



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held May 22, 2019 In Council Chambers

Those in Attendance:

Council: Councillor LePoidevin, acting Mayor
Councillor Watt-Senner
Councillor Fennema
Mayor Storey joined via tele-conference

Staff: Rodney Holland, Chief Administrative Officer
LeEtta LaFontaine, Recreation Director

Public: Norm Delong

Agenda

Acting Mayor LePoidevin called the meeting to order at 5:33 and requested a motion to adopt the agenda and for the declaration of any new business.

Resolution 05-22-188 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to adopt the Agenda"

Carried

Delegation:

None

Minutes from the Previous Meetings:

Resolution 05-22-189 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 24, 2019"

Carried

Councillor Fennema asked for an update on the speed limit signs. She also was interested in learning whether financial support was identified to support the use of the Community Bus to take seniors and low-income residents to neighbouring communities for banking business following the closure of CIBC.

CAO Holland stated the speed limit signs are being investigated. In response to the inquiry around outside funding to support operational costs for use of the Community Vehicle to

transport seniors and low-income residents to neighbouring communities so they can access banking services, there is no funding available for that purpose.

Resolution 05-22-190 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to adopt the minutes of the Special Meeting held May 2, 2019”

Carried

Resolution 05-22-191 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to adopt the minutes of the In-Camera Meeting held April 24, 2019”

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

None

Councillor Reports

Councillor Fennema has had numerous people ask her about the State of Emergency broadcast related to the wildfire at Lejac. Residents expressed concern about the exaggerated information from the media.

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the Silver Birch Lodge meeting on April 29th. There was interest expressed in helping with the *adopt-a-bed* idea. The issue with getting water to the plants was brought up. Councillor Watt-Senner asked if there was something the Village could do regarding water availability? Possibly placing a water barrel near each flower bed.

Regional District meeting, May 3rd:

Tom Barnes, CEO of the Municipal Insurance Association of BC presented on the activities of the Municipal Insurance Association.

Another delegation was the Chief Provincial Forester Diane Nichol and Jim Snetsinger from the Minister of Forests regarding the Lakes District Timber Supply Review. The last review was completed in 2011. The Chief Provincial Forester and her team are conducting a series of round table discussions; seeking public input. The final draft of the Timber Supply Review will be ready soon.

The Regional District still working through their unsightly premise bylaw. This bylaw relates to rural properties. The work involves developing and making the definitions more current.

Mayor Storey gave her report via teleconference. She met with Chief Provincial Forester Diane Nichols and Jim Snetsinger on May 1, 2019. The importance of our access to adequate timber supply and how it relates to the sustainability of the Village of Fraser Lake was discussed. During the meeting, concern was voiced around the current model that allows tenure holders to decide where the wood goes; not the government. This is a concern for our community with the talk of improvements to the Kluskus Forest Service Road and the bridge over the Blackwater River. Mayor Storey noted Ms. Nichols and Mr. Snetsinger were both appreciative of CAO Holland’s presentation at the event.

Mayor Storey commented on the low attendance at the Emergency Preparedness Day. She was disappointed. In the future, she would like to see consideration of a different day of the week or possibly an evening start time. Mayor Storey noted Western Financial Insurance gave the protocol and how to clear out property to be more Fire Safe. She feels this is important information for people to know. Mayor Storey found the presentations to be very informative. She also noted a lot of planning goes into the event.

Mayor Storey attended NCLGA in Williams Lake, B.C. She attended Northern Health's Healthy Communities pre-conference forum on May 6, 2019. Food security and Child care were significant issues of discussion. 65% of people that are food insecure are employed. Programs & Projects are not going to solve the issue. The focus needs to be on poverty because one out of six people have a food security issue.

Mayor Storey attended a child care seminar. There is \$1M available to Fraser Lake to build something (engineering, construction, training for staff) for day care. Mayor Storey would like to see a public meeting to see what local parents want/need. Mayor Storey has stated her concern is forward thinking. Although Fraser Lake has an amazing daycare now, she is concerned about the potential of a retirement or decision to close the one daycare in town. She adds, there is no daycare for babies right now. Mayor Storey feels partnering with Mouse Mountain School and Early Education people is an option. The benefit of a public daycare model is that it has access to funding where the private daycare model does not. There are 53 prototypes that provide subsidized daycare for \$10/day.

Mayor Storey would like to consider:

- Building universal childcare.
- applying to NDIT for the housing needs assessment. Funding is available for potential developers who provide new housing. The incentive is up to \$10,000 per unit.
- These models are funded Municipally and Provincially instead of through the private sector.

Mayor Storey met Leena Garraway. Ms. Garraway is managing the Partners for Change initiative through Northern Health. Mayor Storey and Ms. Garraway discussed the initiative and its application to the Village of Fraser Lake.

Mayor Storey attended a meeting in Vanderhoof related to Caribou "Species at Risk". She thanked CAO Holland for the letter relating the need for improved consultation with local government. Mayor Storey feels the Province is listening to these concerns. Northern communities want to ensure their voices are heard before decisions are made on issues such as Caribou; instead of using Vancouver or Victoria as the Provincial voice.

They also talked about bringing the moose population down to starve the wolves. Mayor Storey commented on her objection this strategy. The province is considering increases to the number of cow/calf draws. She feels this is not the solution.

Councillor LePoidevin had nothing to report.

Resolution 05-22-192 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to receive the Councillor Reports"

Carried

Accounts Payable

Resolution 05-22-193 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to receive Accounts Payable and Payroll in the amount of \$211,946.57"

Carried

Councillor Fennema requested more information on the payment to PG Floor Fashions; cheque number 28089.

CAO Holland noted this payment was for the carpet installed on the main floor of the Village Office. The upstairs carpet was not included in the insurance claim from the flood.

Correspondence List

Resolution 05-22-194 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to receive the Correspondence List"

Carried

Business from the CAO

Projects Update:

Park Drive is proceeding well. There have been a few bumps along the way. Two sewer lines were damaged during excavations for curb stops and hydrants. These service lines are being fixed. Tentatively, the project will be completed in the next three weeks.

The Community Vehicle garage is progressing well. The work is steady and without any notable snags.

Peter Thwaites of Formula Contracting (Pile driving company) came out and inspected the wharf with our Director of Public Works and CAO Holland. There are two pilings at the north end of the wharf that have completely sheered off. This has allowed the deck of the wharf to slump about two and a half feet. It is not structurally stable. Winter ice has pushed the entire wharf to the west. The whole wharf is considered unsafe for public use. Formula Contracting is interested in the piling work. Peter Thwaites has suggested our Village Works Department install required cross-bracing. Both the piling work and cross-bracing must wait for winter to allow the work to be completed above the ice. The wharf is closed for the summer.

Village Airport Lands:

Our Forestry Consultant Jason Regnier and CAO Holland have been working on plans to fire smart the Village Airport lands through fuel reduction. There's a tremendous amount of deadfall on this 880-acre piece of land. Much of the dead pine has toppled over and is laying on the ground. After the Lejac fire, it's obvious these fuels would contribute negatively to any fire that might sweep through this property. CAO Holland recommends selectively logging the property to recover the value of the timber and to fire-smart the property. Much of the fallen pine is of very low quality. Unfortunately, it is deteriorating as time goes by. Green trees down to 8 inches in diameter would be harvested to ensure the volume harvested is marketable and to increase tree spacing. This reduces the likelihood of a hot fire should one encounter this property. Like the Community Forest, the logging operation would be planned in such a way to maximize opportunities for recreational access. CAO Holland has asked for skid trails outside the fenced airport facility to be strategically located for later use for hiking, cross country skiing and snowshoe trails.

Councillor LePoidevin asked if the property went around the Foster Lakes.

CAO Holland explained the property runs along the northern shoreline of the northern Foster lake. The west side of Foster Lakes is swamp and falls within the West Fraser operating area.

Councillor Watt-Senner would like to see if the trails outside the fenced airport facility could be developed to make them senior and wheel chair accessible. She feels it would be appropriate to consider more diverse uses of these trails to include horse back riding. No matter how they are developed, they should be oriented towards tourists.

CAO Holland explained the land has recreational value. The skid trails are the product of the proposed logging. Administration has been working with our forester to ensure they are developed as strategically as possible. Further planning will be needed to transition the skid trails into walking, hiking, bicycling or horseback riding trails. Further investment and planning should be considered if it is Council's decision to advance these skid trails to something more useable. Part one of the plan is to conduct logging activities. Should Council decide to further develop the recreational potential of the site after the logging, establishment of a committee may be a good next step.

Resolution 05-22-195 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner

“Motion to proceed with selective logging of the airport lands”

Carried

Federal Rural and Northern Communities Grant:

Communities under 5000 are eligible for an application of \$5-7M. This funding can be up to 100% for communities with a population under 5000. As project development and the subsequent application often takes considerable time, Administration is asking Council to provide direction on their preferences. Ideas can be discussed and decided at the next council meeting; June 12th.

Celebration at Nadleh Whut'en:

Administration highlighted the celebration at Nadleh Whut'en on the evening of May 29th. All members of Council have been invited. The Sprinkler Protection Unit will be unveiled at this community event.

Fraser Lake Inn:

Paul Dhaliwal, owner of Fraser Lake Inn has offered to take Council on a tour of the Fraser Lake Inn, the restaurant and proposed Cannabis Store. The tour will take place on Wednesday June 12, 2019 at 4:30 pm. Council will meet at the Inn for a 45-minute tour. The Regular Meeting of Council will take place at 5:30 pm.

Resolution 05-22-196 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to receive the CAO Reports”

Carried

Staff Reports

Funding Opportunity:

Two funding sources are available for Volunteer & Composite Fire Department Equipment & Training. UBCM is offering up to \$25,000.00 to Fire Departments such as the Village of Fraser Lake's to purchase equipment in support of emergency preparedness. The second potential source of funding is NKDF.

The Fraser Lake Fire Rescue Fire Department maintains 14 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA). Our inventory of SCBA's are 15 years old. In the next five years all 14 units will need to be replaced. This is due to the elimination of replacement parts. The cost per SCBA is roughly \$9000.00.

The UBCM Volunteer & Composite Fire Department Equipment & Training grant covers up to 100% of eligible costs to \$25,000.00. The longer-term plan is to leverage this funding to obtain a further \$25,000.00 from the Nechako-Kitamaat Development Fund. Assuming success in both funding applications, six SCBA's would be replaced.

Resolution 05-22-197 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner

“Motion to apply to UBCM Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training Funding Stream for up to \$25,000.00 for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus for the Fraser Lake Fire Department”

Carried

Resolution 05-22-198 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema

“Motion to apply to the Nechako Kitamaat Development Fund for \$25,000.00 for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus for the Fraser Lake Fire Department”

Carried

Public Works Projects Update:

There was a water line break under the Tourist Information Booth this past winter. The floor in the Tourist Information Centre was damaged. The footings under the west side wall of the building were also impacted. The building needed to be jacked up and re levelled. The flooring in the reception area needed to be replaced. These repairs took time to complete. No insurance claim was involved.

The works crew have been working with the contractor relative to the Park Drive Water Main Extension project.

Public Works have installed the docks for the season. Several repairs were required. Gravel has been placed on the Boat Launch parking lot.

Repairs were required to our dump truck after the turbo failed. That turbo has been replaced and everything is running well now.

Three summer university students have been hired and are working on the Public Works crew; primarily on seasonal maintenance activities.

Our Director of Public Works continues to work with WorkSafeBC and OH&S, of Kamloops B.C. to complete our policies and procedures for confined space.

The water plant is running smoothly; thanks to our Water Plant Operator, Jeff Graham.

This year our waste water treatment facility experienced 17 days of exceedance to our permitted daily discharge volume. This number is down from the historical high experienced in 2018. Lower snow accumulations made a difference. The annual report has been sent off to the Ministry of Environment. There has been no reply received yet.

The works yard is gearing up to work on the Park Drive ditch which will complete the Park Drive projects for the year.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked who was hired through our summer student program.

CAO Holland gave the list of the summer students for the Village and the Tourist Booth.

Mayor Storey inquired about the library student.

Councillor Fennema replied they haven't heard about funding through Canada Summer Jobs yet.

Resolution 05-22-199 M/S Councillor Fennema/ Councillor Watt-Senner
"Motion to receive the Staff Reports"

Carried

Reading List

Resolution 05-22-200 M/S Councillor Watt-Senner/ Councillor Fennema
"Motion to receive the Reading List"

Carried

New Business

Mayor Storey asked who owns the area around the bus garage? She had received a complaint about the number of dead trees on that lot. She has asked staff to investigate this matter.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Epidemic:

Mayor Storey has received a complaint about the red dress that had been hung on the mall bus stop next to the highway to signify the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. The dress had been taken down before the day was over.

The Vanderhoof paper wanted a comment from Mayor Storey about the dress being taken down. Nadleh Whut'en and Stellat'ten representatives also asked Mayor Storey if the Village of Fraser Lake could support the Red Dress campaign next year. This would include circulating information about it. "We Care" is the message the red dress puts out to the public.

Three Phase Power:

Inquiries have been made with BC Hydro about the cost of installing three-phase power to the Village airport property. The initial estimate is \$1.2M. Mayor Storey talked to Minister Donaldson's staff regarding this initiative and how it will result in the better use of low-grade fiber. She believes there is new funding available.

NCLGA:

There is new funding, up to \$5M to train or replace equipment for wild fires:
Community Resiliency Funding
Rural Dividend under the Special Circumstance Funding
She'd like the discussion of these opportunities at the next meeting.

Destination BC:

Mayor Storey believes it would benefit Council to become a member.

Resolution 05-22-201 M/S Mayor Storey/ Councillor Fennema

"Motion to send a letter from Council to Destination BC to become a member again"

Carried

Highway Signage Issue:

Mayor Storey had a conversation with EDO Christie regarding the lack of accommodation and services signage for the Village of Fraser Lake. The Ministry of Transportation has been asked for these signs more than once, with limited response. Follow up is important on this matter

because Fraser Lake seems to have been forgotten on this matter. She feels it does make a difference to tourists as to what services they will find in our community.

Resolution 05-22-202 M/S Mayor Storey/ Councillor Watt-Senner

“Motion to send letter to Ministry of Highway for new signage on Highway 16”

Carried

Emergency Board Bulletin:

Mayor Storey would like an Emergency Bulletin Board installed somewhere in the Village. She recognizes this is a 2020 budget project. It is important to have an established place for everyone to go for information. During an emergency you cannot rely on posters, news media or the internet. With the Lejac fire, there was significant information embellishment. She feels it's important for a designated, reliable, low tech posting area.

Lejac Wildfire Heroes:

Mayor Storey voiced her appreciation of the people who came together right away and responded to the fire. She thanked those who brought large equipment out to make sure the Lejac fire was fire guarded as quickly as possible. These contractor and local people worked all night to make sure the fire was contained. The results might have been a lot different if everyone waited for the system to get caught up on what was really happening with the fire.

Wildfire communication:

The fire was in the Regional District, so everyone had to wait to find out what was happening. Mayor Storey was interviewed by CTV. She found it a challenge to get out the correct message. The media purposely exaggerated the event. She wants to discuss communications further because she feels its important for council to have a communication plan moving forward.

Councillor Fennema had no new business.

Councillor Watt-Senner wanted to know more about the *Welcome to Fraser Lake* signs. If the Village can't refresh them at this time, she is willing to volunteer. Councillor Watt-Senner feels it's important to have the signs done as soon as possible. If the Village will pay for the stain and paint she's willing to donate her labour.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked if the Good Neighbour bylaw letters were sent out to remind people of their responsibilities in terms of yard maintenance?

CAO Holland said not yet.

Age Friendly Taskforce Meeting:

Councillor Watt-Senner attended the *Age Friendly Taskforce Meetings*. Some things of concern include:

Can the washroom hours at the soccer fields and White Swan Park be extended? When do they open for the summer and close for the fall?

CAO Holland responded our public washrooms are open. Most lock themselves automatically during night time hours. This is necessary to deter vandalism. The public washroom at the south end of the arena is open.

Persons participating on the Taskforce have voiced concern about the lack of handicapped parking around town. The group has also asked for a more comprehensive Village Directory with information of local services; especially any health-related services.

Mayor Storey responded, the one previous Village Directory was prepared by Nechako Literacy. It is technically Nechako Literacy who could take this on again. It can be done, but there is an expense associated with keeping it up to date. Autumn Services is considering taking this on. Mayor Storey will ask for an update.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked if the brochure would fall under EDO Christie's mandate? CAO Holland said it would depend on capacity. This has not typically been a Village initiative. Whether there is capacity to take this one would require some discussion.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked if there might be an Age Friendly grant available to have a senior focused services-coordination for senior programming. She stated seniors feel there is discriminating info for people in Village of Fraser Lake. In explaining this comment, she stated residents under 60 use Facebook, Heck Yeah, and the Village website. Persons over 60 don't feel they are up to date on what's going on. A low level of computer competency and living in rural areas where internet access is not available are contributing factors. Councillor Watt-Senner wonders if it would be possible to coordinate a computer literacy program for seniors so they can learn Facebook. This would give them better connection with what's going on?

Mayor Storey explained the community literacy program already does this. Lisa Gandier had a class once a week to help people problem solve computer road blocks in the Adult Learning Centre. These classes are typically held in the winter months and may be running again this winter. Autumn Services is developing a Wi-Fi center and will have computers available for use. If anyone would like to volunteer their time to help with classes, it would be wonderful and advantageous for the senior's in our community.

Resolution 05-22-203 M/S Councillor Fennema / Councillor Watt Senner
"Motion to receive New Business"

Carried

Next Meeting of Council

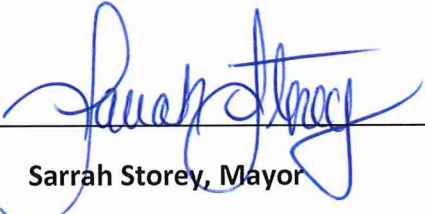
Next Council Meeting is on June 12, 2019. The meeting will begin at 4:30 pm at the Fraser Lake Inn. Mr. Dhaliwal has agreed to provide Council with a tour of the facility. The Regular Meeting of Council will begin in Council Chambers at 5:30 pm.

Adjournment:

Resolution 05-22-204 M/S Councillor Fennema / Councillor Watt Senner
"Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm"

Carried

Certified Correct:



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Rodney J Holland, Chief Administrative
Officer