated.

Councillor Fennema watched the parade. She felt it was awesome.

Councillor Jenkinson thanked Councillor LePoidevin for his part in organizing the parade. He enjoyed participating in the parade and believes it was well received by the community. Councillor Jenkinson also participated in an Omineca Response Tier II coordination call.

Mayor Storey agreed. She also participated. She felt the event was well organized and a positive event for the community.

Mayor Storey has been very busy with the many conference calls and activities related to COVID-19. Of note, both Minister Doug Donaldson and District Manager Dave Van Dolah have discussed the plans for 2020 tree planting and the protocols developed to address community concerns related to bringing tree planters into the area. Mayor Storey feels the protocols are well thought out. She noted, the Province has been speaking with both the Stelat’en and Nadleh Whut’en about their concerns. Mayor Storey remains hopeful tree planting will occur in our area this year.

Earlier today Mayor Storey chaired an Interagency Meeting. She felt the meeting was going well until technical issues ended the phone call. Mayor Storey is hoping to see more interaction and

coordination between community service providers. She believes it is important to bring these agencies together to discuss what is going on in our community.

Mayor Storey talked about her work with NCLGA. The topic of camping is high on everyone's list, especially with the May Long Weekend looming. The NCLGA Board have discussed their concerns with Minister Donaldson about the importance of having access to Provincial Parks and Recreation sites for the long weekend. Without access to these campsites, people are likely to go camp in the bush. This will increase the likelihood of human caused forest fires and pollution when garbage is left behind.

Minister Donaldson has confirmed, reductions in social restrictions are expected to occur soon. Everyone is eager to know more about what they will look like.

Mayor Storey advises the NCLGA Board has voiced concern about people traveling before Social Restrictions are lifted. Locally, people working in our stores report increased numbers of travellers stopping in for groceries and services. They have also voiced concerns about persons involved in non-timber activities such as fiddlehead and mushroom harvesting. Mayor Storey feels locals should have first opportunity for access to these resources. She has been wondering if a permitting process might achieve that goal.

Mayor Storey reported on the number of people "panic hunting". This year 4800 black bear tags have been sold versus the typical 1900 tags. She suspects there will be significantly more LEH applications submitted as well. Mayor Storey would prefer to see local hunting, rather than people travelling from other parts of the Province to our area.

During her conversation with Minister Donaldson, Mayor Storey suggested hiring Forest Rangers to better manage Forest Recreation sites, road safety and fire management. She feels Conservation Officers are spread too thin to be effective and would like to see the return of Forest Rangers to address these issues.

Resolution 05-13-172 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to receive the Councillor Reports"

Carried

Mayor Storey called for discussion.
No discussion.

Accounts Payable:

Resolution 05-13-173 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to adopt Accounts Payable and Payroll in the amount of \$348,002.11"

Carried

Mayor Storey called for discussion.
No discussion.

Correspondence List:

None.

Business from the CAO:

2020 Canada Day

CAO Holland noted the Provincial Health Orders requiring social distancing, hand washing, and no gatherings of more than 50 people are likely to persist through the summer. CAO Holland asked for Council's direction on how they would like to mark Canada Day.

A discussion followed. Council agreed there is little choice around what to do about the situation. Our normal Canada Day Celebrations are not appropriate during the pandemic. Council has directed the cancellation of any equipment bookings such as the inflatable structures, the mini train, etc. It was noted, a fireworks display might be possible, assuming the Provincial Fire Ban is rescinded.

CAO Holland noted fireworks orders require one-month lead time to ensure delivery of the product. They should be ordered no later than June 1, 2020. If ordered and for some reason not used for July 1, 2020, they will keep until Halloween.

Since is still time to order the fireworks, Council has asked for time to think about how they would like to recognize Canada Day. This will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.

Resolution 05-13-174 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/Councillor Watt-Senner

"Motion to cancel Mouse Mountain Day activities for 2020 to comply with the Provincial Health Officer's recommendations for social distancing and no gatherings over 50 persons in response to the COVID-19 pandemic"

Carried

Picnic tables for Mouse Mountain Park:

This capital project was authorized during 2020 budget talks. Costs of this project have increased. Administration would like to amend the previous resolution that authorized an application to NDIT for \$7466.00 to assist with the purchase of the picnic tables and the installation of the concrete pads. The requested amendment would increase the amount of our application to NDIT to \$8150.00.

Resolution 05-13-175 M/S Councillor Fennema/Councillor Watt-Senner

"Motion to amend resolution 02-26-92 to apply to NDIT for \$8,150.00 to purchase and install picnic tables for White Swan RV Park."

Carried

Royal Canadian Legion – Grant in Aid application

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 274 has submitted a grant in aid application for \$490.25 to offset the cost of their water, sewer, and garbage levy. Due to the Provincial Health Officer's Orders, the Royal Canadian Legion has not been allowed to be open for regular business. Although

their normal business is shut down, they have maintained the *Senior's Meal Program*. This has involved maintaining kitchen staff to prepare meals for our vulnerable senior's population.

Resolution 05-13-176 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor Watt-Senner

"Motion to award the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 274 with a grant in aid in the amount of \$490.23"

Carried

Fraser Lake Villa Trailer Park:

Administration provided Council with an update on this 2020 Capital Project. The Village owned trailer park has been surveyed and re designed for future development. CAO Holland explained, there is currently one tenant in the trailer park. The new plan is to create 19 serviced rental properties in a phased development.

Each year, the Village receives inquiries about the availability of space for modular homes and/or mobile homes. The trailer park located off Endako Avenue is full. Residents from the Regional District would like to move into Fraser Lake to access the services provided by the municipality.

Most recently, inquiries have been received from the Coastal Gaslink Pipeline. Families of persons working on the pipeline, hope to relocate to Fraser Lake for the duration of the project. Rental properties are scarce to nonexistent. Administration feels this may be an opportunity to develop and occupy the Fraser Lake Villa Trailer Park. The pad rental will repay the cost of improvements. The long term goal is to develop the trailer park into a well organized, well maintained area that will attract residents for long term occupancy.

Although the property has a history as a contaminated site, by regulation it no longer meets the relevant criteria. However, before investing in the redevelopment Administration would like to confirm the property is safe. Inquiries have been made with an environmental testing company in Prince George, B.C. CAO Holland would like to have soil samples collected and analysed to ensure this property does not hold an environmental hazard. The cost of soil sampling and analysis is \$9,500.00.

Mayor Storey stated she would like to see this project advance. This provides an opportunity for growth for our community.

A discussion followed.

Resolution 05-13-177 M/S Councillor Fennema/Councillor Watt-Senner

"Motion to expend up to \$10,000.00 to complete soil sampling in the Fraser Lake Villa Trailer Park"

Carried

Resolution 05-13-178 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor LePoidevin

"Motion to receive CAO Reports"

Carried

Staff Reports:

None

Reading List:

Resolution 05-13-179 M/S Councillor LePoidevin/Councillor Jenkinson
"Motion to receive the Reading List"

Carried

New Business:

Councillor LePoidevin asked when the Village will receive the new Street Sweeper.

CAO Holland explained, the street sweeper has been ordered. It is being manufactured in the US. We expected delivery mid May, but the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have impacted the delivery date of the vehicle. Delivery is now expected in early June.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked whether the Village will hire any summer students.

CAO Holland explained the Village budgets for 4 University students. In addition to our budgeted funds, the Village applied for funding under the Canada Summer Jobs program. If successful in that application, the Village will hire up to 4 High School students.

Councillor Fennema advised the Men's Shed has offered to build a bench in memory of Richard Cannon. They would like to place it near the museum.

A discussion followed. Mayor Storey feels there may be an opportunity to do something bigger such as naming the walking path from Carrier Street to Chowsunket as "Richard Cannon Historical Walk". This could create an opportunity to highlight our local history while memorializing the contributions of Richard Cannon.

A discussion followed. Council likes the idea.

Councillor Fennema asked about the floats at the boat launch. Were they in yet?

Administration advised the floats go in once the water level in the lake begins to drop. They are not placed during rising water levels as this tends to damage the floats and the pilings. The hope is to have them in before the long weekend.

Councillor Fennema also asked about our playgrounds. Are they open?

Mayor Storey responded. Our municipal playgrounds were never closed. We have discouraged congregations of children and encouraged physical distancing and hand washing; however, our playgrounds are available for individual families for outdoor activity.

Councillor Fennema also asked about campfires. Is a burning permit required?

Administration advised a burn permit is required for any burning within the Village of Fraser Lake. Currently, the Province has a ban on open burning, so, a small campfire contained in an enclosed fire pit is allowed but otherwise burning is prohibited.

Councillor Fennema noted there have been bears in the community. She asked what was being done about them?

Administration advised, Conservation Officers from Vanderhoof have been contacted. They have attended the community and are addressing the matter.

Councillor Jenkinson asked why the flags were still at half mast. He asked if a request was needed to have them returned to full mast? He also noted several maintenance issues at the boat launch and White Swan Park; election literature posted in the bulletin board adjacent to the RV Park, a damaged culvert near the boat launch and trees that have been cut down along the shoreline near the wharf. How are these being addressed?

Director of Public Works, Vern Hilman responded. All flags have been returned to full mast except for the flag at the Fire Hall. The chain jumped the pulley at the top of the flagpole. The pole will need to be taken down to correct the malfunction.

Relative to the dead trees adjacent to the wharf, these were dead willow trees. Public Works staff cut these last Fall. The debris will be removed once water levels drop in the lake.

As for the damaged culvert off Park Drive adjacent to the boat launch washroom, the lighting project planned for this spring involves trenching this area to install the electrical conduit for lighting. The repair of the culvert is planned to coincide with the work associated with the lighting project.

Mayor Storey directed the conversation to an email all members of Council received from Marv Nowlin of the Subway Restaurant. Marv Nowlin has asked to continue residing in his 5th wheel trailer in the Subway parking lot. This is contrary to existing zoning restrictions.

A discussion followed. It was noted, Mr. Nowlin is now constructing permanent structures around his 5th wheel. The general appearance of his trailer and the associated structure is not appealing.

CAO Holland noted our Zoning Bylaw does not allow residential trailers in the C2 Zone. Although our Bylaw allows the property owner to develop a dwelling on the property, it sets out dimensional requirements that are intended to prevent the establishment of mobile homes in this zone. The 5th Wheel trailer does not conform with the Village of Fraser Lake Zoning Bylaw No. 684, 2004.

Resolution 05-13-180 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor Watt-Senner

“Motion to direct Mr. Nowlin to remove his 5th wheel trailer from the Subway Restaurant property in the next 30 days.”

Carried

Bylaws:

Village of Fraser Lake 2020 – 2024 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 814, 2020:

Resolution 05-13-181 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to conduct the fourth and final reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Financial Plan Bylaw No. 814, 2020”

Carried

Mayor Storey called for discussion.

No discussion.

Village of Fraser Lake 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw No. 815, 2020:

Resolution 05-13-182 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor LePoidevin

“Motion to conduct the fourth and final reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Tax Rate Bylaw No. 815, 2020”

Carried

Mayor Storey called for discussion.

No discussion.

Resolution 05-13-183 M/S Councillor Jenkinson/Councillor Fennema

“Motion to table the discussion of the Village of Fraser Lake Trucked Liquid Waste Bylaw No. 816, 2020 until next Council Meeting”

Carried

In-Camera:

Resolution 05-13-184 M/S Councillor LePoidevin / Councillor Fennema

“Move to move the Regular Meeting In-Camera under Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter at 7:15 pm”

Carried

Return to the Regular Meeting:

Return to the regular meeting at 7:24 pm.

Next Meeting of Council:

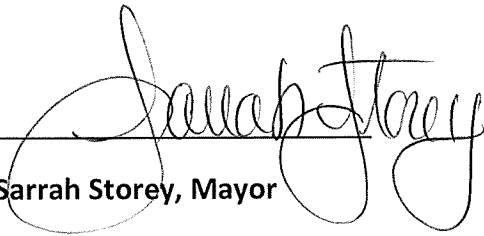
Next Council Meeting on May 27th, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

Adjournment:

Resolution 05-13-188 M/S Councillor LePoidevin /Councillor Fennema
"Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm"

Carried

Certified Correct:



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Rodney J Holland, Chief Administrative Officer