



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers on Wednesday, June 9, 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, Fire Chief J. Pacheco 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 06-09-245

Carried

Delegations & Guests:

None

**Regular Council Minutes,
May 26, 2021**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Minutes of May 26, 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 06-09-246

Carried

**Business arising from
the Minutes:**

None

**Reports on Council
Activities:**

Councillor Fennema

Reported that she attended a Zoom meeting on June 8th for Emergency Support Services (ESS) and completed her first ESS course through the Justice Institute.

Councillor LePoidevin

None

Councillor Watt-Senner

None

Mayor Storey

Reported that today she attended a Coastal Gas Link update. Mayor Storey reports the Little Lake Rock Camp opened today. A representative of the camp has offered to email her the numbers of workers that would be staying there. Mayor Storey noted that EDO Christie was also on the call and will work with her to alert businesses of the influx of workers at the camp.

Mayor Storey attended a meeting by phone on June 4th with Minister Osborne about the provincial restart plan and how that is going to roll out. She noted that there were discussions around the difficulty that people were experiencing booking their 2nd Covid-19 shot, as well as information about available vaccination dates. The Ministers are aware of these concerns and are working to resolve them.

Mayor Storey participated in a meeting today with Stellat'en to review the plans for National Indigenous Day on June 21st. Plans are progressing well, and it looks like the day will be an exciting event. Mayor Storey suggested she may need to request assistance from staff to find a sash for the Tri-Community Youth Ambassador, Destiny Louie, as they plan to have her come on stage during the day.

Mayor Storey reported that today she participated in a Northern Medical Programs Trust Meeting by phone. She feels this initiative will help with the retention, recruitment, and training of health care professionals in the north. She shared the financial numbers of the trust and noted that this will be helpful in assisting more people into the education part of the system.

Mayor Storey has been nominated as Director at Large for the NMPT which she accepted.

Mayor Storey commented that at the most recent meeting at the Regional District Bulkley Nechako (RDBN), she learned all municipalities are required to do an annual report that outlines the goals and objectives for the year. The Annual Report reflects on how well the goals and objectives of the year have been met. The report is due on June 29th of each year. Mayor Storey has discussed this report with CAO Holland, and she would like to see this report prepared.

CAO Holland noted that staff has already begun work on the 2020 Annual Report. He noted that Intern K. Levy has begun compiling reports from the different departments, and a draft should be ready for the next council meeting.

Mayor Storey thanked CAO Holland and staff for their extra work on creating this report.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 06-09-247

Carried

Accounts payable:

Mayor Storey inquired about cheque 29720 for White Swan Water Project shipping costs.

CAO Holland noted that this payment included four shipping costs.

Director of Finance McMaster noted that she could look up the specific details and relay that information.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$230,454.56.

Resolution 06-09-248

Carried

Correspondence List:

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the correspondence list.

Resolution 06-09-249

Carried

Business from the CAO:

National Indigenous Day

CAO Holland reported that EDO Christie and Intern Levy met with the organizers from Stelat'en and Nadleh First Nations, and it looks like everything is ready to go. He noted that the BBQ's, tables, chairs, freezer, and garbage cans will be provided by the Village. Some of the events will be in the arena and some on the soccer fields.

Mayor Storey noted that they are still looking for more volunteers for the BBQ, noting that the RCMP have volunteered to help with the BBQ.

Mayor Storey reported that in conjunction with National Indigenous Day, there will be a three-day healing vigil held at Lejac site. They are looking for volunteers for that event as well. It will be held the 3 days prior to Indigenous Day.

Mayor Storey commented on the banners that have been ordered and provided a reminder to start thinking about floats.

Community Forest Reserve

CAO Holland noted that the auditors had placed the Community Forest revenues from 2019 and 2020 into Village surplus. This money can be moved from surplus into the Community Forest Reserve which was established this past February 2021.

MOVED/SECONDED to transfer 2019 and 2020 Community Forest revenues of \$3,544,503.00 from the Villages of Fraser Lake Surplus to the Village of Fraser Lake Community Forest Reserve.

Resolution 06-09-250

Carried

BCEHS Update

CAO Holland provided the replies received from Northern Health and the BCEHS Property Management branch regarding the need for a new BCEHS facility. At this time, neither Northern Health nor the Property Management agency that arranges facilities for BCEHS are not interested in a joint facility with the Village.

Mayor Storey clarified that she was told that the ambulance service did not have enough space, not that the ambulance service would be displaced. She noted that in discussions with Councillor Jenkinson, there was an idea of moving the fire hall to the southside subdivision and to amalgamating with the ambulance service to give the clinic more space.

Mayor Storey will confirm details with James Simpson. Mayor Storey still sees this as a potentially positive amalgamation one day. She stated this has been done in other communities.

Mayor Storey noted that renovations to the current fire hall are still needed at some point. She feels improvements to the facility will help with recruitment and retention of new members. Mayor Storey highlighted the need for a proper space for shoulder-to-shoulder time for members following traumatic events. She noted that fundraising events like pancake breakfasts, which would be run by fire halls are great community events that often raise money for the hall or the community.

Fire Chief Pacheco noted that funds raised at this hall have always gone back to the community, like supporting grade 12 events.

Capital Purchases

CAO Holland noted that the Village Public Works department has difficulty keeping up with growing grass this time of year. Although this should have been a budgetary purchase, CAO Holland recommends that an additional mower be purchased, to allow Public Works to better manage the mowing process.

MOVED/SECONDED to purchase a new 60-inch Country Clipper mower in the amount of \$10,500 and expend those funds from the Northern Capital and Planning Reserve.

Resolution 06-09-251

Carried

CAO Holland noted that the vertical pump the water distribution system is of 1965 vintage. The pump was rebuilt last summer, and it has failed. The Village has been told the pump is obsolete and parts are almost impossible to source. The water system uses two vertical pumps. A third pump is kept as a spare in the event of a pump failure. The Village no longer has a spare vertical pump.

CAO Holland recommends purchasing a new vertical pump to ensure the Village has a spare.

MOVED/SECONDED to purchase a new vertical pump in the amount of \$22,568.64 and to expend that amount from the Community Works Fund.

Resolution 06-09-252

Carried

UBCM Appointments

CAO Holland noted the UBCM Appointment Book has been circulated. The site is taking meeting requests for meetings with Premier Horgan or Provincial Ministers.

Mayor Storey asked if Council had any specific topics they would like to discuss with a particular Minister? Mayor Storey would like to meet with Minister Conroy, Ministry of Forests, to bring forward the concerns regarding the community forest expansion. Mayor Storey noted CAO Holland has until June 30 to lodge meeting requests.

Mayor Storey noted that she had concerns regarding the paving at the back of the high school. She has discussed her concern with EDO Christie, who is a trustee on the Board of Education. She noted that the paving was not done well. Mayor Storey commented about the back of the school needing paint. She has heard that gym floor is being redone and the refurbishment of the outside track is scheduled for some time in the future.

Mayor Storey noted that the School District is planning to schedule regular meetings with Village Councils. Mayor Storey noted that a meeting with the Minister of Education is probably not needed at this time.

Mayor Storey noted another issue that could be submitted for discussion with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing is aging infrastructure and the supports available for upgrading. She suggested that meeting could also be used to introduce the council members to Minister of Municipal Affairs. Mayor Storey would also like to thank the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for all they have done for the community, like the funds contributed for the arena upgrades.

CAO Holland noted that the paper about modernizing forest practices came out yesterday. The report recognizes the needs for communities to be involved in the economy of the forest industry. He noted that the report was vague, and more investigation is required to find out what modernizing forest practices means. At first glance, it is obvious the province recognizes the importance of providing communities with a stake in the activity.

Mayor Storey noted that an expansion to the Community Forest would not be an option until the next apportionment review which is likely in 10 years. She inquired if a decision could be made before the 10 years.

CAO Holland noted that it has been 17 years since the last apportionment decision was made. The 2021 apportionment provides no volume for Community Forests. If we are required to wait for the next apportionment decision, it will likely be 10 years before any change is possible.

Mayor Storey noted that 10 years is too long between decisions and perhaps she can bring the concern forward during the discussion with the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

CAO Holland reported that there is another initiative that is being developed by the province called the Ungulate Winter Range. He noted that the Fraser Lake Community Forest is 22,000 ha. Along the east side of the Nechako the Province is proposing a 481,000 ha. ungulate winter range corridor. Up to 80% of that area could be conditionally harvested. CAO Holland has been corresponding with the biologist who is overseeing this initiative. We can demonstrate good selective harvesting methods that are wildlife friendly. On behalf of the Village, CAO Holland has expressed interest in being considered for a tenure in this area. This discussion has not progressed but at least the biologist is aware of the interest.

CAO Holland commented about how it would be beneficial to find out more about the province's modernizing forest practices initiative. Depending on how the province decides to share the benefits of the forest economy, this may be the solution the Village is looking for.

Mayor Storey noted that if any other Minister meeting ideas comes to mind, please contact her. She commented the paramedic staffing issue could be added to the list as well.

CAO Holland noted the format for meetings requests involves laying out a primary subject, a secondary subject and a third subject. A description of the issue will need to be forwarded so the Minister and staff are prepared for the discussion.

Complaints

Councillor Watt-Senner inquired about the sewer back up complaint.

CAO Holland reported that there was a water break. While repairing the water break, the works crew damaged the sewer connection adjacent to the sewer main. A three-foot piece of pipe had to be replaced. A few days later the homeowner experienced a sewer back up. There was minimal damage to the house.

The occurrence was reported to the office. CAO Holland took their statement, and the details of the event were forwarded to our insurer: MIABC. The MIABC insurance adjudicator has been in contact with the homeowners by email.

All parties have been advised of the steps in the process. CAO Holland noted that once a decision is made, the Village can review its options. This may involve the Village paying for damages or allowing MIABC to complete the process.

Mayor Storey noted that the homeowner is concerned about a cost they incurred with a plumber. Mayor Storey inquired how long this process would take. She is also concerned about the stress it has caused the homeowner. She noted that she has reached out to other mayors for advice.

CAO Holland reported that the Village's insurance company has already begun working on this claim, but the homeowner's insurance company is also involved. The time it takes depends on how quickly the insurance companies address any concerns.

CAO Holland provided details of the sewer break and repair, as well as the inspection of the sewer pipe after the sewer back up incident. There was a discussion on the details of the water connection repair and about the insurance claim. CAO Holland recommends letting the insurance professionals work through the process and come to a decision.

Councillor Fennema reported that the renters who used to occupy the house on Taluk Crescent left a cat behind that has been roaming around.

Councillor LePoidevin reported that the caretaker of that property contacted him yesterday asking if we had a live trap to capture the cats that were left behind. Councillor LePoidevin reported that a live trap was given to the gentleman.

Canada Day

CAO Holland inquired if council was interested in serving the pancake breakfast, as done in the past.

Councillor Fennema wondered how the Village was providing the pancake breakfast but not the BBQ.

Mayor Storey noted that the BBQ is normally self-serve. The pancake breakfast is being served. Right now, the covid restrictions prevent self-serve events.

Councillor LePoidevin noted that he is working that day so will be unable to help serve.

Councillor Fennema, Councillor Watt-Senner and Mayor Storey all confirmed that they could help serve.

Councillor Fennema inquired about the magnetic signs for the float.

Councillor Fennema inquired on where people can watch the firework show.

Mayor Storey and CAO Holland advised Park Drive would be open to pedestrian traffic from Tunasa Crescent to the railway crossing. Spectators can set up along that stretch of road. In addition, Public Works hopes to mow the area below Park Drive to allow people to set up their chairs for the fireworks show.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the business of the CAO.

Resolution 06-09-253

Carried

**Business from the Director
Of Finance:**

Mayor Storey noted that the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI Report) has been prepared by the Director of Finance.

Director of Finance McMaster noted that preparing the report went well and that this information is also part of the consolidated financial statements already reviewed by council following the Audit. She reviewed the different parts of the report, and noted that once adopted, a copy of the report will be submitted to provincial government prior to June 30, 2021.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the Statement of Financial Information for the Village of Fraser Lake.

Resolution 06-09-254

Carried

Councillor Fennema thanked Director of Finance McMaster for preparing the report.

Staff Reports:

New Fire Truck

Fire Chief Pacheco noted that in his 45 years as a firefighter/fire chief, this will be his fourth (4th) new fire truck. He noted that one of the biggest considerations about purchasing a new truck is availability of

parts and service. Fire trucks typically provide service over 20-30 years. During that time, being able to obtain parts and service is paramount.

A truck committee was formed, comprised of 6 fire fighters. The committee was created to assist with preparation of the RFP. The capital project was advertised, and 4 bids were received:

- Hub Fire Engines
- Rocky Mountain
- Fort Gary Fire Engines
- Commercial Fire Trucks

Fire Chief Pacheco noted that all bids fell within the \$650,000 project budget. The price difference between the highest and lowest bids was \$56,903.85.

MOVED/SECONDED to move the Regular Meeting to In-Camera at 6:37 pm under Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter which states a part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to negotiations and related discussions respecting the provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were made public.

Resolution 06-09-255

Carried

Return to the Regular Meeting at 6:56 pm.

MOVED/SECONDED to accept the tender from Hub Fire Engines to supply the Village of Fraser Lake with a new fire engine.

Resolution 06-09-257

Carried

Reading List:

Mayor Storey inquired if a thank you letter had been written to the NDIT for the grant for the purchase of the Fraser Lake Professional Building?

CAO Holland reported that one has not been written.

Mayor Storey confirmed that she would write a thank you note.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Reading List.

Resolution 06-09-258

Carried

New Business:

Pickleball

Councillor LePoidevin inquired when Pickleball could start again in Fraser Lake.

CAO Holland noted that the Village had been waiting for ViaSport, but under the re-opening plan, it only states that you cannot mix communities so it should be able to start with participants from Fraser Lake only. Arrangement will be made to provide the organizer with keys.

Community Forest

Councillor LePoidevin inquired if the funds for the reforestation were transferred.

CAO Holland reported that tree planting occurred this spring. Fraser Lake Forest Consulting will return funds once the final invoices for the tree planting activities have been paid.

Coverage

Mayor Storey inquired if someone could attend two meetings on her behalf? The first is for the Primary Care Network Meeting on June 14 at 10:00 am. The second is for the RDBN Meeting scheduled for July 15th. She requested that Councillor Watt-Senner attend the RDBN meeting.

Rainbow Crosswalk

Mayor Storey has been approached about the Village installing a rainbow crosswalk. She noted that the works crew is at capacity this month, but it could be scheduled later. It was discussed about painting it across the road in front of the school.

After-Hours Village Emergency Numbers

Mayor Storey noted that the after-hours Village emergency phone numbers listed on the website are not working. She shared details of an incident where there was difficulty reaching the works crew for an emergency in the middle of the night. Mayor Storey suggested that possibly magnets could be created with the after-hours emergency phone numbers.

Councillor LePoidevin inquired what phone numbers should be listed on the magnets. He was concerned that the public may call the numbers for non-emergency issues.

Mayor Storey inquired who answers the emergency number now.

CAO Holland noted that the after-hour message provides the phone number for the Public Works office. That phone is call-forwarded to whatever number that is programmed by the Director of Public Works cell phone. CAO Holland suggested, Council may wish to consider engaging a call centre to receive calls and contact the appropriate person based on the information provided. CAO Holland noted another option could be to purchase a cell phone that would be the after-hours cell phone that is

scheduled for on-call work amongst the various member of the Public Works crew.

MOVED/SECONDED to direct staff to research after-hours emergency contact options.

Resolution 06-09-259

Carried

Mayor Storey reported that Kathy Chmelyk invited Mayor & Council to attend the BCTF Inquiry Celebration via Zoom on June 16th at 2:00 pm. It will showcase FLESS's Inquiry Projects based on diversity. She will forward the link to Council.

Mayor Storey had a conversation with a previous councillor who commented how Fraser Lake had spent a long time trying to remove unsightly trailer parks. He asked why the Village was installing a new one. Mayor Storey thought that after the RVs and Coastal Gas Link crews have moved on, it might be a good idea to develop our bylaws to maintain a high-end mobile home park or possibly make it a seniors-only mobile home park.

Mayor Storey reported a ball tournament is scheduled for the July 2 to 4th weekend. Twelve (12) teams have already registered. She noted the community partners she and EDO Christie have reached out to. Covid-protocols would be followed. There was a discussion around how many washrooms would be required.

CAO Holland noted that the Village has a *facilities rental agreement* that dictates how many outhouses are needed. The agreement also appoints the cost of outhouse rental to the organizers of the event.

Councillor LePoidevin noted that when he organized the ball tournament in the past, the cost of the outhouses was covered by the entry fees.

Mayor Storey noted that with only 12 teams it may work with the just the one washroom.

CAO Holland advise there is a ratio of event attendees and required washrooms. The question about the number of washrooms that will be required will be directed to the Director of Public Works.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 06-09-260

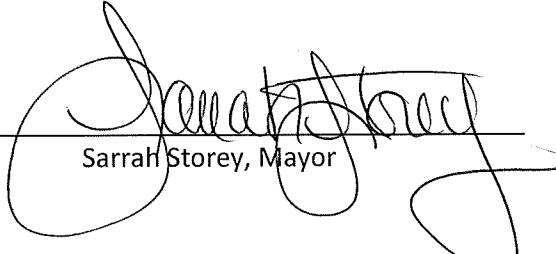
Carried

Bylaws: None


Next Regular Meeting of Council: June 23, 2021, at 5:30 pm

Adjournment: MOVED/SECONDED that the June 9, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be now adjourned at 7:10 pm.
Resolution 06-09-261
Carried

Certified Correct:



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer