

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 17
September 15, 2020

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

CHRISTOPHER IRVIN –MAYOR
LAUREN HANCHAR – COUNCILOR
THOMAS SLAGER – COUNCILOR (zoom)
ERIN LABONTE – COUNCILOR

PUBLIC
J.Brown – Zoom
R.Wilkinson – Zoom
J.Bruce - Zoom
J.Devries - Zoom
Crpl. Jackson/Cnst. Richards
J.Stackhouse - Zoom

ADMINISTRATION

CAMERON LOCKWOOD – CAO
TERRI CLOSE – Municipal Clerk

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

AGENDA

MOTION 020-17-143

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte
that:

The Agenda be accepted as presented.

-CARRIED –

MINUTES

MOTION 020-17-144

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar
that:

The minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 1, 2020 be adopted with an amendment that Biolivenergy is interested in operating a greenhouse plant in the community.

-CARRIED –

REPORTS

CAO REPORT

Administration informed Council that the new the firehall/Public Works facility is moving forward and the concrete floor install will be completed shortly.

The consultant that has been hired to work on a plan to upgrade the cemetery and prepare a design concept plan for the Administration Building will be in Watson Lake October 6th & 7th.

Work is proceeding by YG Energy Branch for an RFP to develop a proposal to provide the Town the means to evaluate options related to increasing the system size and distribution of the Watson Lake Waste Heat Capture system. A report will be provided to Council in January.

The municipal office will be moved back to its original location and re-open to the public in that area by the end of the week.

There have been problems at the SRS station with an overload of disposable hand wipes that plugged the system. Town staff are working on the system to have the problem resolved.

The new skidsteer is to arrive at the end of September, and the boom mower has been purchased.

Zoe Morrison of Stantec will be in Watson Lake October 6th to present the draft OCP to Council as well as presentation to the Chamber of Commerce and the OCP Committee.

DELEGATION

RCMP

Corporal Jackson introduced Constable Tyson Richards as the newest member of the detachment. Council was presented with the August monthly policing report and reviewed various situations that occurred throughout the month and comparisons to the number of incidents from the previous year. Council thanked Corporal Jackson and welcomed Constable Richards.

ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE

MOTION 020-17-145

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$179,127.10 be paid.

-CARRIED-

BY-LAWS

MOTION 020-17-146

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

By-Law 20-12, being a By-law to Amend Zoning By-Law 15-07 be introduced for First Reading.

-CARRIED-

NEW &
UNFINISHED

COMMUNITY SERVICES
GRANT POLICY

Council reviewed the amended Community Services Grant policy that provides guidelines for granting property taxes to non-profit charitable organizations and agreed to the amendments and that the Organizations would have to apply annually.

MOTION 020-17-147

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Council approve the Community Services Grant Policy as amended.

-CARRIED-

PUBLIC AUCTION

Council discussed the property at 807 Lakeview Avenue that was seized under the Property Taxation Act and offered for sale by public auction. No bids or proposals were received. The property poses an extreme liability for the Town, both in fire risk & personal injury. Administration is recommending to utilize gas tax funding to contract a Project Management firm to proceed with plans for the demolition of the property. Council expressed concern with the cost to demolish the building and Councilor Labonte suggested that local companies be involved in the demolition. Councilor Hanchar had a concern with the cost and how to proceed and suggested that there be public consultation on the matter.

MOTION 020-17-148

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

Council table the discussion on the disposal of 807 Lakeview Avenue to the next Council meeting of October 6,2020.

-CARRIED-

PUBLIC AUCTION

Council discussed the property at 941 Nahanni Drive that was offered for sale by public auction. This property was seized under the Property Taxation Act. The Town's reserve bid was \$7,180.00. One bid was received.

MOTION 020-17-149

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The Town accept the bid from Katherine & Danny Durocher in the amount of \$7,400.00

-CARRIED-

RECREATION
START-UP PLAN

Administration provided Council with a proposal and recommendations for a start-up plan for the re-opening of the Recreation Centre during COVID 19. Council discussed the proposal and provided feedback. There are several restrictions that will be in place with the ongoing COVID pandemic which limits the number of people and events, and the hours of operation. Council agreed the plan does provide the ability to move forward to offer recreation this winter and to have the option to readdress the plan as circumstances change.

MOTION 020-17-150

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Council approve the recommendations from Administration to open the recreation Centre for modified use 5 days per week.

-CARRIED-

Council suggested that the Community be informed of the re-opening of the Recreation Centre and suggest that groups work to use the building with the support of the Rec staff.

**COUNCILOR
OPEN FORUM**

Councilors Hanchar and Labonte attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting. The Chamber has requested more involvement from the Town and suggested a written report provided by the CAO would be beneficial.

Councilor Hanchar enquired when Council would have the opportunity to provide input into the Official Community Plan rewrite and suggest that the potential lot development could be addressed at that time.

Councilor Slager discussed the Signpost Forest and some ideas that he would like considered for the 2021 budget. Councilor Labonte suggested that he provide his ideas to the Tourism review committee.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 020-17-151

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.

-CARRIED –

Chris Irvin – Mayor

Terri Close – Municipal Clerk

