

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

MEETING NO. 11  
May 28, 2024

**ATTENDANCE**

*Electronic attendance \**

Christopher Irvin – Mayor \*  
Lauren Hanchar – Deputy Mayor  
Dale Burdes – Councillor  
Denina Paquette – Councillor  
Thomas Slager – Councillor

**Administration**

Cam Lockwood – Chief Administrative Officer  
Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk  
Shannon Bergeron- Finance Comptroller

**Public**

P. Agana	B. Walters *	P. McLeod *
P. Carson	A. Miller *	

**Delegation**

Angela Spencer – BDO Canada LLP  
Randy & Janice Carlson  
Jordan Stackhouse – Elevator Yukon  
Graham White – Northern Focus Consulting \*

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

**AGENDA**

**MOTION 024-011-086**

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

The Agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

**MINUTES**

**MOTION 024-011-087**

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

The draft minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 14, 2024, be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

**PAYABLES**

**MOTION 024-011-088**

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$184,759.65 be approved and paid.

- CARRIED -

**DELEGATION**  
**BDO 2023 Financial Audit**

Angela Spencer of BDO Canada LLP provided Council with the substantial 2023 Financial Audit report and Financial Statements for review and approval. The audit found no significant deficiencies to report, and all accounting processes were found to be in line with Canadian standards. Spencer spoke to the new standard required for asset retirement obligations, as well as the increase to assets which were mainly attributed to taking ownership of the Municipal Services Building and investment income. Administration asked Spencer to clarify the \$1.1M surplus which show as a cash surplus. Spencer explained that the surplus was mainly due to outstanding 2022 receivables showing in cash balances and was not an actual cash surplus. Council asked for further information about investment accounts and investment rebalancing.

**MOTION 024-011-089**

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Mayor Irvin THAT:

Council accept the 2023 Financial Audit Report and Financial Statements as presented.

- CARRIED -

**Randy & Janice Carlson**  
**Development Permit**

Randy and Janice Carlson addressed Council regarding a revoked development permit for the development of a house on Lot 1138, Plan 2014-0085. The Carlsons shared information about the proposed development, a timeline of events since the permit was issued, costs associated with the work that had been completed prior to the development permit being revoked, information about allowances for Airport zoned properties in BC, and a letter of support from the business owners operating the adjacent floatplane base along with a breakdown of their working relationship with the Carlsons. The Carlsons believe that a house is an allowable principal use as accommodation for flight and maintenance crews and that the problem lies with Administration's differing interpretation of the "accommodation" definition. The Carlsons asked that Mayor and Council consider the reinstatement of the development permit, or they will request that the matter go to a Variance Board for further consideration. Councillor Slager voiced multiple concerns with the information provided to Council, which led to further discussion and questions. Council thanked the Carlsons for their presentation and advised that a response would be sent within two weeks' time.

**BYLAWS**  
**Feeding of Wild Animals**  
**Bylaw 2024-02**

The draft Feeding of Wild Animals Bylaw 2024-02 was before Council for Second Reading. The purpose of the bylaw is to regulate the feeding of wild animals within the municipality.

**MOTION 024-011-090**

Moved by Councillor Burdes, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The Feeding of Wild Animals Bylaw 2024-02 be introduced for Second Reading.

- CARRIED -

**Zoning Amendment  
Bylaw 2024-05**

Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2024-05 was before Council for Second Reading. The purpose of the bylaw is to provide further clarity and certainty to the interpretation and application by improving definitions, and to add to the permitted uses of commercially zoned properties.

**MOTION 024-011-091**

Moved by Councillor Burdes, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2024-05 be introduced for Second Reading.

- CARRIED -

Councillor Slager inquired if the definition of hotel or motel would include cabins. Administration confirmed that stand alone units would be acceptable under the definition.

**2024 Municipal Election  
Bylaw 2024-06**

The 2024 Municipal Election Bylaw 2024-06 was before Council for First Reading. The purpose of the bylaw is to regulate the conduct of the 2024 Municipal Election.

**MOTION 024-011-092**

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

The 2024 Municipal Election Bylaw 2024-06 be introduced for First Reading.

- CARRIED -

**NEW & UNFINISHED  
Community Lottery Fund  
Committee Recommendations**

Council was in receipt of meeting minutes and funding recommendations from the Recreation Advisory Committee for applications to the Community Lottery Fund for the first funding intake of the fiscal year. The Committee recommended the approval of seven applications and for an exception to be granted for an extension of expense receipt deadlines for applicants travelling to a Hockey Camp. The Community Lottery Fund total budget is 28,191.00 for the fiscal year and the Committee requested an approval to award \$10,535.25 for the first funding intake.

**MOTION 024-011-093**

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Council accept the recommendations of the Recreation Advisory Committee.

- CARRIED -

**Housing Accelerator Fund  
Grant Policy**

Jordan Stackhouse and Graham White provided Council with the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Grant Policy framework for further consideration prior to policy adoption. Feedback received at the Town Hall Meeting was considered when making amendments to the policy framework. The information provided at the Town Hall Meeting was well received by the community, but it was identified that much more communication and clarity was needed, therefore an information pamphlet was discussed and will be ready for distribution within a weeks' time. The final draft policy will be brought forward to Council for adoption at an upcoming Council Meeting.

**Zach Bell Award for  
2024 Valedictorian**

A conflict of interest was declared by Councillor Paquette.

Town Council presents the annual Zach Bell Award and five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to the Valedictorian of each graduating class. The Valedictorian of the graduating class of 2024 is Isabelle Paquette.

**MOTION 024-011-094**

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Council award the annual Zach Bell Award to 2024 Valedictorian, Isabelle Paquette.

- CARRIED -

**COUNCILLOR OPEN FORUM**

Councillor Burdes:

- Noted that roadways are being damaged by heavy trucks hauling to and from the Frances Avenue development area and asked if those damages would be repaired. Administration confirmed that the roadways will be fixed after the project is completed.
- Asked if other community stakeholders were invited to partake in the upcoming training for the new structural protection units. Administration confirmed that all parties who would be involved in community emergency measures processes were invited to participate.

Mayor Irvin:

- Asked if any work had been done to publish a Town Crier with community project updates. Administration shared that one will be worked on once the new Administrative Assistant intern starts their employment.

- Inquired if any work had been completed for the playground upgrade project as identified in the 2024 capital budget. Administration confirmed that a Request for Proposals would be published soon and proposals would go to Council for review and decision.

Councillor Hanchar:

- Announced that there will be a Public Hearing regarding the Electoral Boundaries Interim Report and encouraged people to read the report and attend the Hearing to learn how rural Yukon would be affected by proposed changes.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 024-011-095

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Mayor Irvin THAT:

Council move to an in-camera meeting.

- CARRIED -

MOTION 024-011-096

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Council revert to an open meeting.

- CARRIED -


ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 024-011-097

Moved by Mayor Irvin, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

Being there no further business to discuss that the meeting be adjourned.

- CARRIED -

  
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Christopher Irvin – Mayor  
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Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk

TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE  
NAVY  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RE: [Illegible]

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