

**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
in the Municipal Hall**

**Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 5:30 pm
210 Carrier Crescent, Fraser Lake, B.C.
Municipal Chambers**

Members Present: Mayor S. Storey (virtual attendance)
Councillor A. Fennema
Councillor C. LePoidevin
Councillor J. Jenkinson (virtual attendance)
Councillor J. Webb

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer E. Fredeen

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:30PM.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

THAT the February 14th, 2024, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be adopted.

Resolution 2024-02-040

CARRIED

2. Delegations

a. Dave Christie, Regional Manager, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation (JEDI) regarding Community Transition Presentation

Dave Christie presented on what the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation (JEDI) can offer as the Village transitions away from the Fraser Lake Sawmill. JEDI helps with community transition through worker transitions, community supports, and economic development. Dave has been working with Village Staff on grant applications and different ways to retain and attract residents and businesses despite the sawmill closure.

b. Shellie Gleave, Chair, Fraser Lake Eco Co-Op, regarding Eco Co-Op Update

Shellie Gleave presented an update to Council surrounding the Eco Co-Op and ways that the Village can actively get involved with the work she and her team are doing.

The Eco Co-Op that Shellie and her team are working on is a new type of Community Centre; a community hub that will be an ecosystem of supportive networks, community resilience and sustainability. Shellie went

on to explain that the Eco Co-Op has support from the public, four post-secondary institutions, Nadleh Whut'en and Stelat'en First Nation.

Shellie informed Council that at the last board meeting they came up with a list of questions and requests for the municipality.

Shellie offered a formal invitation to Council to get involved with the Eco Co-Op.

CAO Fredeen informed Shellie and Council that the Council Procedures Bylaw No. 784, 2017 section 22-5 states that each delegation presentation shall be limited to twenty (20) minutes, unless a longer period is agreed to by a unanimous vote of those members of Council present.

Moved/Seconded

THAT pursuant to the Council Procedures Bylaw, Council extend Shellie Gleave's delegation by five minutes.

Resolution 2024-02-041

CARRIED

Council asked Shellie to send her list of asks and questions to CAO Fredeen to distribute so that they could read through and have more time to better prepare their answers. Council noted that they will review the requests at a different time to make a decision. Council further expressed the importance of having a feasibility study completed to receive more support.

Council thanked Shellie for attending the Council meeting and said that they are looking forward to working together in the future.

3. Adoption of Minutes

a. January 24th, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes from January 24th, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Resolution 2024-02-042

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

5. Councillor Reports

a. Councillor Fennema

Has been receiving feedback from the Community on the Winter Camp Adventures delegation.

b. Councillor LePoidevin

Nothing to report.

c. Councillor Jenkinson

Councillor Jenkinson reached out to Silver Birch Lodge regarding their next meetings.

d. Councillor Webb

Attended the Library Meeting where they were inquiring about what the Village's responsibility is in terms of snow removal and salting the Library parking lot. They also asked about what the Emergency planning process is between the Village and the Library. Finally at this meeting, one of the board of directors' members asked about why the name was changed from K. Cooke Public Library

e. Mayor Storey

Mayor Storey attended and reported on the following meetings:

- January 25th with the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako
- January 26th with Northern BC Tourism surrounding grant funding and moving Fraser Lake forward
- January 26th Resource Benefit Alliance
- January 27th phone call with MLA John Rustad
- January 29th met with Chief Robert Mitchell surrounding common goals moving forward
- January 29th and February 13th attended the Fraser Lake Community Transition meetings with JEDI and other stakeholders impacted by the closure of the sawmill
- January 30th to February 2nd attended the Local Government Leadership Academy
- February 5th and 12th attended special NCLGA meetings
- February 6th attended the Decriminalization Evaluation Policy meeting and is hopeful of what can come from this policy.
- Attended the Housing Summit in Vancouver and learned a lot about how this will impact the Village of Fraser Lake.

6. Accounts Payable

a. Village of Fraser Lake Cheque Register January 20th to February 7th in the amount of \$163,668.91

CAO Fredeen answered the questions Council asked at the January 24th Council Meeting about the Community Forest. These expenses were on the cheque register due to some work that had been done regarding silviculture.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Village of Fraser Lake Cheque Register from January 20th to February 7th be received for information.

Resolution 2024-02-043

CARRIED

7. Correspondence List

a. **Pete Pearson, President, Trans Canada Yellowhead Association, regarding Call for 2024 Resolutions Notice, dated February 6th, 2024**

Council expressed interest in increased Highway Safety. Some of the safety concerns highlighted during this discussion were:

- Adding crossing lights on the highway where the main crossings take place (Nulki Drive and Carrier Crescent)
- Extending the passing lanes on either side of the community as these lanes are shorter than passing lanes typically are
- Conduct work on turning lane visibility for the lane turning left to Francois Lake as well as the turning lane into the scales before Vanderhoof
- Adding pullouts along the highway in Fraser Lake so larger vehicles can park there instead of on the streets in town.

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council direct Staff to draft a resolution for the 2024 Trans Canada Yellowhead Association Annual General Meeting outlining the discussion had by Council surrounding pullouts, highway corridor safety, and highway crossings for pedestrians.

Resolution 2024-02-044

CARRIED

8. Business from the CAO

a. **Chief Administrative Officer Verbal Update**

The Family Day event will be taking place on February 19th from 11:00AM-3:00PM. Council will be cooking and serving lunch to the public. CAO Fredeen is looking forward to this event.

At the Family Day event, the Village will be advertising for the Town Hall event about the Fraser Lake Sawmill. The Town Hall will take place on February 29th at the FLESS gymnasium. This event is open to all members of the public to come and learn more about the closure of the Fraser Lake Sawmill as well as express their concerns as we navigate the uncertainty.

WorkBC in conjunction with Dave Christie from JEDI and the Village of Fraser Lake will be holding a Career Fair on March 7th from 1:00PM-6:00PM at the Professional Building.

The Village of Fraser Lake currently has two job postings up, one for the Director of Operations and the other for the Economic Development Officer. Both of these postings will be closing on February 29th at 4:30PM.

CAO Fredeen returned to the discussion from Dave Christie's delegation surrounding funding opportunities. There are two Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) funding streams open right now that the Village can apply to develop an economic strategy: REDIP-Economic Capacity and REDIP-Economic Diversification.

Council expressed a desire to have a resolution for the Northern Healthy Communities Capacity Building Grant through NDI for the use of communications support.

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council support the Village's application for the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure, Economic Capacity stream for \$100,000 to support the Village to build economic development capacity.

Resolution 2024-02-045

CARRIED

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council support the Village's application for Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program, Economic Diversification stream to support the funding economic diversification planning and strategic planning for the Village.

Resolution 2024-02-046

CARRIED

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council support the pursuit of the Village of Fraser Lake Northern Healthy Communities Fund Capacity Building Stream for \$36,000 and the Village's share of \$4,000 be approved.

Resolution 2024-02-047

CARRIED

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council receive the verbal report for information.

Resolution 2024-02-048

CARRIED

9. Staff Reports

a. Asset Retirement Policy

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council adopt the Village of Fraser Lake Asset Retirement Obligations Policy as presented.

Resolution 2024-02-049

CARRIED

10. Reading List

- a. **Cindy Shelford, Chair, Nechako-Kitimat Development Fund Society, regarding Notice of Intent to Request 5% Royalties for Power Generation, dated January 12, 2024**
- b. **Debra Lamash, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, BC Hydro, regarding Prince George Glenannan Transmission Project and North Coast Electrification Updates dated January 24th, 2024**
- c. **Steven Kozuki, Executive Director, Forest Enhancement Society of BC, regarding 2023 Year End Update, dated January 26th, 2024**
- d. **Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, regarding Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin dated February 1st, 2024**
- e. **Sharie Minions, Mayor, City of Port Alberni, regarding Pre Hospital Care dated January 9th, 2024**

Moved/Seconded

THAT Council receives items 10.1 to 10.5 for information.

Resolution 2024-02-050

CARRIED

11. New Business

CAO Fredeen recommended that the Eco Co-Op be discussed at a later point in accordance with Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter.

Council inquired if the Village has received any revenue from the partnership with CityWest. CAO Fredeen responded that he and the Director of Finance have been working on this and he will update Council once he knows more.

12. Bylaws

None.

13. In Camera

Council moved to In Camera at 7:16PM.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the meeting is closed to the public at **7:00PM** in accordance with the Community Charter section 90 (1) (k) negotiations, (2) (b) intergovernmental relations and related discussions that in the view of Council could reasonably expect to harm the interest of the municipality if they were held in public.

Resolution 2024-02-051

CARRIED

14. Next Regular Meeting of Council

a. **Rise with Report**

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Village offer the contract award to Western Industrial Contractors (WIC) for the Fraser Lake Curling Rink Retrofit (Phase 2) Project for the amount of \$2,970,893.00.

Resolution 2024-02-059

CARRIED

15. **Adjourn**

Moved/Seconded

THAT the February 14th, 2024 Regular Council Meeting be adjourned at 8:25PM.

Resolution 2024-02-060

CARRIED



Sarah Storey, Mayor



Ethan Fredeen, Corporate Officer