TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 15 September 7, 2021

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

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

PUBLIC J.Carlson R.Wilkinson P.McLeod L.Bruce D.Stubenberg Z.Morrison

ADMINISTRATION

CAM LOCKWOOD – CAO TERRI CLOSE – Municipal Clerk

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

AGENDA

MOTION 021-15-123

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Devries that:

The Agenda be adopted as amended to include.

#7. Admin Report - Naming of Municipal Services Building.

-CARRIED -

MINUTES

MOTION 021-15-124

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte

The minutes be adopted from the last Regular meeting of August 17,2021 as presented.

-CARRIED -

MOTION 021-15-125

Moved by Councilor Devries, seconded by Councilor Slager

The minutes be adopted from the last Special meeting of August 31,2021 as amended that Councilor Labonte was not in attendance.

-CARRIED -

DELEGATION

Zoe Morrison from Stantec provided Council with an update on the revised Official Community Plan. Several public events were held in addition to meetings with the OCP Focus Group and an online survey was available for public comment. Changes have been made to the OCP to reflect input that was received. A simplified version of the OCP maps identifying land use designations were provided and discussed. A list of all action items was reviewed. Council agreed the importance of collaborative planning with Liard First Nation.

Mayor Irvin thanked Zoe and expressed appreciation for her efforts and hard work as it was a long process during a tough time and he is excited to move forward on completing the Official Community Plan. Zoe will forward the revised Zoning Bylaw once she has received word from Administration.

MOTION 021-15-126

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The Open payables in the amount of \$312,538.68 be paid.

-CARRIED-

REPORTS
CAO REPORT

Administration informed Council that he has been working with YG Lands Branch on the agreement for development of the Frances Avenue lots. The tender documents are ready to be released for work to start in the spring. A meeting was held between YG and LFN on the Frances Avenue development.

Meetings with Solvest, 1st Kaska and Kaska Forest Resources were held to begin working on a develop proposal for a 31acre solar farm at the former Kaska Forest Property.

Discussion took place with Kaska 1st Nation regarding their proposed Cultural Centre to be developed on the former WL Hotel site. They have hired a consultant to work on this project. More discussion will take place as there are many details to be worked out.

The Town of Watson Lake is no longer the owner of the Lakeview Apartments. Yukon Government has taken over the property and tender documents have been issued which close this week to begin demolition of the building.

The swimming pool is operational and is working well with much interest from the public using the facility. It is the intention to run the pool as long as possible.

The week of September 20th Clean Energy will be testing the district heat system. This will include mapping of the exact locations of the pipes which we currently do not have. There is discussion with YG and the Yukon Hospital Corporation on the possibility of expanding the district heat system.

ADMIN REPORT

Council was in receipt of the Administration report regarding the naming of the WL Municipal Services Building. The results of the recent survey are in favour of using a Kaska word or phrase in the building name. It is important to the Liard First Nation that the Kaska language be more visible throughout the community.

MOTION 021-15-127

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

Council approve the recommendation to leave the name of the building, Town of Watson Lake Municipal Services and incorporate a Kaska translation that reflects the use of the building into the signage.

-CARRIED-

TENDERS

One tender was received for the propane fuel contract.

MOTION 021-15-128

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

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Council accept the tender from Superior Propane for the fixed rate of \$0.773/litre effective September 1,2021 to August 31,2022.

-CARRIED-

BY-LAWS

MOTION 021-15-129

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

By-Law 21-09, the Council Indemnities By-Law be introduced for Third & Final Reading.

-CARRIED-

MOTION 021-15-130

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

By-Law 21-10, being a By-Law to adopt a revised Official Community Plan be introduced for First Reading.

-CARRIED-

Administration informed Council that By-Law 21-10 will go to a Public Hearing at the October 5th Council meeting.

NEW & UNFINISHED

CAMPBELL BLOCK SITE LEVELLING

Council was provided with information from Colliers relating to two proposals that were received for the Campbell Block Site re-grading.

This project is funded through Gas tax.

1) Northern Enviro Services

\$44,440.00 plus GST

2) Iyon Kechika Contracting

\$53,999.00 plus GST

MOTION 021-15-131

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Council accept the recommendation from Colliers Project Leaders to award the regrading of the former hotel site to Northern Enviro Services.

-CARRIED -

NLC ROOF REPLACEMENT

Council was provided with information from Colliers relating to a proposal that was received for the Northern Lights roof replacement.

CIMS Limited Partnership

\$129,572.86 plus GST

MOTION 021-15-132

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

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Council accept the recommendation from Colliers Project Leaders to award the Northern Lights roof replacement to CIMS Limited Partnership.

-CARRIED

WL RECREATION ADVISORY FUNDING MINUTES

MOTION 21-15-133

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

Council approve the minutes from the Recreation Advisory Committee August lotteries intake as presented.

-CARRIED-

Councilor Labonte addressed concerns with various applications being submitted for ineligible items as per the lotteries guidelines, and suggested a workshop be held for applicants to review the guidelines.

YG ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATION

Councilor Hanchar had requested this item be brought back to Council for discussion as it was unresolved. Councilor Slager suggested the Northern Lights Centre property as a suitable location for the electric car charging station. Administration informed Council that if the Town is not interested in having it located at a Town facility, Yukon Government will install the electric car charging station at their Property Management site as an alternative location. Administration advised that 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. Mayor Irvin addressed the request and would prefer to have it located at one of the Town facilities.

MOTION 021-15-134

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The YG Electric Car Charging station be located at the Northern Lights Centre.

-CARRIED-

Opposed: Councilor Labonte

DAYLU DENA MUNICIPAL SIGNAGE

Council discussed a letter from Deputy Chief Harlan Schilling regarding a project he would like to address with Council to have the Kaska Language included in public signage throughout the town of Watson Lake. Council was in agreement to include the Kaska Language in public signage throughout the town of Watson Lake, and suggested a meeting be scheduled with Deputy Chief Harlan to discuss further.

RCMP POLICING REPORTS

Council acknowledged receipt of the RCMP Policing reports and suggested the RCMP be invited to attend the October 5th Council meeting.

COUNCILOR OPEN FORUM

Councilor Devries addressed the curling rocks that belong to the Town of Watson Lake and are used by the Curling Club.

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He questioned who is responsible to have the rocks sharpened. Administration suggested Council Devries address this matter with the Recreation Manager to have the cost identified in the budget.

GALLERY OPENFORUM

Mayor Irvin invited comments from the Public.

Ruth Wilkinson enquired as to when the Council meetings would be open to the public to attend. Administration informed the meetings are now open to the public with reserved seating limited to three people and must be booked in advance. Ruth also requested that she be added to the list of people that the agenda is sent.

Lelah Bruce enquired about the recreation roof repairs and when work would be slated to start on this project. Administration advised that a letter has been sent to the Minister to address funding for the repairs as the cost is estimated at \$3 million. There has been no response to date therefore there will be roof replacement this year.

Dalyce Stubenberg asked about the solar panels on Town owned buildings and was advised the solar panels strictly feed back into the building and is not used for any other purpose.

Patti McLeod questioned the Yukon Lottery funding which the Town receives annually and whether any unspent funds have to be returned to Yukon Lotteries. Administration advised that any funding not spent at year end is obligated to be returned. She suggested the recipients be posted on the Town website.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 021-15-135

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.

- CARRIED -

Lauren Hanchar – Deputy Mayor

Terri Close - Municipal Clerk