

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 19
October 20, 2020

ATTENDANCE

CHRIS IRVIN – MAYOR
LAUREN HANCHAR – COUNCILOR
THOMAS SLAGER – COUNCILOR
ERIN LABONTE – COUNCILOR

ABSENT

PUBLIC
Ruth Wilkinson
Jordan Stackhouse – Zoom
Elise Pendelbury - Zoom
John Devries - Zoom
Jim Holt – Zoom
Brenda Leach - Zoom

ADMINISTRATION

CAMERON LOCKWOOD – CAO
GRO BRODERSEN – Acting Municipal Clerk

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

AGENDA

MOTION 020-19-159

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Slager that:

The Agenda be adopted as amended to include:

#13 – Oath of Office for Mayor Christopher Irvin

Correspondence – Energy retrofit loan program letter from Minister Streicker’s office.
FASSY Group - storage space for project
Copy of letter from Dr. Tanis Secerbegovic to Yukon Housing
Yukon University – meeting with Mayor Irvin

- CARRIED -

Page 2.

MINUTES

MOTION 020-19-160

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

The minutes be adopted from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 6, 2020 with the amendment to Page 3 under New & Unfinished – Disposal of Property to change the last sentence to read “Council agreed to work in collaboration with LFN and to table the discussion on the disposal of 807 Lakeview Avenue to the next Council meeting of October 20th with recommendations from Administration.

- CARRIED –

PUBLIC HEARING

By-Law 20-12

MOTION 020-19-161

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

The Public Hearing for By-Law 20-12, being a By-Law to amend Zoning By-Law 15-07 be opened.

The change of the Land Use designation of a 3.63 hectare parcel of land described as Kilometer .2 on the Garden Creek Road from Land Treatment Facility (M3) to Heavy Industrial (M2).

There were no written or verbal submissions.

- CARRIED –

MOTION 020-19-162

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The Public Hearing for By-Law 20-12, being a By-Law to amend Zoning By-Law 15-07 be closed.

- CARRIED –

REPORTS

CAO Report

CAO Cam Lockwood reported that the election had 357 voters for the Mayor By-Election with Christopher Irvin being elected. The By-Election for the vacant Councilor position is being prepared with Nomination Day being November 12, 2020. There will be a Mobile Poll on December 1, 2020 and the General Poll will be on December 3, 2020.

Administration advised that Johnson Builders is progressing well on the new Fire Hall/ Public Works building with three walls up. They are currently awaiting their steel order.

There will be an energy upgrade for the Recreation Centre with funding in place. All the lighting will be replaced. The Northern Lights Centre is also being considered for an energy upgrade. There is a 75% rebate on energy upgrades. The upgrades can be put into the Capital Budget.

There will be an increase in insurance rates due to COVID.

Charlie Crane, Fire Chief will be back to work on Monday October 26, 2020.

**ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE**

MOTION 020-19-163

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$170,887.57 be paid.

- CARRIED -

BY-LAWS

By-Law 20-12

MOTION 020-19-164

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Slager that:

By-Law 20-12, being a By-Law to amend the Zoning By-Law 15-07 be introduced for Second Reading.

- CARRIED -

Page 4.

By-Law 20-13

MOTION 020-19-165

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

By-Law 20-13, being a By-Law to transfer ownership of land be introduced for Third and Final Reading.

- CARRIED -

By-Law 20-14

MOTION 020-19-166

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

By-Law 20-14, being a By-Law to amend the Official Community Plan be introduced for First Reading.

This By-Law is to change the designation of Hinterland to Residential Country for the purpose of accommodating a ten lot subdivision.

- CARRIED -

By-Law 20-15

MOTION 020-19-167

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

By-Law 2015, being a By-Law to regulate the 2020 Municipal Councilor By-Election be introduced for First and Second Reading.

- CARRIED -

Council discussed the By-Election. Nominations must be in by November 12, 2020 with the By-Election being held on December 3, 2020. COVID protocols will be in place.

Page 5.

By-Law 20-16

MOTION 020-19-168

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

By-Law 20-16, being a By-Law to amend Zoning By-Law 15-07, be introduced for First Reading.

- CARRIED -

**NEW &
UNFINISHED**

Disposal of Property –
807 Lakeview Ave.

Administration explained that discussions have been ongoing with Yukon Housing regarding the Lakeview Apartments property. Yukon Housing will let us know their decision by October 27, 2020. Administration recommends the Town hold an auction for the sale of the property.

MOTION 020-19-169

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

Council requests Administration move forward with the disposal of the property at 807 Lakeview Avenue with consultation from Government of Yukon.

- CARRIED -

Resignation of
Councilor
Christopher Irvin

Councilor Irvin ran for Mayor in the By-Election of October 3, 2020 and was the successful candidate.

MOTION 020-19-170

Moved by Councilor Hanchar, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Council accept the resignation of Councilor Christopher Irvin.

- CARRIED -

Page 6.

Swearing In and
Oath of Office

Ruth Wilkinson, Justice of the Peace, attended the Swearing In of Christopher Irvin as the Mayor. Mayor Irvin read out his Oath of Office.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Minister
Of Highways –
Streetlight
Installation

Minister Richard Mostyn sent a letter regarding a request for street light installation from Ravenhill Drive to Two ½ Mile. Administration read the letter out. There is not enough volume of traffic to warrant the installation.

Council suggested the letter be sent to all Watson Lakers by a mail drop and be put in the Town Crier and on the website. Council would like to see the guidelines and criteria for street light installation. Council also suggested a By-Law requiring street lights must be installed within a certain distance from Town.

Letter from
Minister of
Community Services

The Town received a letter from Minister John Streicker regarding the proposed energy-efficiency retrofit loan program. The program will provide low cost loans for Yukoners to make their properties more energy efficient and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Council discussed the Local Improvement Tax associated with this program and the burden it may put on municipal governments. This cost could be apportioned over time to ease the burden. If a property is sold then the Local Improvement Tax remains with the property. Community Services is looking for a solution and are organizing a workshop for communities.

MOTION 020-19-171

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Labonte that:

Administration appoint an official for the retro-fit program.

- CARRIED -

Page 7.

FASSY Group

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society Yukon is providing food hampers to those in need in the communities. They will require space to store the food used in the hampers. Northern Enviro has offered a walk-in freezer. The Town of Watson Lake is willing to donate space as well.

Letter to Yukon
Housing

Dr. Tanis Secerbegovic sent a letter to Yukon Housing regarding their pet policy in rental units. When nurses and doctors are recruited to work in Watson Lake and are living in Yukon Housing they are only allowed one pet and were unaware of this policy. We have struggled to get the doctors and nurses here and we do not want to lose those professionals. Administration will draft a letter to be included on the next Agenda.

Yukon University
Meeting

Yukon University would like to meet with Mayor Irvin on October 27 to discuss upcoming training goals.

COUNCILOR
OPEN FORUM

Council discussed the upgrades to the Northwestel internet system which would increase both uploads and downloads.

Council inquired about the CAO House. Administration explained that we are still recruiting for an Operations Manager for Public Works and that person may need housing. The position would not include operating equipment and an engineering background would be preferred. Administration would like to hire a recruiting firm to fill this position.

Council suggested energy upgrades could also be done at the Ski Chalet. Clarification could be sought from Energy Solutions. Administration explained that there is a 25% deposit required beforehand and the Chalet is not high priority.

Discussion took place regarding the solar panels on the Town administrative building. There is a micro generation program and any excess power can be put on the grid with a revenue of three cents per kilowatt. There are 18 panels and most of the energy would be gathered in the summer months.

Page 8.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 020-19-172

Moved by Councilor Labonte, seconded by Councilor Hanchar that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.

- CARRIED -

Christopher Irvin – Mayor

Terri Close – Municipal Clerk