

**TOWN OF WATSON LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 6:00 PM**

**MEETING NO. 14
June 20, 2023**

ATTENDANCE

*Electronic attendance **

Christopher Irvin – Mayor
Lauren Hanchar – Councillor
Dale Burdes – Councillor
Denina Paquette – Councillor

Administration
Shannon Bergeron – Acting CAO
Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk

Delegation
Jordan Stackhouse – Elevator Yukon *

Public
J. Carlson

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

AGENDA

MOTION 023-14-110

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The Agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

MINUTES

MOTION 023-14-111

Moved by Councillor Burdes, seconded by Councillor Hanchar THAT:

The draft minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting of June 6, 2023, be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

PAYABLES

MOTION 023-14-112

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$99,056.22 be approved and paid.

- CARRIED -

DELEGATION

**Elevator Yukon
Housing Accelerator Fund**

Jordan Stackhouse attended the meeting to continue discussions about the Federal Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) and to receive direction from Council on the initiatives to include in the funding Town's application. After an in-depth discussion, Council resolved that the following initiatives be included in the funding application:

- Grant to support new construction, new purchase, and/or infrastructure development and expansions
- Grant to support secondary rental suites
- Organizational capacity building; staffing, implementation, policy creation, etc.
- Market analysis and barrier solutions; assessments, appraisal data access, financing analysis, etc.
- Land development/economic development
- Zoning Bylaw Review

Stackhouse will compile information and present at the July 4, 2023, Council Meeting for input and further direction.

REPORTS
CAO Report

Administration provided a Parks and Recreation department update, sharing that the pool was ready to open but the operating permit application was still under review. Canada Day event planning well underway with the celebrations being held at Wye Lake Park. Discovery Day planning had started, and the Rec Programmer was working on other camps and activities for the summer. Roof repairs underway and bowling alley floor replacement starting July 10th. NLC hours were extended and usage increasing with an average of 50 visitors per day.

The utilities and Public Works department have completed various waterline digs with one more scheduled, Administration explained.

Administration updated Council on larger projects; two bids were received for the Inground Infrastructure Tender. The bids were under review by YG, who has sixty days to award. Council would like to pressure YG to award the contract as soon as possible. The Frances Ave Lift Station Tender closing was postponed to July 6th and the Frances Avenue Development Tender was postponed to June 29th.

The warranty for the Town Office Landscaping project ends at the end of August. YG will complete an assessment to ensure all conditions are met.

Council invited to the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations in Lower Post on June 21st.

**Admin Report #23-08
Yukon 125 Fund**

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report with recommended projects for a Yukon 125 Fund application. Council was in support of the recommendations for an art installation or the replacement of the Signpost Forest Sign. After further discussion it was decided that an art installation project, with a partnership with Liard First Nation and/or Daylu Dena Council, would be a more suitable project for this fund and supports Council's priority of First Nation Partnerships and community beautification. Council would like the art installation on the Northern Lights Centre exterior.

MOTION 023-14-113

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Council direct Administration to submit an application to the Yukon 125 Fund for an art installation project for the exterior of the Northern Lights Centre.

- CARRIED -

**Admin Report #23-07
Trailer Demolition**

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report and recommendations regarding the demolition of mobile homes for which clean-up orders had been issued. Bylaw requested that Council waive tipping fees for these property owners as they have communicated that it is too expensive to complete the demolitions. Council discussed the matter at length and expressed concern about offering special arrangements and setting precedent. There was also discussion about the tipping fees being a small fraction of the total cost to demolish the properties. Council may consider an alternative such as a payment plan and asked Administration to come back with a new recommendation for consideration.

MOTION 023-14-114

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Council table the discussion regarding waiving tipping fees to the July 4, 2023, Council Meeting.

- CARRIED -

NEW & UNFINISHED

**Sponsorship Request
NAIG Athletes**

Council was in receipt of a sponsorship request from four local youth athletes who will be competing in the North American Indigenous Games. Funds would be used to assist with travel expenses. Council discussed the request and resolved that Council does not typically fund such things and asked Administration if the athletes would qualify for the Community

Lottery Fund. As the athletes could qualify for Community Lottery Funding, Council asked Administration to discuss the option further with the athletes.

MOTION 023-14-115

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Council direct Administration to assist NAIG attendees in applying to the Community Lottery Fund.

- CARRIED -

**Letter of Support
LFN Resiliency Gathering**

Liard First Nation requested a letter of support for a funding application to support a Resiliency Gathering being held in Watson Lake.

MOTION 023-14-116

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Council provide a Letter of Support to Liard First Nation for their Resiliency Gathering funding application.

- CARRIED -

**Letter of Support
TNDC/CityWest Fibre-Optic Network**

Tahltan Nation Development Corporation and CityWest requested a letter of support for their fibre-optic network project and funding application through the CRTC.

MOTION 023-14-117

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Paquette THAT:

Council provide a Letter of Support to TNDC and CityWest for their application to the CRTC for the fibre-optic network project.

- CARRIED -

COUNCILLOR OPEN FORUM

Councillor Hanchar:

- Provided an update on an AYC meeting that was held to tie up lose ends prior to summer break. A consultant was hired to complete an analysis of the CMG and AYC

had received a first draft and was under review. Once AYC feedback has been received the draft report will be shared with the communities for input.

Councillor Paquette:

- Commended Town employees on their work maintaining community spaces and roadways.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 023-14-118

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Council move to an In-Camera Meeting.

- CARRIED -

MOTION 023-14-119

Moved by Councillor Burdes, seconded by Councillor Hanchar THAT:

Council revert back to an Open Meeting.

- CARRIED -

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 023-14-120

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.

- CARRIED -



Lauren Hanchar – Deputy Mayor


Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk