



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 5:30 pm

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

Staff present were CAO R. J. Holland, Economic Development Officer D. Christie, Fire Chief J. Pacheco, and Director of Public Works V. Hilman.

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

Agenda:

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

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda.

Resolution 02-24-96

Carried.

Delegations & Guests:

Connexus Community Resources
Joining virtually via Microsoft Teams
Tyrell Arnold – Executive Director
Paula Wylie – Clinical Supervisor / Program Manager

Mayor Storey welcomed Connexus to the meeting and thanked them for meeting with herself and EDO Christie the previous week to discuss this opportunity.

Mr. Arnold presented that Connexus is applying to the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) Northern Healthy Communities Fund for a new full time Mental Health and Addictions Therapist for Fraser Lake. Currently Connexus provides several services for the community which have a large waiting list.

The funding Connexus is applying for through NDIT will not cover the entire cost of this position however the remaining funding was secured through the Canadian Woman's Foundation to keep the position for 12 months.

Mr. Arnold is looking for other funding for this position to continue past the 12 months with the focus on making this a

permanent position that stays in the community. The position will work with children, youth, adults, and families. Mr. Arnold is requesting a letter of support from the Village to accompany their NDI funding application.

Councillor Watt-Senner asked what education level the applicant would need to have?

Mr. Arnold responded with the applicant would need to have a master's degree in mental counselling and experience in addictions.

Councillor Jenkinson asked what type of resources or building / location is required for this position?

Mr. Arnold responded with Connexus currently rents three spaces from the Village at the Professional Building. Mr. Arnold and Mrs. Wylie have met and spoken with Mayor Storey and EDO Christie to potentially expand and rent more space in that building.

Mayor Storey thinks this opportunity is very exciting and what the community has been asking and looking for. The community needs these full time services.

**Regular Council Minutes,
February 10, 2021**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Minutes of February 10, 2021 be adopted as read 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 02-24-97

Carried

**Business arising from
the Minutes:**

None

**Reports on Council
Activities:**

Mayor Storey on behalf of Councillor LePoidevin
Nothing to report.

Councillor Watt-Senner
Nothing to report.

Councillor Jenkinson

Nothing to report.

Councillor Fennema

Attended an Autumn Services meeting on February 18th.

Mayor Storey

Attended a UBCM meeting about an opportunity to apply for \$200,000 to build a homeless shelter in Fraser Lake. There are not a lot of options here to help those needing a place to stay. There have been two incidents lately, a man living out of his van due to being laid off from the pipeline project just days after arriving in the area, and a man sleeping on the side of the road in -20 conditions. These types of incidents seem to be increasing because of the Opioid crisis and other events. There are a few building opportunities around the community, small events centre and the old dentist office. Possibly a community group could run this. The municipality could apply so a group could run it and then the community could have something in place. Neither Nadleh or Stellaquo have something in place and this could be a Tri-Council discussion. There are other poverty reduction grants the Village can look at.

Attended a meeting with Connexus and EDO Christie. They would like to expand and go to one half of the Professional Building. Coastal Gas Link also wants a part of that building until possibly May and possibly Connexus after that.

Attended the Child Care Planning meeting, sent out a guide to Council and staff a majority of municipalities are working with their School Districts. The next round of funding has not yet been announced by UBCM states it should be soon. The webinar will be made available and it is recommended to watch.

Attended a meeting with CAO Holland, Ian Grady and Tan Calhoun from West Fraser Sawmills to discuss forestry and our community forest. Lack of childcare for their employees came up as a barrier to their employees. It was a good meeting and we have a good relationship with West Fraser. West Fraser did some research and have a 20 year plan to keep the mill open. The market is scary as log prices are high and they are concerned about the timber market plummeting. West Fraser is working with other mills to get rid of low grade fibre as part of their work towards a sustainable industry.

Met with James Simpson and Raquel Miles from Northern Health to discuss our clinic. It was a good discussion, lots of back and forth. They are working on a vaccine clinic for the community.

Attended a Watershed meeting and they are working on an Integrated Watershed Group Portal. This portal will show data for how the watersheds in this area are doing as there is a concern of natural pollutants entering the watershed after the 2018 fires. Mayor Storey will distribute the portal information.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 02-24-98

Carried

Accounts payable:

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$927,436.21

Resolution 02-24-99

Carried

Correspondence List:

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Correspondence List

Resolution 02-24-100

Carried

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if the Prince George Cougars Covid cases had impacted the Letter of Support the Village had previously sent.

Mayor Storey replied she has not heard anything.

Business from the CAO:

Dust Complaint

CAO Holland provided details on an email complaint received about dust in the South Carrier Crescent area. CAO Holland explained the measures the Village has taken to reduce the dust in that area.

Director of Public Works Hilman presented four options with costing to eliminate the dust coming from Village roadways. Before such options can proceed a new drainage catch basin must be installed at the low point of South Carrier Crescent.

1. Pave South Carrier Crescent from highway apron to behind Fields property line, 2. Pave South Carrier Crescent from highway apron and Langley Avenue to Chowsunket Street, 3. Topcoat South Carrier Crescent from highway apron to behind Fields property line with highway compaction gravel and calcium, and 4. Close and barricade South Carrier Crescent behind Fields property line allowing no access to Langley Avenue from South Carrier Crescent.

EDO Christie explained that he has been working with the Co-op Cardlock and a possible permanent solution to the dust generated on their property may be coming in 2022.

A discussion ensued amongst Council and staff.

Councillor Jenkinson suggested Council ask Co-op to come to an upcoming Council meeting for further discussions. Councillor Jenkinson also requested staff to pursue a 2022 paving plan for the community and include local businesses in the discussion.

Mayor Storey requested staff to work with Co-op and other neighbouring businesses including the mall ownership to collaborate for reduced paving costs, create a solution on this matter and return to Council. This could be a real win for the community.

MOVED/SECONDED to received CAO reports.

Resolution 02-24-101

Carried

Staff Reports:

Northern Development Initiative Trust – Recreation Infrastructure Grant

EDO Christie presented on the Northern Development Initiative Trust – Recreation Infrastructure Grant. This grant would be used in conjunction with the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program – Community Economic Resilience funding the Village received to transform the curling rink into a year round community hall and curling rink facility.

MOVED/SECONDED to support an application to Northern Development Initiative Trust’s Recreation Infrastructure Grant for up to \$300,000 for the Curling Rink / Community Hall project.

Resolution 02-24-102

Carried

Mayor Storey asked about the status of the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program – Destination Development application for the Wharf project.

EDO Christie responded that an email was received at 5:09pm tonight indicating our application was denied.

MOVED/SECONDED to received staff reports.
Resolution 02-24-103

Carried

Reading List:

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Reading List

Resolution 02-24-104

Carried

New Business:

Homeless Shelter

Mayor Storey spoke to both chiefs about a Tri-Council Meeting and they may be able to have a meeting next week. Discussions would include emergency shelter, area-based tender, assisted living facility and a childcare facility.

Rent Building to Connexus

Mayor Storey spoke about the meeting held and Connexus cannot afford the monthly rate set for the northern half of the Professional Building.

EDO Christie spoke to previous meeting CAO Holland and EDO Christie had with Connexus in the summer of 2020 about renting the same space. The square footage rate that was set is below market value and covers our operating costs. Connexus can afford to pay less than half the set rate.

A discussion ensued amongst Council.

CAO Holland feels we need to better understand what Connexus true need is. Staff are working to find this out and can offer different options which may include occupying more offices on the side they are on currently, building an additional office or just booking the larger rooms on a as needed basis instead of taking the entire north end of the building. The Village needs to also evaluate what its future need will be for space.

A discussion ensued amongst Council and staff.

Mayor Storey would like staff to go back to Connexus to have further conversations about office utilization and how many staff are actually working in the building throughout the week and return to Council with an update.

Connexus Letter of Support Request
MOVED/SECONDED to support Connexus' application to Northern Development Initiative Trust's Northern Healthy Communities Fund for full time Fraser Lake Mental Health and Addictions Therapist

Resolution 02-24-105

Carried

Mayor Storey discussed the Wharf project and how the Village was denied the grant for repairs. With no other funding currently available for the repairs the Village should look at removing the structure and do a different project to benefit the community.

Councillor Watt-Senner suggests further discussions on this subject be postponed until the next Council meeting for when Councillor LePoidevin is in attendance. This will also give staff time to present options for the Wharfs repair or removal.

CAO Holland updated Council that staff have previously received quotes for removal, repair and to shorten the Wharf. Staff have discussed options to construct a raised boardwalk from the Wharf to Beaver Point. The Wharf needs to be removed as it is becoming less stable every year. The decking from the Wharf could be salvaged and reused on a boardwalk project. Staff do not recommend rebuilding the Wharf.

Mayor Storey would like staff to bring options for next steps to the next Council meeting.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if this project or any large project should go to referendum for the public to decide and this includes the taxpayer on the decision.

A discussion ensued amongst Council and staff.

CAO Holland commented that staff can investigate the costs of a referendum and report back to Council.

Mayor Storey likes the idea of getting referendum costs.

Mayor Storey recommends the next budget meeting to occur Thursday March 4, 2021 at 1:00pm.

Council and staff agree to this date and time.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 02-24-106

Carried

Bylaws:

Village of Fraser Lake Water Reserve Bylaw No. 820,2021

MOVED/SECONDED to conduct the first, second and third reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Water Reserve Bylaw No. 820,2021.

Resolution 02-24-107

Carried

Village of Fraser Lake Community Forest Reserve Bylaw No. 821,2021

MOVED/SECONDED to conduct the first, second and third reading of the Village of Fraser Lake Community Forest Reserve Bylaw No. 821,2021

Resolution 02-24-108

Carried

**In Camera Council Minutes,
February 10, 2021**

MOVED/SECONDED that the In Camera Council Minutes of February 10, 2021 be adopted as read 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 02-24-109

Carried

Next Regular Meeting of Council:

March 10, 2021 at 5:30 pm

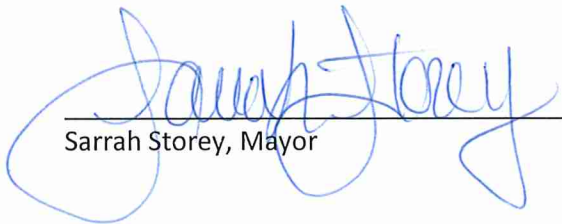
Adjournment:

MOVED/SECONDED that the February 24, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council be now adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Resolution 02-24-110

Carried

Certified Correct:



Sarah Storey, Mayor

 per

Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer