

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

**MEETING NO. 25
December 17, 2024**

ATTENDANCE

*Electronic attendance **

Lauren Hanchar – Mayor
Thomas Slager – Councillor
Denina Paquette – Councillor

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

Public

P. Agana C. Ellis C. Craft *
J. Carlson * P. McLeod *

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

AGENDA

MOTION 024-025-194

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The Agenda be amended to remove #4. RCMP Delegation and adopted as amended.

- CARRIED -

MINUTES

MOTION 024-025-195

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The draft minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 3, 2024, be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

Councillor Slager asked if there was an update regarding a joint proclamation on June 30, 2025, for Indigenous Survivors Day.

PAYABLES

MOTION 024-025-196

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$190,909.20 be approved and paid.

- CARRIED -

CORRESPONDENCE
Chris Kipling - School Zone Signage

Council was in receipt of correspondence from Chris Kipling requesting that school zone speed limit signage be improved. Kipling expressed concerns with large trucks and other vehicles speeding in school zones, creating unsafe conditions for children. Council discussed the Town's responsibilities in addressing the issue and determined that Council can lobby the Yukon government for improved signage and the local RCMP detachment asking for increased patrols in school zones.

MOTION 024-025-197

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Council sends a letter to the Minister of Highways and Public Works requesting improved school zone and speed limit signage.

- CARRIED -

REPORTS
Admin Report - Watson Lake Ski Club

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report which provided information about the Watson Lake Ski Chalet, in response to capital purchase and facility maintenance requests brought forward by the Watson Lake Ski Club. Council noted that some of the minor issues brought forward are the responsibility of both parties under the current LOU and would like to see collaboration between the parties to address the issues that have not already been resolved. Mayor Hanchar suggested that the Watson Lake Ski Club be included in planning discussions once the Town can tackle larger scale projects, such as the building retrofit and potential fireplace replacement. Administration shared that there will be repairs completed to the Ski Chalet heating system in 2025 to fix identified deficiencies.

MOTION 024-025-198

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Slager THAT:

Administration provide a written response to the Watson Lake Ski Club's capital budget and facility maintenance requests.

- CARRIED -

TENDERS
Contract Award RFT
2024-06 Janitorial Services

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report which included background information regarding Tender bid submissions and made the recommendation that the one-year janitorial service contract for the routine cleaning of the Town Administration Office and Municipal Services Building be awarded to JGV Services Inc.

MOTION 024-025-199

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The one-year janitorial services contract be awarded to JGV Services Inc. in the amount of \$2,950.50 per month.

- CARRIED -

BYLAWS

**Second and Third & Final Reading of
Capital Budget Amendment Bylaw 2024-010**

Capital Budget Amendment Bylaw 2024-010 was before Council for Second and Third & Final Readings. The purpose of Capital Budget Amendment Bylaw 2024-010 is to adopt 2024 capital expenditure increases and amendments that were approved by Council throughout the fiscal year.

MOTION 024-025-200

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Capital Budget Amendment Bylaw 2024-010 be introduced for Second and Third & Final Readings.

- CARRIED -

**First Reading of Animal
Control Bylaw 2024-011**

Animal Control Bylaw 2024-011 was before Council for First Reading. Administration recommended the Animal Control Bylaw be reviewed to ensure it is in line with recently adopted Yukon legislation. Administration shared that a meeting was held with Environmental Health to better understand how Yukon and the municipality can work collaboratively to address animal health and safety issues, and Yukon will share policies to aid in the creation of the new Animal Control Bylaw. Administration will aim to bring the new draft bylaw before Council at the February Committee of the Whole Meeting for further discussion.

MOTION 024-025-201

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

Animal Control Bylaw 2024-011 be introduced for First Reading.

- CARRIED -

Councillor Slager brought forward the issue of dogs running at large in the 2 Mile subdivision and asked if the Town could offer to support to Liard First Nation; Administration explained

that Yukon is working directly with Liard First Nation to address this issue. Councillor Paquette sought clarity about the recent vet clinic that was conducted by Yukon government for Liard First Nation and why it was not open to the entire community. Administration is in discussions with Yukon about past vet clinics and the need for future clinics for all citizens.

NEW & UNFINISHED
Housing Accelerator Fund
Residential Conversion Grant Policy

The draft HAF Residential Conversion Grant Policy was before Council for further discussion and approval. This HAF grant program aims to support projects that will convert underutilized or vacant properties to new dwelling units in the municipality.

MOTION 024-025-202

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

The Housing Accelerator Fund Residential Conversion Grant Policy be adopted.

- CARRIED -

Administration explained that the Town's consultant will now be implementing the communications strategy and will be visiting the community in the new year to present the grant program to the public and assist with the application process. Council suggested that information be made available to the public at the upcoming Town Hall Meeting.

2025 Provisional O&M Budget

The 2025 provisional O&M budget was before Council for adoption. The provisional budget allows Administration to carry on municipal business into the new year while the official 2025 O&M budget is being prepared. Both the 2025 O&M and capital budgets will be presented at the January Town Hall meeting for public input.

MOTION 024-025-203

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

- CARRIED -

Town Hall Meeting

Council set the date of January 23, 2024, for the Town Hall Meeting. Topics to present to the public will include the 2025 O&M and Capital Budgets, the Housing Accelerator Fund and the draft Animal Control Bylaw.

COUNCILLOR OPEN FORUM

Slager:

- Asked that the prizes for best Halloween and Christmas house decorations be added to the 2025 budget. Administration confirmed that this had been done.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 024-025-204

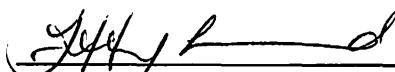
Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Paquette THAT:

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

- CARRIED -



Lauren Hanchar – Mayor



Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk



