# Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held April 26, 2017 In the Municipal Hall in Open Forum

Those in Attendance:

Mayor Lindstrom

Councillor Reyden Councillor Storey Councillor LePoidevin

Councillor Ray

Staff

Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer

Public

**Dave Harper** 

Carol Harper

Delegations

Jason Slater, Sgt

- Fraser Lake RCMP

Nathan Smith, Cst

- Fraser Lake

Mayor Lindstrom called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed those in attendance

## Agenda:

Resolution 04-26-122 M/S Councillor Storey/ Councillor Reyden "Motion to adopt the agenda as presented"

Carried

### **Delegation:**

Sgt Jason Slater began by introducing the newest member of the Fraser Lake Detachment to members of Council; Constable Nathan Smith. Constable Smith originates from Kamloops, B.C.

The Mayor and Council welcomed Constable Smith to the community.

Sgt Slater presented his year end report. Generally, there has been a decrease in calls for service. Assault, mischief and liquor related files are down slightly. There have been spikes in activity, primarily due to travelling criminals who come into the area and hit the area. Overall, any increases are small. There are local contributors to these numbers through violence in relationships. The report provides detail about where these events occur. The report is not limited to the Village boundaries. It includes activities in neighbouring communities that fall under the service area of the Fraser Lake Detachment. In the coming year, Sgt Slater hopes to

work with neighbouring detachments to better coordinate response to these travelling criminals. Sgt Slater advised much of the report was not surprising.

Sgt Slater spoke about initiatives for 2017. There will be an increase in traffic stops for impaired driving and aggressive driving. The detachment members will also work on issues such as mischief through positive interaction with the local youth. Detachment personnel have been serving breakfast at FLESS through the Breakfast for Learning program, participating in sporting events and other community events and positive ticketing.

Relative to domestic violence, the detachment will be targeting some of those individuals who are known to be repeat offenders. Sgt Slater stated the community has been a positive contributor to the solution. The community pride and positive community interactions that the community host are great.

Mayor Lindstrom thanked the RCMP for participating in these community events.

Sgt Slater announced plans to hold an open house on June 2, 2017. The Open House will include a tour of the detachment and participation by Safety Bear, Air Services, dog section and a couple of other sections. This will also be a "Cops for Cancer" fund raiser. There will be a BBQ, dunk tank and possibly a "jail and bail". A request was made to use the soccer field to land the helicopter and a couple of tents as a precaution for inclement weather.

This summer, the detachment hopes to conduct boat patrols on Fraser Lake. Sgt Slater also hopes to acquire a UTV to conduct patrols of local trails.

Mayor Lindstrom asked about the RCMP position of ATV crossing the highway. There is a local attempt to establish an ATV club. If successful, it would be nice to have a couple routes to get out of town. Sgt Slater stated there is some room for discretion on this issue. The important concern is safe operation of the vehicle. To be able to cross the highway, vehicles need to be registered and insured with liability insurance.

There was general discussion around how the RCMP could assist with the development of an ATV club. Sgt Slater agrees an ATV can be a positive group to maintain trails and to ensure behaviour on the trails is appropriate.

Mayor and Council thanked Sgt Slater and Constable Smith for their presentation.

### Minutes:

Resolution 04-26-123 M/S Councillor Storey / Councillor Ray
"Motion to adopt the Regular Meeting minutes and the In Camera minutes from the
April 12, 2017 meeting"

Carried

# **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

None

## **Council Reports:**

Councillor Lepoidevin took part in the Small Business Expo this past Saturday morning. Councillor Lepoidevin felt the event was well organized and well attended in the morning.

Councillor Reyden attended the Small Business Fair as well. He spent time at the Village table. Councillor Reyden noted there were quite a few people in the morning but attendance at the Small Business Fair dropped off in the afternoon. The Daffodil tea was on at the same time so it was presumed the afternoon crowd attended the Daffodil tea.

Councillor Storey attended the Small Business Fair. Councillor Storey complimented our EDO, Dave Christie on his organization of the event and the number of exhibitors at the event. Councillor Storey was concerned about public attendance and suggests we look at holding the event at a different time of the year; possibly in conjunction with the Bicycle Rodeo. Councillor Storey received comments from several seniors that there was no place for them to park. The exhibitors were occupying the closer parking spots and the public had to walk if they wanted to attend.

Councillor Storey missed the scavenger hunt that was organized by the Chamber of Commerce. She heard good things about the event. Over 100 children participated.

Councillor Storey has received correspondence from someone in the Auditor General's Office. She has been asked to speak about rural health. The Auditor General is reviewing HR planning processes relating to doctors, nurses & nurse practitioners. They are looking at recruitment and retention practices for medical staff. Councillor Storey advised that the person conducting this inquiry is interested in speaking to others with an opinion on the matter.

Mayor Lindstrom attended the Small Business Trade Fair. He spent most of the day at the Village table. Mayor Lindstrom felt the event was well attended but noticed the people traffic flow tail off in the afternoon. Mayor Lindstrom was impressed by the number of exhibitors and tables.

This past Friday Mayor Lindstrom was asked to drop the puck at the Telus Cup in Prince George, B.C. It was the Canadian Midget Hockey Championship. Mayor Lindstrom stated he didn't get the opportunity to drop the puck but he was asked to present an award. Mayor Lindstrom enjoyed the caliber of hockey at the event. The event was sponsored by Rio Tinto.

Resolution 04-26-124 M/S Councillor Ray/ Councillor Reyden "Motion to receive the Councillor reports"

Carried

# **Accounts Payable:**

None

## **Correspondence List:**

None

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

Council Procedure Bylaw No. 784, 2017

CAO Holland and Council reviewed the proposed Council Procedure Bylaw. CAO Holland provided Council with information around the importance of updating our Council Procedure Bylaw. The Procedure bylaw sets out the general procedures and standards to be followed by Council. CAO Holland advised he's reviewed Procedure Bylaws from neighbouring municipalities. The proposed bylaw is very like the Procedure bylaws in effect in Prince George and Burns Lake.

CAO and Council reviewed the proposed document. CAO Holland explained the advertisement requirements and holding of a public meeting before this bylaw can be adopted. The purpose of the review is to ensure the document accurately reflects Council's preferences before it moves to the Public Meeting.

Several updates or amendments were requested:

Regular Meetings of Council will begin at 5:30 pm and adjourn at 9:30 pm. With an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the Council members present, the meeting can be extended until 10:30 pm.

Summer break. The second Regular Meeting of Council of July and the first Regular Meeting of Council in August in each year will be canceled for summer break.

Delegations are limited to two per Regular Meeting of Council. Delegations must submit a written request to attend a Regular Meeting of Council and include an overview of their presentation.

A delegate's presentation is limited to 20 minutes but may be extended by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the Council members present at the meeting.

Council would like to see a standard delegation request form that sets out the purpose of the delegation.

Schedule "A" prompted a discussion on Conflict of Interest. CAO Holland suggested this discussion could lead to an opportunity to discuss this topic with legal council or a subject matter expert. It was agreed, taking the time to learn more about such matters is a good governance practice.

School District 91 Property Disposal

Councillor Storey began with a discussion on her position with Autumn Services. At 7:05 pm Councillor Storey excused herself from the meeting during the discussion of this issue.

CAO Holland advised, SD91 is disposing of two properties in Fraser Lake. The Learning Centre; located at 298 McMillan Avenue and the vacant lot adjacent to the Coop Cardlock in the Southside Subdivision.

During the month of April 2017, SD91 is conducting public consultation to identify interest in these properties. This process will identify interested parties. If Council is interested in being acknowledged as an interested party, we need to submit an expression of interest.

The building at 298 McMillan Avenue is occupied by three community service providers; Nechako Valley Community Services, CNC and Progressive Employment Services. Three other service providers have contacted CAO Holland and indicated an interest in renting office space in the building; should the Village of Fraser Lake obtain the building. Those additional parties include Community Futures, Adult Probation and Court Services. Community Futures would like to establish a stronger presence in the community to meet and work with emerging entrepreneurs. They would also like to establish a tech centre in the computer lab that is in the building. They have offered to provide a 3D printer to the community and to aid anyone wishing to learn how to use the technology. Probation Services works out of the medical clinic. They are squeezed for space and would like a more functional space. Lastly, Court Service rents the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Complex. They would like a ground level entry space where court can be held one day every other month to address accessibility issues. Other groups are also interested in using space in this building. That includes early childhood education, Autumn Service and possibly the Community Market.

CAO Holland asserted the Village would ensure these service providers have access to this office space. With the large number of potential users, the Village would likely be the most objective manager of the building.

As an older building, there are maintenance issues that need to be addressed. CAO Holland has been told this building is not energy efficient. At the very least, energy upgrades will be required. CAO Holland has asked for information relating to the age of the roof, plumbing and heating mechanicals, anticipated repairs and heating costs over the past 24 months. Although the Village may not be interested in taking on potential repairs, we are likely better able to deal with large maintenance issues associated with a building of this size.

CAO Holland has been in contact with a representative of SD91. They would like to ensure the recipient of the building has an enduring presence in the community plus the capacity to maintain and manage the building.

A discussion followed. There is a lack of available commercial space in our community. The service providers in the building are important to our community and should stay in this building for the betterment of the community. The Village may be the only entity in town who has the capacity to maintain the building. CAO Holland used a roof replacement as an example of potential and substantial costs associated with this building.

Mayor Lindstrom attended the Public Meeting that was held by the School District at the Learning Centre. Mayor Lindstrom had the opportunity to speak with School Board representatives. The School Board is concerned about the potential for the building to change, depending on who takes possession of it. If the Village has the building, the Village will ensure the building continues to serve the community: as well, we have the capacity to maintain the building. The Village is not likely to close the building or sell it due to lack of funding.

Councillor Ray stated he would like to see the Village work with Autumn Services should the Village acquire the building. Council agrees Autumn Services provides an important service to our community. Council would like to support Autumn Services and the work they do.

CAO Holland advised, submitting an expression of interest does not obligate the Village. We lack too many details to obligate ourselves. Although Provincial Policy allows for gifting of property to the community, the SD91 may also establish a price on these properties in an effort to recoup some of their investment. Submitting the expression of interest simply keeps us at the table for those discussions.

Mayor Lindstrom asked Council to complete the business relative to the building.

Resolution 04-26-125 M/S Councillor Reyden/Councillor Lepoidevin "Motion to submit an expression of interest to School District 91 for 298 McMillan Avenue"

Carried

Councillor Storey returned to the Regular Meeting of Council at 7:23 pm.

CAO Holland advised the second property being disposed of by SD 91 is their vacant land in the Southside subdivision beside the Co op Cardlock. This lot is 3.51 acres in size. It is the largest Highway Commercial lot in the Southside subdivision. Although there are no proposed uses for this property in the immediate future, it would provide the community a great opportunity for future development. CAO Holland noted the Village installed six (6) water and sewer services to the lot line of this property during the development of the Southside subdivision. This was a significant investment by the Village. Obtaining the property would provide the Village with some potential to capitalize on the many service points to this property.

The Village mows this property to keep the Southside subdivision looking kept. Aside from the legal costs associated with transferring the property, acquiring the property would not impose any additional costs on the Village beyond what we are already supplying. If the property goes to a third party, we do not have assurance the property will be kept to the same standard as we

have kept it. As with the property on McMillan Avenue, submitting an expression of interest will allow the Village to remain eligible for this property.

Mayor Lindstrom stated his support for acquisition of this vacant land, noting there is an opportunity to subdivide this acreage into smaller parcels of Highway Commercial property.

Resolution 04-26-126 M/S Councillor Reyden/Councillor Lepoidevin

"Motion to submit an expression of interest for vacant property identified by the legal description of Lot 1, District Lot 617, Range 5, Coast District Plan BCP14486. This property belongs to SD91 and is in the Southside Subdivision"

Carried

NCLGA Meeting invitations:

CAO Holland notified Council, two invitations have been received to meet with Northern Health and CN Rail at NCLGA. Council has requested an appointment be made with both Northern Health and CN Rail.

FLESS Year Book advertisement:

CAO Holland presented the proposed advertisement that will be placed in the FLESS Yearbook for 2017. A group photograph will be taken of Council members before the meeting ends.

Resolution 04-26-127 M/S Councillor Reyden/ Councillor Ray "Motion to receive CAO Reports"

Carried

**Staff Reports:** 

None

**Reading List:** 

Resolution 04-26-128 M/S Councillor Lepoidevin/Councillor Ray "Motion to receive the Reading List"

Carried

#### **New Business:**

Councillor Ray talked of the Moose Hide campaign that will be presented at FLESS tomorrow. This is a campaign initiated by Paul LaCerte and his daughter. This campaign shows you are against violence against women. There will be an assembly at FLESS tomorrow afternoon at 1:00 pm. Chief Archie Patrick from Stellaquo and Chief Larry Nooski of Nadleh will be in attendance. Councillor Ray invited all members of Council to attend. Councillor Ray feels this is an important event that will assist us in bridging our communities together. This campaign is recognized nationally.

Councillor Ray noted the *Day of Mourning* is now scheduled for tomorrow morning, rather than April 28<sup>th</sup>. The change was made to accommodate the students who will attend this event relative to the Professional Development Day scheduled for Friday. The *Day of Mourning* ceremony will occur in White Swan Park tomorrow morning at 10:45 am.

Councillor Reyden asked for an update on the Arena parking lot. He noted there were large piles of material at the north end of the lot.

CAO Holland advised the parking lot was graded off to remove pot holes prior to the Small Business Fair. This work will also complement our gravel resurfacing project that will begin as soon as the load restrictions come off the highway.

Councillor Reyden also noted the "no parking" signs are still out from winter parking restrictions. He would like to see these signs taken down for the summer season. Councillor Reyden also noted the lack of heat in the arena this past weekend during the Small Business Fair. Councillor Reyden asked if there was a way to effectively heat the area or should the Village look at a different date for the event; during warmer weather.

A discussion followed. It was agreed the arena was a very cold venue at this time of year. With the ice out of the arena for only a month, the facility is still cold. Administration will consider alternate dates or a means of heating the facility.

Councillor Storey inquired about our communications protocol regarding water breaks. She would like to see someone in charge of Facebook communications under such circumstances. This past weekend Councillor Storey was posting on *Heck Ya Fraser Lake*. She was told by Vern Hilman that he could not authorize someone for overtime to make these posts on behalf of the Village. Councillor Storey stated she didn't mind doing the posts but stated if the water break had not been on her street she would not have been aware of the problem. Councillor Storey was concerned if she was not around. Councillor Storey has suggested pre-made stickers that Public Works employees could go door to door at 2:30 am to notify people that a water break has occurred. An alternative might be to have someone on contract to complete these Facebook posts so that the responsibility does not fall on our employees.

Councillor Ray asked if this is something the Village needs to be concerned about. Having a member of Council making posts on *Heck Ya Fraser Lake* opens the member of Council to criticism. Councillor Ray agreed in this case, the posts from Councillor Storey were beneficial, however, should this be a normal practice?

Councillor Storey stated she did receive criticism about why this information wasn't on the system more quickly. Councillor Storey stated she sent message to the Moms in the neighborhood that the water would be turned off. She told them to ensure people had adequate water stored for the day. Councillor Storey said they were all very appreciative. She

was concerned that people who were impacted by the water shut off were notified for Monday morning.

Councillor Storey stated her motivation was to keep the community informed.

Mayor Lindstrom asked if these notifications were required at 2:30 am.

Councillor Storey felt 7:00 am would be appropriate. She would like to see a notice on everyone's doorstep or on the Village of Fraser Lake Facebook page.

Mayor Lindstrom asked if this notification could go on the radio or some other media.

Councillor Ray stated he would prefer announcements on the Village website versus the Village Facebook page. Councillor Ray feels the website is less likely to become a back and forth conversation.

CAO Holland advised the Village does have a communications strategy. If the water outage is planned, we do print off a notice and go door to door to notify residents.

For this water break, the initial response affected only a few residences. Those residents were advised in person that their water was shut off. The water shut off on Monday morning was not foreseen. Public Works tried to affect the repair but found there was too much pressure. Short notice was provided for this water shut off which was unfortunate.

Our Communications Strategy does not obligate the Village to immediate Facebook notifications. It is based on Monday to Friday management of our notifications. For catastrophic events, our communications strategy would cover all hours.

Councillor Storey is concerned by comments on the Mom & Dad's Buy and Sell, where someone has posted "I just woke up at 7:00 O'clock. What's going on?".

Councillor Lepoidevin stated it's important not to respond to every post on social media.

Councillor Storey stated people want to know what is going on.

Resolution 04-26-129 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Reyden
"Motion to have someone in charge of communications on line when the Village of
Fraser Lake is closed"

For:

Councillor Storey

Against:

Mayor Lindstrom Councillor Reyden Councillor Lepoidevin

Councillor Ray

Councillor Storey offered to provide this service.

CAO Holland repeated the Village of Fraser Lake's Communication Strategy provides structure and review to our Village communications. Posting to our Website is restricted to Laura McMaster and posting to Facebook is restricted to Laura McMaster and Jennel Harder. Postings are proposed to CAO Holland. These proposals are reviewed, discussed and edited where required. These steps are taken to ensure we are considering the pitfalls associated with the communication. The review is required to ensure we are managing our communications.

Mayor Lindstrom stated when he first entered municipal governance, he was told to ensure he sought the advice of an advisor before making public comment. Members of Council are expected to speak with someone who knows something about the matter before speaking on behalf of the Village or Council.

Councillor Storey stated she was concerned about not communicating.

The discussion continued.

CAO Holland stated the Village Facebook page has restricted authority.

Councillor Storey proposes she would have administrative rights to the Fraser Lake website. She feels the community comes to her when they want to know what is going on.

Councillor Ray suggested we should find out what other communities are doing.

Councillor Storey states if she is at UBCM or NCLGA, she could update the Facebook page from her phone. She would prefer authority to update the Facebook page versus the Website page.

CAO Holland voiced concern about this proposal. There are no checks or balances in this proposal. CAO Holland asked who Councillor Storey would be conferring with? Who is authorizing her message.

Councillor Storey stated she would only post with the authority of either the Director of Public Works or the CAO.

Mayor Lindstrom stated he would not be posting anything on the website or Facebook. Mayor Lindstrom does receive the occasional phone call about a water break. He tells them public works is aware and they are working to get water back on as quickly as possible.

Councillor Reyden suggested we should check with neighboring communities to see how they address this issue.

Councillor Ray stated this expectation for immediate information is a new development. Councillor Ray would also like to see what others are doing.

Councillor Storey agrees she would like to see Administration research this further to learn what other communities are doing about this.

Councillor Storey would like an update from Centerra to learn what is happening at Endako Mine. Councillor Storey would like to meet with the manager to learn what is happening. There are rumours circulating around town and she would like the facts.

Councillor Storey invited members of Council to the Community potluck which is held the last Sunday of every month. This community dinner is partially sponsored by Economic Development. Councillor Storey would like Council to sponsor the Community Potluck on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Council would bring a main dish to the event.

Councillor Storey extended her appreciation of the Village Works crew for responding to the water leak in the early hours of the morning.

Resolution 04-26-130 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Ray
"Motion to provide tents to the RCMP for their open house on June 2, 2017"

Carried

Resolution 04-26-131 M/S Councillor LePoidevin / Councillor Storey "A motion to receive the New Business"

Carried

#### **Bylaws:**

Resolution 04-26-131 M/S Councillor Storey/ Councillor Reyden

"Move the forth and final reading of Bylaw 785, 2017 Village of Fraser Lake 2017- 2021 Financial Plan"

Carried

Resolution 04-26-132 M/S Councillor Reyden/Councillor Ray

"Move the first, second and third reading of Bylaw 786, 2017 Village of Fraser Lake Tax Rates"

Carried

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

Resolution 04-26-133 Councillor Reyden / Councillor LePoidevin

"That the next meeting of Council be held on April 26, 2017 at 5:30 pm"

Carried

# Resolution 04-26-134 M/ Councillor LePoidevin "That the meeting adjourns at 8:17 pm."

Carried

**Certified Correct** 

Dwayne Lindstrom

Mayor

Rodney J Holland Chief Administrative Officer