



**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers
on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 5:30 pm**

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

Staff present were Chief Administrative Officer R. Holland, Director of Finance L. McMaster, Economic Development Officer D. Christie, Intern K. Levy, and Recording Secretary T. Austin.

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

Agenda:

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

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda.

Resolution 08-25-291

Carried

Delegations & Guests:

None

**Regular Council Minutes,
July 14, 2021**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Minutes of July 14, 2021, be adopted as amended 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 08-25-292

Carried

**In-Camera Council Minutes,
July 14, 2021**

MOVED/SECONDED that the In-Camera Council Minutes of July 14, 2021, be adopted as presented 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 08-25-293

Carried

**Business arising from
the Minutes:**

None

Reports on Council

Activities:

Councillor Fennema

Reported that she is stepping back from Autumn Services until they resolve their internal issues.

Councillor LePoidevin

None

Councillor Watt-Senner

None

Mayor Storey

Reported that she attended a meeting with Sandy Lee and Steve Bogie of Drone Canada. They enjoyed a good conversation. More information about the local project will be reviewed later in the meeting.

Mayor Storey noted that there are some updates with the Resource Benefit Alliance (RBA).

Mayor Storey participated in discussions with several Provincial Ministers and was able to share some of the concerns faced by the Village of Fraser Lake. Mayor Storey highlighted infrastructure deficits.

She will forward a copy of the notes from those meetings to Council.

Minister Robinson and Minister Osborne were happy to hear about Fraser Lake. Neither would clarify what they were doing about the requested revenue sharing agreement. It was understood there is not a lot of money due to covid.

Mayor Storey commented on another RBA meeting that she was not able to attend, however, CAO Holland attended in her place.

Mayor Storey has offered to share her notes of her meeting with Minister Robinson and Minister Osborne with Council,

Mayor Storey noted that while she was away on holidays, CAO Holland attended a few meetings on her behalf. One was the meeting on modernizing forest policy.

Mayor Storey had driven through Lytton on her way back from her vacation. She felt it was sad to see the effects of the fire. She noted that the fire is still active on one side of the community. She noted that it is hard to see what is going on in other parts of the province.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 08-25-294

Carried

Accounts payable:

Council LePoidevin inquired about cheque no. 29796.

Director of Finance confirmed the payment covered a number of invoices.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$2,108,461.57.

Resolution 08-25-295

Carried

Correspondence List:

None

Business from the CAO:

Offer to Purchase – Lot 13 – Southside Subdivision

CAO Holland noted an offer to purchase plus a deposit was received for the purchase of Lot 13 in the South side subdivision. That offer was circulated electronically to Council. Five (5) out of six (6) council members responded positively to the offer; agreeing with the selling price.

The proposed disposal of public land has been advertised as per the Community Charter requirements. There have been no comments or feedback from the public. Two-week public comment period has been completed. CAO Holland stated that with Council's continued support, this Offer to Purchase can proceed to sale.

MOVED/SECONDED to accept the Offer to Purchase Lot 13 for \$31,194.00 and to sell Lot 13 to N.W. Storage Solutions Ltd. for the purpose of establishing a commercial endeavour that falls within the scope of permitted uses as set out in the Village of Fraser Lake Zoning Bylaw No. 683, 2008.

Resolution 08-25-296

Carried

Drone Transportation Initiative

As part of the Drone Transportation Initiative, Drone Canada will need to establish a landing and storage site in Fraser Lake. The site being presented meets project needs. Drone Canada will pay the costs to construct the landing pad, install the storage/recharging container for the drone and install a hydro service to the site. There will be chain link fence installed for security and public safety reasons.

Councillor Fennema inquired how well the drone will work during the winter months.

Mayor Storey explained the researchers will study those kinds of issues. She noted that each research area has different climates, terrains, etc. and they are hopefully going to work through many of the conditions they might encounter across the country.

EDO Christie added the drones are only rated to temperatures down to minus fifteen. They will be doing more cold weather testing throughout the project.

Mayor Storey noted that even though the distance of the flights will be short, the testing will work through many scenarios.

EDO Christie noted that four staff will be hired locally for the project. They will work out of the sea can office.

MOVED/SECONDED that Council accept the proposed location for the drone launch and landing site, and to authorize access to this site by signing the Drone Delivery Canada agreement.

Resolution 08-25-297

Carried

Private Vending Machine

A written request has been received from a local youth requesting permission to place a private vending machine in the lobby of the arena. CAO Holland noted Minor Hockey has a vending machine with drinks in the lobby. This venture would provide snacks during hockey practices when the concession is closed.

Space rental was discussed with the requestee.

Councillor Fennema inquired if staff have talked to the person who runs the concession.

EDO Christie noted that the same person will be operating the concession again this year. Although the concession sells some snacks, they mostly sell hot drinks and food during games, tournaments, and public skating, so he believes this proposal would fill a need when the concession is not open.

Councillor Watt-Senner feels we should support local youth with initiative.

Mayor Storey suggested a note could be sent to the person who runs the concession asking for their comment.

MOVED/SECONDED to give approval to Tai Hawkes to place a vending machine in the Arena lobby for the sale of snacks, and to charge him \$20/month rent while the ice is in (no charge in off-season).

Resolution 08-25-298

Carried

2021 Capital Projects Update

Mayor Storey noted that an update was provided to Council on the progress of summer projects.

Pictures are provided on the progress for the Council's review. There were no further questions from Council.

Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia (FESBC) Funding

In 2020, FESBC provided the Village with \$150,000 to assist with the cost of transporting biomass materials from the forest to Pinnacle. This funding enabled the Community Forest in breaking even. CAO Holland commented about the low price of pulp this year. In response to our most recent request, FESBC has provided an additional \$250,000 to assist with transportation costs for low grade fiber materials. CAO Holland noted this support comes from the province and is consistent with the modernization of forest policy that would like to see more complete use of all grades of fiber.

Mayor Storey commented on how this is a good news story. She thanked Council, staff, Dave Johnson and Jason Regnier for their work to receive this funding.

CAO Holland noted that low pulp prices are predicted through till December and these funds will potentially be used by the end of September. Mr. Regnier is committed to looking for more funding to support our community forest and local workforce. CAO noted that about 40% of the community forest fiber is pulp. To get this material to the mill costs roughly \$1000 loss for every truck load. CAO Holland is appreciative of this funding.

Mayor Storey noted that Fraser Lake Sawmill is in curtailment for the next two weeks. In her discussion with Minister Osborne, Mayor Storey encouraged a more timely and progressive stumpage system. Like the system used in Alberta.

New Statutory Holiday

The Federal Government has declared September 30th as a new statutory holiday . The day recognizes the impacts of Residential Schools.

There was a discussion on the new statutory holiday.

MOVED/SECONDED that the Village of Fraser Lake will recognize September 30th as the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. The office and shop will be closed.

Resolution 08-25-299

Carried

Lakes District Coalition Meeting Recap

Mayor Storey thanked CAO Holland for attending the meeting. She noted CAO Holland's report on the meeting is included in the agenda package.

CAO Holland noted that a more official version was produced by Cindy and they are hoping that it can be incorporated into provincial regulation.

Mayor Storey highlighted the importance of addressing excess fuels. When these fuels are left in protected areas, like the provincial park on the southern edge of Francois Lake, they pose a threat of catastrophic wildfire. She feels provincial parks should be managed for this risk like all other parts of the forest.

First Nations Constable Program

CAO Holland advised several phone calls had been received in response to Council's Letter of Support. The letter was viewed as a letter of request, instead of a letter of support. Following those inquiries, CAO Holland spoke with Sgt Ruming and confirmed it would be impractical to reduce the complement of manpower at the detachment.

CAO Holland explained the structure of the tripartite agreements. Unfortunately, that process was ended about 10 years ago. Now, if the community would like a First Nation Constable, an existing provincial position must be given up to fulfill the new role. Currently the Fraser Lake Detachment is staffed with 5 provincial positions. These five positions provide 24/7 coverage. Giving up even a single constable would have a significant impact on the detachment's shift schedule. It would also significantly impact the level of police coverage in the detachment area.

CAO Holland noted he clarified to each of the three callers that Mayor and Council has provided a letter of support. It was never the intention to reduce current staff. In fact, the intention was to lend support for an additional staff member who would be dedicated to First Nations policing.

Mayor Storey noted that she talked with Director Parker about a letter of support. She informed him that it was never the intention of Mayor and Council to reduce staff. It was to offer support for an additional staff member. She noted that they also discussed about the possibility of a part time position.

Mayor Storey commented that she will discuss this issue with the two chiefs when the next tri-council meeting is scheduled.

Complaints

Mayor Storey inquired if someone had done an offensive odour post on Facebook.

EDO Christie confirmed he has posted a notice.

There was general discussion on complaints. Councillor LePoidevin noted that wasps have been especially bad this year.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the CAO Report.

Resolution 08-25-300

Carried

Staff Reports:

None

Reading List:

Mayor Storey noted the letter from the City of Langley, as well as the Extreme Weather Plan that has been shared widely today.

Mayor Storey noted that she forwarded the information on no-cost contraceptive earlier today. She noted that they have been requested to offer support.

Mayor Storey inquired what staff thought about the Social Procurement Initiative.

CAO Holland reported that our purchasing policy already establishes a buy local mindset. When there is an RPF of \$30,000 or less, preference is given to local business. He felt like the Village already does practices what is being proposed.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Reading List.

Resolution 08-25-301

Carried

New Business:

Regional District Meeting

Councillor Watt-Senner reported that the RDBN will be posting a new HR position.

Councillor Watt-Senner commended on a presentation about attraction and retention of residents in our area. A significant challenge is having homes available. The ability to purchase home insurance during fire season is also a significant barrier. A lot of insurance companies won't insure homes where fires have been. Councillor Watt-Senner felt this policy is really affecting small communities and their economy. People who want to move here cannot because they can't get insurance.

Another issue discussed at the RDBN related to dropping water table and drought issues. Some farmers are having to choose between raising cattle or growing crops. That also affects our economy.

Mayor Storey thanked Councillor Watt-Senner for attending the RDBN meeting.

New Standing Committee

Mayor Storey suggested creating a standing committee for senior living. She has emailed John Stafford regarding Silver Birch and noted that their regular meeting is scheduled for the beginning of October. Mayor Storey

will meet with CAO Holland in early September to discuss creating a standing committee to get the seniors housing project started.

Grant in Aid Request

The Endako Mud Race organizers have submitted a grant in aid application for five loads of potable water. Five truck loads have a \$960.00 value. The water will be used in support of their event.

Since Bill Stewart is hauling the water, he cannot haul lake water.

A discussion occurred about the value of the water.

MOVED/SECONDED to approve the Grant-in-Aid application for up to 5 truck loads of water for the Endako Mud Bogs on August 28 & 29, 2021 to a maximum value of \$960.00.

Resolution 08-25-302

Carried

Charging Stations

Councillor Fennema inquired if charging stations were going to be installed in Fraser Lake.

EDO Christie reported that last correspondence he received indicated that BC Hydro and the owner of the Fraser Lake mall, had come to an agreement. It was staff's understanding, the EV Charging stations would be installed this year.

Library News

Councillor Fennema reported that the library summer student put out a story walk on the fence at Kin Park adjacent to McMillian Avenue.

Councillor Fennema commented on the new lighting that is being installed in the library. The LED lighting is quite an improvement. She invited Mayor and Council to come and see.

Councillor Fennema reported that this summer the reading program enjoyed the participation of 20 kids. In previous years, attendance levels were closer to 8-10 youth, so this year they did well.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 08-25-303

Carried

Bylaws:

None

In-Camera Meeting:

Director of Finance, EDO Christie, Intern Levy, and Recording Secretary Austin left the meeting at 6:28 pm.

MOVED/SECONDED to move to the Regular Meeting to In-Camera at 6:30 pm under Section 90(1)(c) of the Community Charter which states a part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered related to labour or other employee relations.

Resolution 08-25-304

Carried

Council returned to the Regular meeting at 8:10 pm.

Compensation Review: Management/Salaried Positions:

MOVED/SECONDED With reference to the Compensation Review, completed in July 2021 by an independent compensation consultant at Sainas Consulting Inc., of Management and Salaried Position at the Village of Fraser Lake, in recognition of length of service and performance, we move to increase the compensation of EDO Christie to \$70,000.00 retro actively to January 1, 2021.

Resolution 08-25-307

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED With reference to the recommendations of the Compensation Review, completed in July 2021 by an independent compensation consultant at Sainas Consult Inc., of Management and Salaried position at the Village of Fraser Lake, in recognition of length of service and performance, we move to increase the compensation of Director of Finance McMaster to \$85,000.00 retro actively to January 1, 2021.

Resolution 08-25-308

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED With reference to the recommendations of the Compensation Review, completed in July 2021 by an independent compensation consultant at Sainas Consult Inc., of Management and Salaried position at the Village of Fraser Lake, in recognition of length of service and performance, we move to increase the compensation of the Chief Administrative Officer to \$111,500.00 retro actively to January 1, 2021.

Resolution 08-25-309

Carried

Next Regular Meeting of Council: September 8, 2021, at 5:30 pm

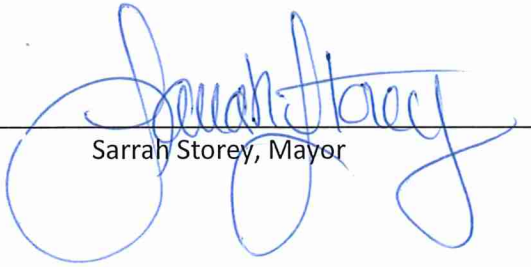
Adjournment:

MOVED/SECONDED that the August 25, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be now adjourned at 8:13 pm.

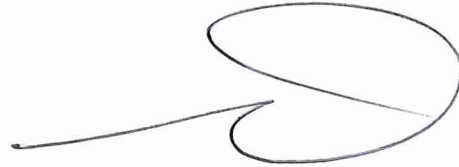
Resolution 08-25-3010

Carried

Certified Correct:



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer