



**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers  
on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at 5:30 pm**

---

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

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

Guest joining the meeting via Zoom was Cathy Peters from the Be Amazing Campaign.

**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 05-26-230

Carried

**Delegations & Guests:**

Cathy Peters from the Be Amazing Campaign in Vancouver presented on Human Sex Trafficking, sexual exploitation, and child sex trafficking in BC. She reported that sex trafficking is the fastest growing crime in Canada and is in every corner of BC. She explained that human trafficking is recruiting, transporting, transfer, receiving, harbouring, holding or control over a person for the purpose of exploiting them. This is modern day slavery and 13 years old is the average age of recruitment into the sex industry and much younger for Indigenous girls.

In the lower mainland the target age is 10–12-year-old girls. Traffickers are organized and sophisticated, and 54% are Indigenous women and girls. 82% had childhood of sexual abuse and incest, and 73% live with complex PTSD. Ms. Peters reported that 95% of those in prostitution want to leave, 86% have housing needs, 82% have drug needs, and 84% are pimped or trafficked, which usually involves organized crime.

She is trying to raise awareness of the exploited persons act that became federal law so that police will enforce the law and the public understand it to be able to report it. It targets the buyers of sex. The law criminalizes the buyers of sex and recognizes the seller of sex are a victim. Ms. Peters commented it is essential to establish exit systems to help the victims out of the sex trade. Promoting the message that girls and women are not for sale, that they are humans with dignity and human rights is needed.

Ms. Peters provided handouts with information about the issues and information on the programs that are available to help these sex workers. She noted that children are where the money is, and the internet is used

for luring. She noted that pornography fuels the sex industry. Men and boys are the buyers, and they are the key to end this exploitation. Ms. Peters commented about what Fraser Lake can do to help: 1) reduce demand by targeting businesses that are covers for the sex trade and 2) diminish the supply by raising awareness.

Ms. Peters listed possible businesses that could be covers for sex trafficking: unregistered massage and body rub parlours, nail spas, holistic health centres, day spas, modeling agencies, tattoo parlours, escort services, cheap bars and hotels, men's clubs, AirBnb, VRBO, casinos, strip clubs, organized crime club houses and truck stops.

Schools are the main recruiting areas for gangs and sex trafficking.

Police are the only ones trained in how to enforce the law and they are a great support for schools and communities.

Ms. Peters asked if there were stakeholders in Fraser Lake to whom she could present. She also asked the Village to alert the Premier and Solicitor General that this should be a priority in BC and there need to be considerable funding for provincial law enforcement, provincial awareness campaign and an inter-agency task force. Ms. Peters has also requested a Letter of Support in support of the work Ms. Peters is doing.

Mayor Story thanked Ms. Peters for her presentation and noted that even though it does not seem to be happening in our small town, it probably still is, especially with modern technology. She noted that education of youth is important, and missing boys and men are most likely being exploited too. She noted that council will discuss the letter of support in New Business and can discuss with the Premier and the North Central Local Government Association because this is a huge issue.

Councillor Watt-Senner inquired about the changes to the criminal code.

Ms. Peters stated the preferred deterrent is the exploited persons act because it criminalizes the buyers of sex. She commented that this legislation is not commonly familiar with law enforcement agencies. She has been training many of the RCMP. There is a court challenge occurring right now to have this law repealed and that would have devastating effects.

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if there has been an increase since the legalization of marijuana.

Ms. Peters replied that human trafficking has gone up 43% this last year. She was unsure if the rise was directly related to the legalization of marijuana, but that organized crime is very much involved so it is linked. They have realized that the money is in human trafficking. Drugs can only be sold once, but girls can be sold over and over. They make between \$280,000 and \$360,000 per girl per year. Traffickers are scouring every

part of BC to increase supply and using highways to transport these girls from the small communities.

Mayor Storey recognized Ms. Peters passion around this topic and acknowledged that Fraser Lake is on Highway 16 and surrounded by two Indigenous communities. Education around this issue is the most important priority. She recognized the Moosehide Campaign, and that educating, and advocacy is important.

Ms. Peters thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to present.

**Regular Council Minutes,  
May 12, 2021**

MOVED/SECONDED that the Regular Council Minutes of May 12, 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 05-26-231

Carried

**Business arising from  
the Minutes:**

None

**Reports on Council  
Activities:**

**Councillor Fennema**

Reported that she attended an Autumn Services Meeting on May 20, 2021.

**Councillor Jenkinson**

None

**Councillor LePoidevin**

None

**Councillor Watt-Senner**

None

**Mayor Storey**

Reported that she attended a Coastal Gas Link (CGL) COVID-19 Technical Briefing. CGL has implemented a rapid testing program. The second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will be given to all CGL workers.

Councillor LePoidevin inquired if this was at the camp.

Mayor Storey reported that this was for all CGL camps.

Mayor Storey reported that she attended the CN Rail virtual town hall on May 20<sup>th</sup>. She noted that she discussed the metal plates left in piles in their yard adjacent to White Swan Park, the noise, and the glycofosate

sprayed on the tracks with no signage. She noted that communication with CN Rail is limited. She has requested their materials near White Swan Park be moved. She also commented on the increased train traffic due to the port in Prince Rupert. Overpasses, etc. were also discussed. The transportation of dangerous goods through rural and remote communities is a common concern.

Mayor Storey attended UBCM Advocacy Days last week. She commented on different committee meetings and meetings with various MLAs and the Premier.

Earlier today Mayor Storey participated in a discussion with the Ministry of Transportation and Highways. There are rumors of maintenance issues on highways. Some programs are underfunded. She noted that the YRB Crew in Fraser Lake does a great job, but it was recommended that highway maintenance not be under contract where they are required to stay within budget, which could lead to reduced services and safety. Highway maintenance activities should be fully funded. The Minister has promised more funding is coming. Mayor Storey has suggested the need for a 4-lane highway due to the amount of increased traffic.

Mayor Storey met with the Stelat'en via zoom today. They are applying for a grant called 'Lifting Our Spirits' through the First Nation Health Authority for National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Both Nadleh and Stelat'en would like to apply for the \$1000 grant. Mayor Storey will discuss in New Business on how we can support this event. She noted the activities they are proposing and noted it would be great to do together with all three communities.

Councillor Jenkinson reported that he completed the CN Survey which was about how CN specifically affects the community.

Mayor commented on the CN Rail crew working at night and how this was complained about in the past. Hopefully, if they are scheduled to work at night again, they will let the community know so the Village can let the residents know.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Councillor Reports.

Resolution 05-26-232

Carried

**Accounts payable:**

Councillor Watt-Senner inquired what does the reference to the Skinny means on cheque 29676.

CAO Holland noted that it was the name of a road in the Community Forest.

Councillor Fennema inquired about the acronyms CWPP relating to cheque 29678.

CAO Holland noted that CWPP stands for Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Councillor Fennema asked for more information about cheque 29681.

CAO Holland noted this payment was for spring road repair and maintenance in the Community Forest.

Councillor Fennema asked for more information about cheque 29687.

CAO Holland explained this is the payment for road maintenance costs on the 100 Road from km 12 to the highway. He confirmed that \$0.04 is the industry standard or rate.

Mayor Storey inquired if that was a standard road rate or negotiable.

CAO Holland advised it was not a negotiable rate. The Village of Fraser Lake maintains the 100 Road from 12 km out to our furthest logging operation. Contractors hauling over the section of road maintained by the Village are charged the same \$.04 per ton per kilometer.

Councillor Fennema asked for more information on our payment to Yellowhead Road and Bridge to purchase grader blades. Cheque 29689 refers.

CAO Holland advised the Village does purchase our grader blades from YRB.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$349,915.34.

Resolution 05-26-233

Carried

**Correspondence List:**

None

**Business from the CAO:**

**Dead Tree Removal**

CAO Holland reported that Administration and Public Works has been working with BC Wildfire to address the significant number of dead or dying trees between Highway 16 and Langley Avenue. If not occupied by fire activity, BC Wildfire will attend and fall the trees. Once on the ground, the trees will be cut into 12' lengths for clean up by the Village Public Works. BC Hydro owns the land closest to Chowsunket Street. This area will not be cleared during this operation. CAO Holland suggested a letter be sent to BC Hydro asking them to address the dead and dangerous trees on their property.

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if the timber could be used as part of the Community Forest timber for pulp.

CAO Holland commented there isn't enough wood from this endeavour to make it worth selling to Pinnacle. CAO Holland commented the fallen wood could be something Council could make available to the community for firewood.

MOVED/SECONDED to send a letter to BC Hydro asking them to clear the dead and dying trees from their property between Langley Avenue, Chowsunket Street and Highway 16.

Resolution 05-26-234

Carried

#### Fraser Lake Forest Consulting – Amended Contract

CAO Holland reported that the proposed amended contract reflects the current business structure of Fraser Lake Forest Consultants, as there was change in ownership since the original contract.

MOVED/SECONDED to approve the updated/amended contract for professional forest services from Fraser Lake Forest Consultants to the Village of Fraser Lake.

Resolution 05-26-235

Carried

#### Complaints

Mayor Storey reported that the complaint was minor.

#### Fraser Lake Emergency Services Fire Engine Initiative

CAO Holland reported that the Village received confirmation from NDIIT for \$300,000 funding towards a new fire truck. Coastal GasLink has offered an additional \$50,000 as a community investment. The Village is ready to put out a Request for Proposal for the fire truck. CAO Holland reported that it could take up to a year to have one manufactured.

#### Prince George Timber Supply Area Apportionment Decision

Minister Conroy of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development has completed the Apportionment Decision for the Prince George Timber Supply Areas. CAO Holland noted that no increase was given to volume for Community Forests, so there is no possibility for expansion of the Fraser Lake Community Forest for at least 10 years.

Mayor Storey continues to participate in the Lakes District Coalition discussions. Wildfire mitigation has been a concern. The group hopes to review the twenty recommendations that came out of the Mackenzie Coalition. The province requested Mackenzie's list be narrowed to 10.

She noted that the funding for the coalitions that was promised has not been seen by our coalition.

Mayor Storey noted that they were unable to schedule a meeting with the Minister prior to the apportionment decision being made which was unfortunate.

Public Works – Update on Projects

CAO Holland presented an update on projects as submitted by Mr. Vern Hilman, Director of Public Works.

Councillor Jenkinson noted good progress and asked CAO Holland to pass along a message of thanks to Mr. Hilman and his staff.

Councillor LePoidevin asked what is being cleared on the southside lots.

CAO Holland advised the stumps and woody debris that was left after the piles were burned need to be re-piled.

Mayor Storey noticed that Rec 2 ball field was done.

CAO Holland noted the infield will be dragged with a screen. At that point it will be considered finished.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the business of the CAO.

Resolution 05-26-236

Carried

Staff Reports:

Visitor Centre Items for Sale

Mayor Storey commented about her interest to sell coffee cups and keychains made by Nikki Roebuck.

EDO Christie reported that the Fraser Lake Visitor Centre and Museum (VIC) opened for the season on May 21, 2021. In the past, the Historical Society sold post cards, note cards, pins, and pens to generate revenue and to make souvenirs available to the traveling public. The Village has an inventory of carry bags, USB sticks, magnetic flashlights, small notebooks, combination knives and Village flags. Staff recommend these items be available for sale at the Visitor Centre as well.

Mayor Storey feels it would be nice if the items could be sold in more locations, especially in the winter months when the VIC is closed, as it would help to promote Fraser Lake.

Councillor LePoidevin asked if the prices would change depending on the order amounts.

EDO Christie noted that these items were already in inventory.

Fraser Lake Villa Pad Rental Rates

EDO Christie reported that the Fraser Lake Villa Modular Home Park started construction in 2020, with four of the fifteen sites currently available. The remaining eleven pads will be completed and available for rental in late June. The Village has been receiving inquiries regarding pad availability and monthly fees. EDO Christie researched monthly pad rental fees in surrounding communities. The purpose of this discussion is to establish monthly pad rental rates so available modular home pads can be made available.

Mayor Storey inquired why the rate was so low for the Fraser Lake Trailer Park.

EDO Christie noted the Fraser Lake Trailer Park was recently purchased by new owners. He has spoken with the new owners. They are considering a rate increase once the COVID-19 rental rate freeze is lifted.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if we would be asking for a damage deposit.

EDO Christie said that is common practice. The Rental Contract will need to modify the agreement to include a damage deposit.

Councillor Jenkinson asked if the Village wants to be a landlord or would it be preferable to sell the land.

CAO Holland noted that the project was funded by the Northern Capital Planning Grant. There is a stipulation associated with this funding that requires retention of the property for a specified period following use of this funding to improve the property.

Mayor Storey noted that policy needs to be put together and brought back to Council.

EDO Christie noted that a policy will be developed once the rates are set.

Councillor LePoidevin inquired on the size of the pads.

EDO Christie noted that they were designed for permanent modular with parking in the front.

MOVED/SECONDED to set the pad rental fee for the Fraser Lake Modular Home Park for modular homes at \$425 and \$500 for RV's. This includes the water, sewer, and garbage levy. BC Hydro is paid by occupant.

Resolution 05-26-237

Carried

Reading List:

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Reading List.



**New Business:**

Pipeline

Councillor Jenkinson noted that there are only three workers at the Little Rock Lake Lodge. Why has pipe been laid to the Endako River Crossing. The Village has not seen the benefits promised for the three-year term of this pipeline project. He and Mayor Storey relayed stories of local businesses that have not seen an increase in sales.

EDO Christie has relayed these concerns to Ministry staff. He has asked if the Little Rock Lake Lodge will be used. He was told TC Energy does need this camp. PAPC has explained that because of covid, they were only allowed to have so many people between the three sections. Because they already had open trenches at 7 Mile and Vanderhoof, it made economic sense to continue. EDO Christie reported that starting next week they will start mobilizing the Little Rock Lake Lodge. By mid June, the camp will be at full capacity.

Weeds on Trails

Councillor Jenkinson knows that the Village crew is very busy but inquired if weed control could be applied to the chip-sealed trails and paths.

CAO Holland commented the Village does not have a certified person on staff who can legally apply herbicides or pesticides. The alternative would be to contract the service from a weed control business.

MOVED/SECONDED to have staff investigate the cost of applying herbicide to our walking trails in town.

Summer Students

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if all the summer student positions had been filled.

CAO Holland reported that all university positions have been filled. The university students have already started. The high school students will not be hired until the end of June.

Wharf

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if the board repairs to the wharf will be done in time for the beginning of tourist season.

CAO Holland noted that the repairs are being done by a contractor and not the Village crew. There was discussion on the supplies. CAO Holland noted cross bracing of the steel pilings is being completed. Deck and railing repairs are underway. The contractor has been able to salvage decking material from the material that was removed at the end of the

wharf. New decking will also be required. A local mill will product that material.

EDO Christie noted that in the original quote was to replace 28 boards that were rotten. There may be a couple more.

Councillor Jenkinson noted that during budget talks, it was discussed about the opportunities for grants and funding for a staged approach for replacement with treated wood. He noted it would be nice if it was completed by July 1.

#### Spring Clean-up for Seniors

Councillor Fennema received a concern regarding spring clean-up. Why is this occurring but not senior's snow plowing.

Mayor Storey noted the spring clean-up helps keep the town looking good. She agreed that snow plowing for seniors is a good idea, and would still like it reinstated.

#### RV Sani Dump

Councillor Fennema noted that there was a small septic tank truck being emptied into the RV Sani dump.

Mayor Storey noted dumping is by donation. She inquired if the donation box had been checked after the long weekend.

EDO Christie noted that it is checked by the Fraser Lake Historical Society. The Village has not yet received their report.

#### Compost Area

Councillor LePoidevin noted the area for turning around is tight. He requested that the material be pushed back a bit to make more room.

#### Hydrant

Councillor LePoidevin inquired about the shed on the southside.

CAO Holland explained this shed houses the hydrant that is used to draw water for the camp. The shed belongs to Bill Stewart of J Nik Services. It will be needed until the end of December.

#### Staffing

Councillor LePoidevin inquired if there had been a replacement for the position recently vacated in the public works crew.

CAO Holland reported that the posting has been prepared and is ready to go.

Water Trucks

Mayor Storey noted that there were two big water tankers filling from the lake down by the pier.

Councillor Jenkinson noted their suction pipes are still there. Mayor Storey said the trucks say Fire Protection Water from TDG Dart.

Councillor Jenkinson is concerned about the damage to the freshly graded parking lot.

Sex Trafficking Presentation

MOVED/SECONDED to write a letter of support for Cathy Peters.

Resolution 05-26-240

Carried

National Indigenous Peoples Day & Grant

MOVED/SECONDED to write a letter of support for both First Nation communities to apply for the Native Indigenous Wellness Grant.

Resolution 05-26-241

Carried

Mayor Storey noted Ken Solonas is the contact person. There was a discussion on what the services the Village could provide. The event is dependant on covid restrictions being lifted on June 15<sup>th</sup>. There may be activities around town but if the Covid restrictions remain in place. Those activities may involve a parade. Mayor Storey comment it is great that our communities do this together. It will be called the 'Lifting Our Spirits' event.

CAO Holland noted the Village typically has several months to plan for these events. Both National Indigenous Day and Canada Day are in quick succession. Public Works capacity will be considered. Staff will work with event organizers to see what they will need for their celebrations.

EDO Christie noted that in the past this event has been minimal work for Village staff, and he would contact Ken Solonas to discuss their plans.

MOVED/SECONDED to direct staff to discuss plans with local First Nation communities for co-hosting events for National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Resolution 05-26-242

Carried

### Canada Day

CAO Holland noted that it is looking like Fraser Lake might be able to hold Canada Day celebrations this summer. Staff have already begun planning. Inquiries have been made with suppliers for items such as the inflatable toys, tents, and the mini train. So far, the suppliers are excited to participate in our celebrations.

Councillor Jenkinson inquired about whether a parade will happen and asked how the Village will let local businesses know so they have time to prepare a float.

Mayor Storey noted that Canada Day celebrations would be very much appreciated by the community. She also proposed hosting the annual Canada Day weekend baseball tournament.

EDO Christie noted that Ms. Levy has already started preparing posters, and assuming the provincial health orders allow the celebration, we have a great day planned.

CAO Holland noted that employees at the local mill are working on Canada Day and taking the Friday off instead.

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if the Car Show could be scheduled over the weekend.

EDO Christie noted that Canada Celebrations might be max capacity for staff.

Councillor LePoidevin noted that it might be a good idea to host a small baseball tournament this year.

Councillor Jenkinson inquired if this would be an opportunity for the tourism drone.

EDO Christie noted that he has already been in conversations regarding the tourism drone during the event.

EDO Christie also noted that the firework show being planned is going to be great. He noted that the donations were significantly higher than normal year, which is allowing for a bigger show to be planned.

There was a discussion on where spectators could gather in small, safe groups to view the fireworks. The village crew will be designating locations.

There was discussion on whether to hold the celebrations on the Saturday. In the end it was agreed to hold the Canada Day celebrations on Canada Day.

Building

Mayor Storey inquired about the building by the White Swan Park.

CAO Holland noted at one point it was going to be reclad and painted to look like a train station.

Mayor Storey inquired where it is on the list of projects and if it could even get a paint job now that there is increased tourism down there.

Welcome to Intern Kristen Levy

Mayor Storey welcomed intern Kristen Levy to the Village team.

Ms. Levy thanked Mayor and Council and staff for the opportunity.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 05-26-243

Carried

Bylaws:

None

Next Regular Meeting of Council:

June 9, 2021, at 5:30 pm

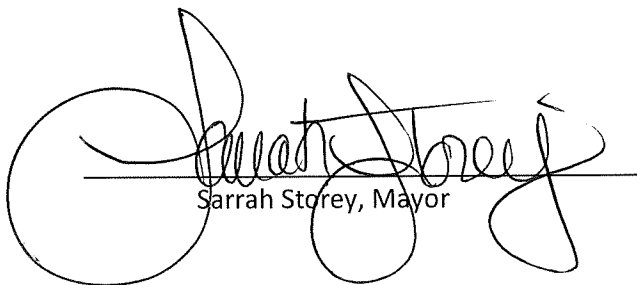
Adjournment:

MOVED/SECONDED that the May 26, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be now adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Resolution 05-26-244

Carried

Certified Correct:

  
Sarah Storey, Mayor

  
Rodney J. Holland, Chief Administrative Officer