

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 12  
June 16, 2020

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

CHERYL O'BRIEN - MAYOR  
CHRIS IRVIN - COUNCILOR  
LAUREN HANCHAR - COUNCILOR  
THOMAS SLAGER - COUNCILOR  
ERIN LABONTE - COUNCILOR (Zoom)

PUBLIC  
R.Wilkinson  
A.Spencer  
S.Crosby

ADMINISTRATION

CAM LOCKWOOD - CAO  
TERRI CLOSE - Municipal Clerk  
SHANNON BERGERON - Finance Officer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor O'Brien.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION 020-12-105**

Moved by Councilor Irvin, seconded by Councilor Hanchar  
that:

The Agenda be amended to increase the amount of the Accounts Payable to  
\$203,329.99.

-CARRIED -

**MINUTES**

**MOTION 020-12-106**

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Slager  
that:

The minutes be adopted from the Regular meeting of May 19, 2020.

-CARRIED-

**ACCOUNTS  
PAYABLE**

**MOTION 020-12-107**

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Irvin  
that:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$203,329.99 be paid.

-CARRIED -

**NEW & UNFINISHED**

**LOTTERIES FUNDING  
APPROVAL**

Councilor Labonte declared a conflict and did not participate in this discussion.

**MOTION 20-12-108**

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Irvin  
that:

Council approve the Lotteries funding application for Liard Golf Association in  
the amount of \$3,000.00.

-CARRIED-

Mayor O'Brien addressed the lottery guidelines and a suggestion to amend the guidelines to allow the consideration of an applicant's request for the use of invoices or purchase orders as opposed to funding being paid upon submission of receipts.

Councilor Labonte advised that the Recreation Advisory Committee is reviewing the guidelines and will be making recommendations to the lottery guidelines.

PROPERTY LIENS/  
PROCEDURES

Administration provided Council with an update on two properties in the municipality that the Town has acquired title through the tax lien process. Council reviewed the town policy for disposing of lands and discussed options on whether to retain the properties or to sell them by advertising to the public for a reserve bid to be established by Council. Administration advised that Yukon Housing has expressed an interest in acquiring the property at 807 Lakeview Avenue. There is a significant amount of taxes outstanding against the property, and the Town has been dealing with a number of issues since acquiring title. Council suggested that Administration prepare a report with recommendations on disposing of the properties to be discussed at the July 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 20-12-109

Moved by Councilor Irvin, seconded by Councilor Hanchar  
that:

Council go In-Camera with Angela Spencer of BDO.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 20-12-110

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Irvin  
that:

Council revert to an Open meeting.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 20-12-111

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar  
that:

Council adopt the 2019 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

-CARRIED-

REPORTS

CAO REPORT

Administration provided the following update:

- The Administration building renovations are ongoing, staff have relocated into temporary offices until the main office area is complete.
- There have been several water line breaks recently, resulting in extra cost to the Town for the repairs.
- Interviews were held for the EO1 operator position. The position was offered and will be filled on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

- There have been two layoffs at the Recplex as a result of COVID19.
- YVR has expressed an interest in reopening to the public July 1<sup>st</sup>. Liard First Nation has concerns with travelling public in the community. Administration has been in discussion regarding the potential opening of the centre and procedures necessary if to re-open. Approval is required from Council in order to proceed.
- The tender for the Firehall closes on June 28<sup>th</sup>.
- YG Dept. of Highways has graveled and put calcium on Frank Trail towards Tundra Helicopters.
- The District Heat funding application for the RFP for the review of expanding the system has been submitted.
- The Town of Watson Lake website is in the final stages of being complete with a few updates prior to the domain being transferred.

**COUNCILOR**  
**OPEN FORUM**

Councilor Hanchar enquired whether the Town Spring cleanup program had been completed, and was advised that all designated areas had been cleaned. The landfill site is now being cleaned of garbage, and a cover for the active face at the landfill will prevent garbage from scattering.

Councilor Labonte enquired as to when the boulevards would be mowed and was advised that there was a delay as a result of problems with both the mower and sweeper.

Councilor Labonte suggested the Town acquire Pride flags next year to be placed along the Alaska highway corridor at the same time as the other Town flags.

Mayor O'Brien addressed the potential re-opening of the Visitor Information Centre as Yukon is looking to again allow the free flow of people between the territory and neighbouring B.C., starting in July. Councilor Irvin suggested that as members of the community had lost employment with the closure of the facility, it would be in the best interest to reopen the VRC to allow them to return to work. As the Recplex is closed to the public due to COVID19, Council discussed ways to restrict access to other areas of the facility if the VRC was to reopen. Council directed Administration to proceed and work out the details if the VRC is to reopen.

Mayor O'Brien discussed scheduling Council meetings for the summer months and suggested one meeting be held in both July and August.

**MOTION 20-12-112**

Moved by Councilor Irvin, seconded by Councilor Slager  
that:

Council schedule the Regular Council meetings for the third Tuesday of July and August.

-CARRIED-

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION 20-12-113**

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Irvin  
that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 pm.

- CARRIED -

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Cheryl O'Brien – Mayor

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Terri Close – Municipal Clerk