



Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Municipal Chambers on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 5:30 pm

Mayor S. Storey presided. Councillors present were A. Fennema, C. LePoidevin, and J. Webb. Councillor J. Jenkinson attended virtually.

Staff present were Chief Administrative Officer R. Holland.

Meeting Called to Order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda:

Mayor Storey called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the agenda.

Resolution 12-13-363

Carried

Delegations & Guests:

Jason Regnier and Dave Johnson – Fraser Lake Forest Consulting – Commercial Thinning Test Plot, Village of Fraser Lake Airport Property

J. Regnier and D. Johnson came to discuss with Council the possibility of commercial thinning in the Fraser Lake Community Forest to mitigate the midterm timber supply issue facing the Community Forest. They explained how benefits of commercial thinning will lead to increased employment and potential revenue for the community.

J. Regnier and D. Johnson have spoken with CAO Holland about this project, and after these conversations they have provided a few different areas up to 35 hectares for the municipality to choose from.

A discussion followed.

Council thanked J. Regnier and D. Johnson for coming to the meeting and told them that they would return to their proposal later in the meeting.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting, November 22, 2023

MOVED/SECONDED that the Council Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2023, be adopted.

Resolution 12-13-364

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes:

None

Councillor Reports:

Mayor Storey

Mayor Storey had a meeting with MP Taylor Bachrach on November 24th to discuss different things going on in the Fraser Lake area and she is looking forward to what comes from this meeting.

Mayor Storey attended the Village of Fraser Lake Christmas Party on December 8th and was happy with the turnout this year. She was grateful to have so many people in attendance to say thank you and farewell to CAO Holland on his upcoming retirement.

Mayor Storey is also looking forward to the new CAO, Ethan Fredeen, starting on December 15th.

Councillor Webb

Councillor Webb attended the Santa Claus Parade on December 1st.

Councillor Webb attended the Village of Fraser Lake Christmas Party at the Legion on December 8th.

Councillor LePoidevin

Councillor LePoidevin had nothing to report.

Councillor Jenkinson

Councillor Jenkinson attended two Silver Birch Lodge meetings to discuss building their relationship with Connexus.

Councillor Jenkinson attended the Village of Fraser Lake Christmas Party on December 8th.

Councillor Fennema

Councillor Fennema watched the Santa Claus Parade from her home on December 1st.

Councillor Fennema attended the Village of Fraser Lake Christmas Party.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Council Reports.

Resolution 12-13-365

Carried

Accounts payable:

The accounting reports were presented.

Council inquired about the WorkSafe BC Compliance charge in the report. CAO Holland responded that this purchase was for safety gear in response to a Technical Safety BC compliance order that came out.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt Accounts Payable and payroll in the amount of \$155,031.01

Resolution 12-13-366

Carried

Correspondence List:

None

Business from the CAO:

FLESS Student Bursary – 2024

CAO Holland received an email from Mrs. Shawn Lank at FLESS regarding the awards available to students graduating from FLESS in June 2024. In the past, the Village has sponsored a \$1,000 bursary based on good citizenship to a graduating student of FLESS who will be continuing to post secondary education: university, college, or trade school.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to continue the \$1,000 bursary for another year and for Staff to fill in the Fraser Lake Elementary Secondary School Scholarship Verification Form by January 17, 2024.

Resolution 12-13-367

Carried

Additions to Reserve Balances

As the Financial Year End draws near, several resolutions are required to maintain funding that was allocated to specified projects in 2023 but will carry over into 2024. By providing these resolutions, these funds will remain available for the named projects in 2024.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the movement of the interest collected in 2023 from the General Bank account to the CERF Reserve in the amount of \$300,000.00.

Resolution 12-13-368

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the movement of \$220,000.00 from the water sales in 2023 to the Water Reserve.

Resolution 12-13-369

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the movement of \$63,000.00 from the sewer sales in 2023 to the Sewer Reserve.

Resolution 12-13-370

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the movement of \$30,000.00 from the trailer court rentals in 2023 to the CERF Reserve.

Resolution 12-13-371

Carried

Additional Spending from Reserve Balances

CAO Holland is seeking resolutions to spend funds from the reserves to finalize some of the projects and purchases from 2023.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize spending from the Community Forest Reserve to cover the amount of overage on the purchase of the Fire Truck. The amount is \$5,872.00.

Resolution 12-13-372

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize spending from the Airport Reserve to cover the amount which was not covered by the BC Air Access Grant. The amount is \$5,458.00.

Resolution 12-13-373

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the spending from the Northern Capital & Planning Grant Reserve to cover the extra amount spent on the Fire Hall concrete pad project. The amount is \$500.00.

Resolution 12-13-374

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to authorize the spending from the Community Forest Reserve to cover the entire cost of the fence that was erected for the storing of the dewatering tubes and liners. The amount is \$11,420.00.

Resolution 12-13-375

Carried

Wastewater Treatment Facility Inspection Report

On October 24, 2023, three Environmental Protection Officers from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy conducted an inspection of the Village Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). A warning letter was issued because of that inspection.

Despite being in non-compliance, the Village has taken steps to remedy the issues so that the WWTF is operating at Ministry standards.

CAO Holland explained how the Village's permit is No. 192 so some of the information listed in it is not what would be included today, but getting re-permitted would cost the Village a significant amount of money.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Wastewater Treatment Facility Inspection Report number 216636.

Resolution 12-13-376

Carried

2024 Canada Summer Jobs – Applications period open

The Canada Summer Jobs program is open for applications. Staff is looking for support from Council to apply for this funding stream as the closing date for applications is January 10th. CAO Holland explained that the Village will be applying for the same positions we have in previous years.

MOVED/SECONDED to apply to the Canada Summer Jobs program for funding up to \$29,425.00 to support summer employment of University and High School Students in the Village of Fraser Lake summer student employment program.

Resolution 12-13-377

Carried

Village of Fraser Lake Housing Needs Assessment

The Village of Fraser Lake completed a Housing Needs Assessment. This report highlights information and statistics related to those living in the Village of Fraser Lake, different amenities people would like to see, reasons people may consider moving away, and background information on the municipality.

A discussion followed.

MOVED/SECONDED to adopt the 2023 Housing Needs Report for the Village of Fraser Lake.

Resolution 12-13-378

Carried

Winter Camp Adventures – Delegation Request

A delegation application has been received from Jon Medd and Michael Souveny, proprietors of Winter Camp Adventures. Winter Camp Adventures has applied for a License of Occupation for a portion of Fraser Lake, but this license does not give the applicants exclusive use of the area. The delegation from Winter Camp Adventures is not scheduled until January 24, 2024.

Council does believe there could be a positive to this proposal through economic development if the impact is not negative for the community.

Council has spoken with the Province about this application.

CAO Holland recommended that Council withholds writing a letter until after the delegation during the January 24 Council meeting.

Council expressed their other concern with the 30-year License of Occupation term, and there is not a test phase to make sure this venture is a good fit for the Village of Fraser Lake and surrounding communities.

MOVED/SECONDED to receive Business from the CAO.

Resolution 12-13-379

Carried

Staff Reports:

None

Reading List:

Minister of Housing – New Legislation to support local government housing initiatives

Council is not sure how the new legislation will impact the Village of Fraser Lake but wants everyone to be aware of what is going on.

CAO Holland informed Council that the recently completed Housing Needs Assessment will hopefully be able to answer some of the questions specific to Fraser Lake. A copy of this report is being sent to the province, so they better understand what the specific needs in Fraser Lake are.

Minister of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation – Response to UBCM delegation

MOVED/SECONDED to receive the Reading List.

Resolution 12-13-380

Carried

New Business:

Winter Maintenance of the Wharf

Council saw a post on Facebook regarding how it would be nice if the Village shoveled off the Wharf in the winter. Council wanted to inquire whether this was something the Village usually did.

CAO Holland replied that the Village does not shovel the wharf in the winter, and it just melts off in the spring.

Driveway Plowing Question

Council had a resident ask why the Village uses a bucket rather than a blade to plow the driveways as a blade would be faster.

A discussion followed.

Curling Rink Temperature

Council received a question from a resident regarding the heating in the Curling Rink as the ice was becoming soft.

Mayor Storey responded this problem is being handled by Public Works, as there is a lot to do so that the heating system is working but is not ruining the ice.

Commercial Thinning Test Plot

Discussion occurred on whether Council had any questions or concerns regarding the Commercial Thinning Test Plot, or if they wanted to move forward with this project.

CAO Holland informed Council that the Community Forest has a mid-term estimated at 50 years. The cut without doing commercial thinning would be minimal, so the Village of Fraser Lake would not be able to generate much work in a five-year period. CAO Holland went on to explain that commercial thinning is as much about local employment as it is about silviculture.

MOVED/SECONDED to accept the proposal for a Commercial Thinning Test Plot at the Village of Fraser Lake Airport Property as it is unless there are changes made by Fraser Lake Forest Consulting.

Resolution 12-13-381

Carried

MOVED/SECONDED to receive New Business.

Resolution 12-13-382

Carried

Bylaws:

The Corporation of the Village of Fraser Lake Council Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 846, 2023. First, Second and Third Readings.

MOVED/SECONDED to conduct the First, Second and Third Reading of The Corporation of the Village of Fraser Lake Council Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 846, 2023.

Resolution 12-13-383

Carried

In Camera:

MOVED/SECONDED to move the Regular Meeting to In Camera at 6:55 pm

As per 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 is information regarding labour relations or other employee relations.

Resolution 12-13-384

Carried

Return to the Regular Meeting:

Return to the Regular Meeting at 7:37 pm

MOVED/SECONDED to have Staff look into having a Refrigeration Safety Awareness Course brought into the Village of Fraser Lake in conjunction with surrounding communities.

Resolution 12-13-387

Carried

Next Meeting of Council:

Regular Meeting January 10, 2024, at 5:30 pm


Adjournment:


MOVED/SECONDED that the December 13, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council adjourn at 7:52 pm.

Resolution 12-13-388

Carried

Certified Correct:


Sarah Storey, Mayor


Ethan Fredeen, Corporate Officer