

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 12
July 20, 2021

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

CHRIS IRVIN - MAYOR
LAUREN HANCHAR – COUNCILOR
JOHN DEVRIES – COUNCILOR
THOMAS SLAGER – COUNCILOR
ERIN LABONTE – COUNCILOR

PUBLIC
C.Craft
P.McLeod
J.Carlson
R.Wilkinsn
J.Stackhouse
A.Gagne

ADMINISTRATION

CAM LOCKWOOD – CAO
TERRI CLOSE – Municipal Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Irvin.

AGENDA

MOTION 021-12-95

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte
that:

The Agenda be adopted as amended.

-CARRIED –

MINUTES

MOTION 021-12-96

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte

The minutes be adopted from the last Regular meeting of June 1,2021 as
amended.

-CARRIED –

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MOTION 021-12-97

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar
that:

The Open payables in the amount of \$187,911.74 be paid.

-CARRIED-

DELEGATION

Andre Gagne from YG Energy branch presented Council with information regarding the potential of an electric vehicle fast charger being located at the Town Administration building, and provided justification as to why this location was chosen. YG will be responsible for all costs and liabilities associated for the fast charger and there will be no cost to the Town of Watson Lake as it is energy efficient and will not consume much power or have an impact on the Town of Watson Lake. Council expressed concern with the location and suggested alternative options be explored in the community for a more suitable location. There was also concern regarding efficiency as Watson Lake remains a diesel community. Councilor Labonte advised that a private business in Watson Lake has also expressed an interest in providing an electric vehicle charger. Council agreed that although they approve the concept, there is more time needed for a definite answer and do not want to be in competition with a private business. Mayor Irvin thanked Mr. Gagne for his presentation.

REPORTS

Administration informed Council that ski hill insurance claim has been approved. Work will proceed once the material arrives on site. The chalet repairs will be completed prior to the onset of the ski season.

The pool is closed due to a pump failure. A new pump has been ordered and is in transit from the US, however the supplier cannot locate it, so therefore the pool cannot operate. The waterslide has been open to the public as an alternative. Once the pump arrives, the pool will open for the remainder of the summer season.

There tie-in of the new water and sewer lines at the Municipal Services building is moving ahead. The concrete pour for the sidewalks and entrance has been bumped. The opening of the building has now been delayed to late August or September, however it is still on schedule.

Staff have received training on the backup generator system.

YG Infrastructure advised that funding for inground infrastructure has been approved through ICIP and that an RFP is being drafted.

The Administration building landscape tender closed on July 20th. Details will be provided to Administration of awarding of the contract.

The motor in the excavator at the landfill has failed and needs to be replaced. The cost to rebuild the motor is approximately \$30,000.00.

Two positions at the Administration office have been filled. Kaitlyn McCulloch has been hired for a 6-month term position and Tiffany Lund starts her position on Monday, July 26, 2021.

BY-LAWS

Administration provided Council with an amendment for the Fees & Charges By-law to include a fee of \$450.00/tonne to accept solid waste from outside municipal boundaries.

MOTION 021-12-98

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

By-law 21-04, Being a By-law to consolidate the Fees & Charges be introduced for Third & Final Reading with the addition of the solid waste fee.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 021-12-99

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

By-Law 21-05, being a By-Law to transfer ownership of land be introduced for Third & Final Reading.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 021-12-100

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

By-law 21-06, Being a By-law to provide for Grants be introduced for First & Second Reading.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 021-12-101

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

By-Law 21-07 being a By-Law to regulate the municipal election be introduced for First & Second Reading.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 021-12-102

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

By-Law 21-08, being a By-Law to transfer ownership of land be introduced for First & Second Reading.

-CARRIED-

Council discussed having a Special meeting to finalize Bylaw 21-08 in order for the transfer of to allow the purchaser to proceed with plans to develop the property.

NEW & UNFINISHED

**BY-LAW 09-08,
COUNCILOR INDEMNITIES**

Council discussed By-Law 09-08, being a By-Law to provide for the indemnities and expenses to be paid to Mayor & Council for the Town of Watson Lake. Council reviewed and compared what is paid in other communities. Administration provided recommendations that the By-Law be amended to increase indemnities for the Mayor to \$18,000 annually and Council indemnities be increased to \$10,000 annually. Also, the per diem be increased to \$150.00/day for attending any out of town meetings up to 4 hours with the approval of Council and \$200.00/day for any meetings over 4 hours. Council agreed that it is important that Watson Lake be represented at meetings that occur outside the community. The increase will take effect in the 2022 budget.

MOTION 021-12-103

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The Council Indemnities By-Law to amended with the recommendations as presented and introduced at the next scheduled Council meeting.

CARRIED-

**WL RECREATION ADVISORY
APPOINTMENT**

MOTION 021-12-104

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Council approve the appointment of Kendra Hotson to the Recreation Advisory Committee.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 021-12-105

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Devin Brodhagen & Lindsay Woodhouse be removed from the Recreation Advisory Committee.

-CARRIED-

LANDFILL
AGREEMENT

Administration provided Council with information regarding a decision on the future management of the municipal landfill site and a recommendation that the Town of Watson Lake enter into negotiations with YG to sign a lease agreement covering the current landfill site and negotiate a regional Landfill Agreement with Yukon Government covering shared liability for the future landfill closure and post closure costs and regional waste distribution contributions.

MOTION 021-12-105

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

Council approve the recommendations of the CAO as presented.

-CARRIED-

DRAFT CEMETERY
BY-LAW

Council was in receipt of the draft Cemetery By-law. Council agreed the by-law is very extensive and suggested it be available for public input and posted on the Town Website for feedback.

MOTION 021-12-106

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

Council accept the draft Cemetery-Bylaw as presented.

-CARRIED-

CMG PAYMENT

It was recently discovered that the CMG payment to Watson Lake for 2021 was incorrect and caused an overpayment by \$94,520.00. The correct amount Watson Lake should have received for their 2021 CMG was, \$2,225,791.00. The Town of Watson Lake has agreed to provide full repayment of the \$94,250.00 by January 30, 2022.

WYE LAKE
TRAIL LETTER

Council was in receipt of a letter expressing concerns with the Wye Lake trail and damage that has been caused due to motor vehicle traffic. The trail has become a major safety concern and has caused erosion due to increased ATV's utilizing the trail. Council addressed various options that may help solve the situation such as placing barricades at various entrances to the trail system. Council also addressed the concern expressed with the debris that is left at the beach where the Hallowe'en fireworks are set off. Council agreed that more discussion is needed on how to make use of Wye Lake Trail as it is an asset for the Town of Watson Lake and suggested that this item be addressed in the 2022 budget. Council agreed that the Firework debris be removed after the Hallowe'en event.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council was in receipt of a letter from the RCMP Critical Incident Program thanking the Town for allowing the use of the property at 807 Lakeview Avenue for them to conduct training exercises during the week of June 14,2021.

Jordan Stackhouse, Community Advisor, addressed the Recplex roof repairs and suggested a letter be forwarded to the Minister requesting that funding for this situation be explored.

**COUNCILOR
OPEN FORUM**

Councilor Labonte expressed concern with the upkeep of the Town parks and maintenance of the lawns. The staff have not been able to keep up with mowing and maintenance and suggested that the Town consider hiring an addition staff member to help. Administration advised that summer Parks staff were hired but unfortunately it has not worked out. She addressed the Ball Diamond and specific concerns with the grass and the infield that need to be redone as it has become a safety matter.

Councilor Labonte discussed the situation with the shortage of Elementary school teachers in Watson Lake and suggested a letter be sent to the Department of Education to address this issue. Councilor Labonte agreed to prepare a letter on behalf of Council.

Councilor Devries addressed the Ace Asphalt property and requested an update. Administration advised that a complaint has been registered with YG Department of Environmental to address this matter. Councilor Devries expressed concern with liability on this property going forward. Councilor Devries also informed Administration that the fire hydrant at the Seniors Facility is a safety concern as it does not have bollards in place. Administration advised that work is being done to address this matter.

Mayor Irvin discussed the dedication for the new Municipal Services building and would like to move forward with this. Council suggested that a survey be put to the public for input and submissions.

**GALLERY
OPEN FORUM**

Ruth Wilkinson suggested that the WL Chamber of Commerce be invited to write a letter to accompany the Town letter to the Department of Education regarding the teacher shortage in Watson Lake.

Patti McLeod inquired about when Council meetings will be open to the Public now that Covid regulations are being relaxed. Administration will need to review the COVID guidelines going forward.

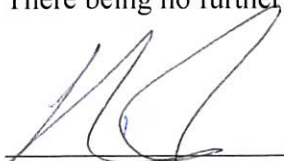
Jordan Stackhouse commented on the upcoming Municipal Election being held in October and thanked Mayor & Council for their support during their 3-year term and the progress that they have made. The OCP and land issues continue to move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 021-12-107

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte
that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.



Chris Irvin – Mayor

- CARRIED -



Terri Close – Municipal Clerk