

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 8, 2017
In the Municipal Hall in Open Forum**

Those in Attendance: Councillor Reyden - Acting Mayor
Councillor LePoidevin
Councillor Storey
Councillor Ray

Staff: Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer
Elizabeth Litke, Director of Finance

Public: Garry Watson
Shellie Gleave

Acting Mayor Don Reyden called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

Agenda:

Resolution 02-08-37 M/S Councillor Storey/ Councillor Ray

"Motion to adopt the agenda and declaration of new business"

Carried

Delegation:

Shellie Gleave – Community Co op:

Shellie Gleave presented a power point presentation to Council, providing an update to her Community Co op initiative. This initiative is promoted as an environmentally sustainable project that will work to build a thriving community with the support of the community. Ms. Gleave told Council she has promoted the idea through Heck Ya Fraser Lake and the Fraser Connector. She has received many positive comments about this initiative. Recently, Ms. Gleave presented her concept at UNBC. She believes there is interest from that institution as well as Community Futures and the Regional District Economic Development Officer. Should this project come to fruition, Integris Credit Union and Light House Developments has asked for room in the complex. Ms. Gleave has been busy promoting this project. She believes this project could overcome some of the challenges that challenge many small northern communities; outmigration of our youth, the *aging farmers* demographic and our heavy reliance on the Forest Industry at a time of dwindling fibre supply. Ms. Gleave believes this plan would also be the solution to food security concerns that were made very clear with the recent closure of our SuperValu Store.

She believes her plan will localize, diversify and strengthen our local economy. Her vision is for sustainability based programs and projects. This will include training in sustainable forest practices, building a solar array, and developing an agricultural training and mentorship program to produce local organic produce. Her hope is these activities will create job opportunities. The vision also involves a commercial production kitchen that would produce ready made meals for seniors or other requiring this service. This commercial kitchen could produce local employment through opportunities for catering and restaurant services. Ms. Gleave would like to see a roof top greenhouse to grow herbs and fresh produce for this kitchen.

The vision continues with an Artisan Academy that would encourage local participation and the harnessing of local creativity, innovation and craftsmanship.

Ms. Gleave stated she has been working with Mr. Tom Bulmer of Community Futures and Ms. Corrine Swenson of RDBN. They are assisting Ms. Gleave with a market review for each aspect of the proposed operation. Depending on the outcome of the market review, a business plan will be developed and ready for grant applications.

Acting Mayor Don Reyden asked how the Village could help.

Ms. Gleave stated she had four requests.

1. Continued free use of the basement meeting room in the Recreation Complex.
2. Ms. Gleave would like to acquire the School District 91 property in the Southside Subdivision. She suggests the Village purchase the property of SD91 and sell it to the Co op at a dramatically reduced price.
3. Ms. Gleave has yet to make a connection with the Fraser Lake Sawmill, M.P. Nathan Cullen, M.P. Todd Dorerty or BC Tourism. Any help that can be provided would be appreciated.
4. A letter of support.

Ms. Gleave characterized her idea to be in the pre feasibility study phase.

Acting Mayor Reyden asked Ms. Gleave about the size of building she's looking to build.

Ms. Gleave stated that would be determined by the business feasibility study.

Action Mayor Reyden asked about the proposed training and whether that would be managed by CNC.

Ms. Gleave responded there would be multiple institution involved; CNC, UNBC and Light House.

Acting Mayor Reyden asked if Ms. Gleave had approached the Vanderhoof & District Federated Co op for their involvement.

Ms. Gleave stated she'd spoken with the assistant manager, Joe Van Dollen at a Christmas Party. He didn't believe this project would fit within their mandate at this time.

Councillor Storey asked whether Ms. Gleave had met with local business owners and obtained their support.

Ms. Gleave replied she has not. She agrees it will be important to seek the support of local business. She hopes to run socialization and small business workshop related to her concept. She believes this will address any local concerns.

Councillor Ray asked Ms. Gleave if she had met with Stelat'en or Nadleh?

Ms. Gleave stated she had. Both communities appear to be supportive and interested. Councillor Ray asked Ms. Gleave about her biggest challenges so far.

Ms. Gleave stated the biggest challenge is developing a common vision. She believes it is going to take a lot of commitment to develop the level of cohesiveness required for this project to happen. She believes she is able to build the required bridges. She has proposed this as a joint venture with the First Nation Communities. She believes this was an important step and one that will support a better result for this initiative.

Acting Mayor Reyden stated Ms. Gleave had an interesting concept. He commended her for all the work she's put into this initiative and wished her well.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Resolution 02-08-38 M/S Councillor Lepoidevin/Councillor Ray

"Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council dated January 25, 2017 and the minutes of the In Camera Meeting of Council dated January 25, 2017"

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes:

None

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lepoidevin met with M.L.A. John Rustad on Thursday January 26th. Councillor Lepoidevin and Councillor Storey took the Minister on a tour of our two new grocery stores and the location of the proposed forth sewer lagoon. Minister Rustad spent some time talking with Bobby and Lori Hurry. They were pretty happy to have Minister Rustad in their store.

Councillor Ray attended the LGLA Conference in Richmond, B.C. This was the first Local Government course Councillor Ray had attended. He found it educational. Major themes were

leadership, communication and ethics. Councillor Ray enjoyed the presentations on the power of local government and what can be accomplished. He presented a copy of notes that were prepared by a graphic organizer who keep doodle notes at the event. Councillor Ray found them to be interesting.

Councillor Storey met with M.L.A. John Rustad and his executive assistant Nadine Frenkel on January 26th. Minister Rustad talked about the Community Forest and our Tri Council meetings. Minister Rustad was very happy to hear of these meetings. Councillor Storey and Councillor Lepoidevin also discussed the seniors housing initiative and how it was turned down. Minister Rustad stated he'd look into that.

Councillor Storey attended the LGLA conference as well. There was representation from 157 municipalities. She found the event very interesting. She had an interesting discussion with several other delegates about the importance of developing yourself as a member of council by attending these conferences. These conferences also provide the opportunity to network. Councillor Storey spoke of the importance of taking the lessons learned back to the community.

Councillor Storey attended a number of presentations but the most memorable dealt with "Speaking as a Leader", "Bullying in Council" and "Speech Writing". She felt the presenters at the Speech Writing presentation were very good. Councillor Storey provided a handout she'd received at this forum for the benefit of other members of Council.

Councillor Storey also spoke with the Mayor of Chilliwack. She would like to see a mentorship program initiated which would pair newly elected officials with experienced elected officials. Councillor Storey noted there is a Facebook page for newly elected officials. Elected officials can post a question and receive comment or input from others.

Councillor Storey attended a cheque presentation from Telus to the Breakfast for Learning program. Telus donated \$2,500.00 to our local program which provides between 10,000 and 15,000 meals per school year. To date, the program has raised \$6,500.00. The program is looking for grants to further support the program.

Resolution 02-08-39 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Lepoidevin
"Motion to receive Councillor Reports"

Carried

Accounts Payable:

Resolution 02-08-40 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Lepoidevin
"Motion to receive Payroll in the amount of \$21,388.79"

Carried

Correspondence List:

Resolution 02-08-41 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Lepoidevin
"Motion to receive the Correspondence List"

Carried

Business from the CAO:

Community Forest Application Package:

CAO Holland presented the Community Forest Application package consisting of the Community Forest Agreement Application, the Community Forest Agreement Business Plan and the Community Forest Agreement Management Plan. CAO Holland noted the Business and Management Plans were provided to Council earlier today. CAO Holland commented it is important that members of Council review each of these plans, provide comments as appropriate and decide whether to support their submission to the Province. CAO presented the preliminary cash flow estimates for the community Forest. The cash flow estimates form part of the Business Plan. All available information indicates the Community Forest will be a successful business venture, however, CAO Holland noted as with any business venture there is an associated level of risk. The proposed partnership with Fraser Lake Sawmills will reduce the risks associated with managing a Community Forest. The Fraser Lake Sawmill has personnel with the professional skills and experience to properly manage both the forest and harvest operations. The areas where risk are less manageable are impacts to changes in the Softwood Lumber Agreement or a natural disaster such as a forest fire.

As this initiative moves forward, Administration will work with KPMG and our legal council to determine the best business model to provide the most appropriate level of risk security for the Village. That may involve a Limited Liability Partnership, Incorporation or establishment of a Trust. Inquiries have been made with the Village of Valemount. They recently established a Community Forest and they too partnered with their mill. The details available to CAO Holland indicate their Community Forest Operation is very similar in size and dynamic to the Community Forest proposed for Fraser Lake. Their Council has decided to manage their community forest as a municipal service, rather than moving to an LLP, Incorporation or Trust. Administration has made an inquiry with that municipality and is awaiting a response. CAO Holland would like to determine whether they are happy with the relationship and whether they'd share any best practices.

CAO Holland advised Council, he will be requesting a Resolution that supports submission of our Community Forest Agreement application package.

Acting Mayor Reyden asked if Council could address the matter tomorrow evening during the Special Meeting. Acting Mayor Reyden suggested the members of Council review the application package overnight and be ready to discuss the evening of February 9, 2017.

NCLGA:

CAO Holland provided members of Council with the registration package for the 2017 NCLGA. This event is scheduled for May 2 – 5th in Terrace, B.C. The event includes the opportunity for one of four tours. As these tours fill up quickly, CAO Holland asks Council to identify who will be attending and to submit their registration papers as soon as possible. Administration can complete the on line registration for members of Council.

Autumn Services:

CAO Holland advised a letter has been received from Autumn Services inviting Council to appoint a member of Council to their board. CAO Holland advised the letter does not identify the purpose a member of Council is needed on the Autumn Services Board.

Acting Mayor Reyden stated a member of Council is appointed to the Fraser Lake & District Senior Citizen Home Society. He feels presence on the board is beneficial to Council. Acting Mayor Reyden feels it would be worthwhile to have a member of Council on the Autumn Services Board. That appointment can be re evaluated after 6 months.

Acting Mayor Reyden called for volunteers.

Councillor Lepoidevin and Councillor Ray agreed they could share the appointment.

Resolution 02-08-42 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Reyden

“Motion to appoint Councillor Lepoidevin and Councillor Ray to the Autumn Services Board”

Carried

NCLGMA/April Council Meetings:

CAO Holland asked Council to discuss their availability for the two Regular Meetings of Council scheduled for April 2017. CAO Holland noted SD91 Spring Break occurs in April. Administration has heard members of Council mention travel plans in April. NCLGMA is scheduled for April 11-13th in Prince George. This event conflicts with the April 12th Council Meeting. CAO Holland will be away. Our Director of Finance would be registered for this event, if that meeting is to be cancelled.

A brief discussion followed. Acting Mayor Reyden, Councillor Lepoidevin, Councillor Storey and Councillor Ray all felt they would be here for the April 12th meeting. Director of Finance, Elizabeth Litke will not attend NCLGMA.

Resolution 02-08-43 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Lepoidevin

“Motion to receive CAO Reports”

Carried

Staff Reports:

None

Reading List:

Resolution 02-08-44 M/S Councillor Ray/Councillor Storey

“Motion to receive the Reading List”

Carried

New Business:

Councillor Lepoidevin advised he would like to discuss the requests for the Community Co op initiative. Ms. Gleave made three requests: use of the room at the complex, help acquiring the School District lot in the Southside Subdivision and Village Support.

Director of Finance Elizabeth Litke advised all non profit groups are provided use of the down stair meeting room free of charge.

Councillor Storey commented that as a municipality we cannot support this initiative the way Ms. Gleave would like the Village to support the project. Councillor Storey also voiced concern about damaging our relationships with other local businesses. A number of the proposed services for the Community Co op are already being provided by existing local businesses. Councillor Storey advises caution in how we proceed with this initiative.

Councillor Lepoidevin feels it's a neat idea but probably needs to be scaled down.

Acting Mayor Reyden asked if there were any legal issues associated with the requests being made by Ms. Gleave.

CAO Holland noted Section 25(1) of the Community Charter prohibits municipal Councils from providing a grant, benefit, advantage or other form of assistance to a business. The Community Co op initiative is a business proposal. It involves the creation of employment and the sale or provision of goods and services. CAO Holland advised Council it is important to be careful of both real and perceived conflicts relating to our support of local business and/or preferential treatment.

Acting Mayor Reyden stated he would like to provide moral support for this initiative at this time. He would like to see this project in our community but Acting Mayor Reyden feels we should limit our support to a letter. This letter should also outline the specifics of why we can't assist the Community Co op project with the purchase of the School District property or through other financial support.

Councillor Storey commended Isabelle Smith for her work on the Breakfast for Learning program. Mrs. Smith has requested a new photograph of Council. As a sponsor of the Breakfast for Learning program, this photo will be placed on the wall.

Councillor Storey commented about an interesting initiative in another community. They have placed Fairy Doors around the community. The idea is similar to geo caching and is intended to encourage people to explore the community. Councillor Storey suggests the Village considers a similar program involving Mouse Doors.

Acting Mayor Reyden stated it sounds like a great idea. He suggested this might be an idea for the Chamber of Commerce to explore now that they have operational funds to take on such ideas.

Council like the idea of promoting Mouse Mountain. The term "Mouse Grind" was bantered about to identify the hike up Mouse Mountain.

Resolution 02-08-45 M/S Councillor Storey/Councillor Ray
"Motion to receive New Business"

Carried

Bylaw:

None

Next Regular Meeting of Council:

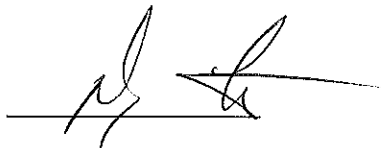
Resolution 02-08-46 M/S Councillor Lepoidevin/ Councillor Ray
"That the next Regular Meeting of Council to be held on February 22, 2017 at 5:30 pm"

Carried

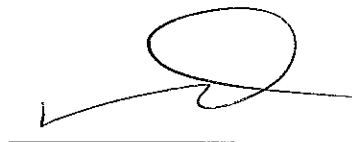
Resolution 02-08-47 M Councillor LePoidevin
"Motion that the meeting adjourn at 7:00 pm"

Carried

Certified Correct



Dwayne Lindstrom
Mayor



Rodney J Holland
Chief Administrative Officer