

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

MEETING NO. 15
July 16, 2024

ATTENDANCE

*Electronic attendance **

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

Administration
Cam Lockwood – Chief Administrative Officer
Brandie Keene – A/ Municipal Clerk

Public
J. Carlson P. Agana P. McLeod*

Delegation

Sgt. Jordan Cropper – RCMP

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

AGENDA

MOTION 024-015-122

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Burdes THAT:

The Agenda be amended to change #3. Payables amount to \$327,598.19 and adopted.

- CARRIED -

MINUTES

MOTION 024-015-123

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Slager THAT:

The draft minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 2, 2024, be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

PAYABLES

MOTION 024-015-124

Moved by Councillor Burdes, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$327,598.19 be approved and paid.

- CARRIED -

Council sought clarification on several payable amounts, including those for Castle Rock Enterprise, Northern Front Studios, BDO Canada, Northwestel, and Atco.

DELEGATION
RCMP

Sgt. Jordan Cropper provided Council with the June Policing Report and detachment updates and priorities. The detachment will be looking to fill two constable vacancies in the coming months; Member recruitment continues to be a challenge. Current policing priorities include community relations, drug enforcement, and traffic control. Sgt. Cropper advised Council of notable high-risk offenders in the community and explained the RCMP's approach to tackling the current drug issue in the community.

REPORTS
Admin Report
Public Auction - 144 Teslin Crescent

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report detailing the bids received during the public auction for the property located at 144 Teslin Crescent. Two compliant bids were received, as follows:

Ray Laukkanen: Bid of \$16,900.00 with a one-year timeline to develop property.

Stalwart Constructors Ltd.: Bid of \$18,500.00 with a three-year timeline to develop property.

MOTION 024-015-125

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Hanchar THAT:

Council accept the bid of Stalwart Constructors Ltd. in the amount of \$18,500.00 with a condition to develop within three years.

- CARRIED -

Admin Report
General Maintenance Bylaw 2023-11

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report to provide an update on the General Maintenance Bylaw 2023-11 with amendments based on recommendations from legal counsel. Additional input that was received from the public and Public Works Department was also included in the report for Council's consideration. The draft bylaw will go before Council on the August 6, 2024, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

BYLAWS
Business Licence Bylaw 06-01

Business Licence Bylaw 06-01 was before Council for First Reading. The bylaw has not been reviewed in several years and Administration explained that there have been issues with the bylaw as it does not currently address businesses such as rental properties, hawkers, and home-based businesses and believes there needs to be more clarity within the bylaw.

MOTION 024-015-126

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Business Licence Bylaw 06-01 be introduced for First Reading.

- CARRIED -

COUNCILLOR OPEN FORUM

Councillor Hanchar:

- Noted that the Welcome to Watson Lake signs are in poor shape and suggested there be funds set aside in the budget to improve the signs, flags, and garden beds at these locations.
- Commended the Administration Intern on the Town Crier that was published and asked how often Administration will be publishing a newsletter. Administration would be open to publishing monthly newsletters throughout the summer and revisit frequency in the fall. Administration explained that creating a newsletter is laborious and the frequency will depend on staffing capacity.

Mayor Irvin:

- Echoed Councillor Hanchar's comments about the Town Crier and would like to see the newsletter published on a regular basis, whether that be quarterly or semi-annually. Council discussed the topic further and agreed that a quarterly newsletter would be ideal if Administration has the capacity to do so.
- Asked for an update on the Housing Accelerator Fund. Administration shared that the Housing Accelerator Fund webpage has been built and is live, mailouts went to the public about the Housing Grant and it is now open for applications and will close on August 16, 2024, with the lottery draw completed thereafter, if necessary. Elevator Yukon will be in Watson Lake the following week to host information sessions and to help with applications. Updates will be published on the Town website.

Councillor Paquette:

- Asked if a decision was made about the types of flags being hung along the Alaska Highway corridor. Administration explained that the decision to hang various flags was decided by motion from Council and no other direction has been given. Administration is happy to revisit the highway flags under Council direction.

CAO Lockwood:

- Provided an update on the Frances Avenue development. Sidhu will have the project completed by the end of July. ATCO Electric does not yet have a timeline for the powerline installations but are aiming to complete in by fall. Administration is in discussions with the YG Lands branch regarding lot sale prices and surveying timelines. The Lift Station development is on schedule for completion.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 024-015-127

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Hanchar THAT:

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

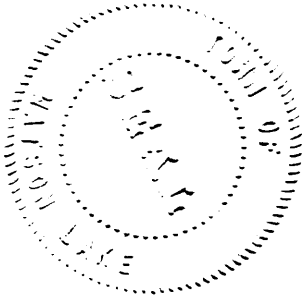
- CARRIED -



Lauren Hanchar– Deputy Mayor



Tiffany Lund– Municipal Clerk



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