

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

MEETING NO. 02
January 21, 2025

ATTENDANCE

*Electronic attendance **

Lauren Hanchar – Mayor
Thomas Slager – Councillor
Denina Paquette – Councillor
Norma Puckett – Councillor
William Whimp – Councillor

Administration

Cam Lockwood – Chief Administrative Officer
Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk

Public

P. McLeod	J. Bruce	Z. Zubrecki*
J. Carlson *	D. Burdes *	P. Agana
S. Grunder *	C. Craft *	C. Irvin *

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

AGENDA

MOTION 025-02-008

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

The Agenda be adopted with the amendment to add correspondence from the Watson Lake Fire Department regarding Rec Centre Gym usage.

- CARRIED -

MINUTES

MOTION 025-02-009

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Whimp THAT:

The draft minutes from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 14, 2025, be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

Councillor Slager asked if Archangel Fireworks Inc. was paid twice in error as the payment had been included on two different payable lists. Administration explained that the first payment had been made by cheque but due to the postal strike, it had to be cancelled and paid as an EFT.

PAYABLES

MOTION 025-02-010

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$604,685.78 be approved and paid.

- CARRIED -

Administration advised Council of two previously issued cheques and a cancelled EFT that were re-issued and listed on the payables list, however removed from the payables total as they were previously approved. Council sought clarification on multiple payments including those to MoveWater Inc., Dimensions Tech Services, and Elevator Yukon.

NEW & UNFINISHED

**Admin Report – RFP 2024-03
Playground Equipment Upgrades**

Council reviewed the Admin Report and contract award recommendations for RFP 2024-03 Playground Equipment Upgrades at the Council Meeting on January 14, 2025. Due to questions from the Gallery at the previous meeting regarding bid scoring and local preference, Council further discussed the Town's process for bid review and scoring processes and Administration provided information on the Town's Procurement and Purchasing Policy to certify that correct procedures were followed for the scoring of the bids.

MOTION 025-02-011

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Whimp THAT:

The contract for RFP 2024-03 for Playground Equipment Upgrades be awarded to Play Envy for the bid amount of \$441,782.00 plus GST.

- CARRIED -

**Admin Report
Transfer to Reserve Accounts**

Council was in receipt of an Admin Report at the Council Meeting of January 14, 2025, with the recommendation to transfer surplus funds in the amounts of \$250,000.00 into the Environmental Reserve and \$250,000.00 into the Operational Contingency Reserve.

MOTION 025-02-012

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

Council approve the transfer of surplus funds in the amounts of \$250,000.00 to the Environmental Reserve and \$250,000.00 into the Operational Contingency Fund.

- CARRIED -

**Correspondence – Watson Lake
Fire Department**

Councillor Paquette declared a conflict of interest and exited Council Chambers.

Mayor Hanchar read aloud the correspondence from Fire Chief Smith, requesting that Fire Department Members get use of the Recreation Centre gym at no charge. Council asked if Member usage would be tracked, which Administration confirmed.

MOTION 025-02-013

Moved by Councillor Puckett, seconded by Councillor Whimp THAT:

Council approve the free usage of the Watson Lake Rec Centre Gym for Fire Department Members.

- CARRIED -

COUNCILLOR OPEN FORUM

Councillor Slager:

- Has had concerns raised by citizens about the request for personal information for accessing food at the Watson Lake Food Bank. Citizens have found the registration process intrusive and feel that it is unnecessary. Although Councillor Slager understand that these questions are asked for statistical data, suggested that Council write a letter to ask the reason for the extensive registration process and ask if changes can be made to make the program more inviting.

Councillor Whimp:

- Asked if any of the companies who bid on the Playground Equipment Upgrade Tender were local businesses.

Councillor Paquette:

- Inquired about the types of hazardous materials accepted at the Landfill.

Mayor Hanchar:

- Reminded Council and the Gallery of the Town Hall meeting on January 23rd and of the Wildland Fire Town Hall meeting on January 22nd.

CAO Lockwood:

- Acknowledged the passing of Barb Suffesick, a long time and valued past employee of the Town and resident and friend of the community.

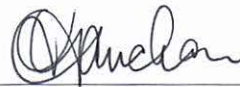
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 025-02-014

Moved by Councillor Paquette, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

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

- CARRIED -

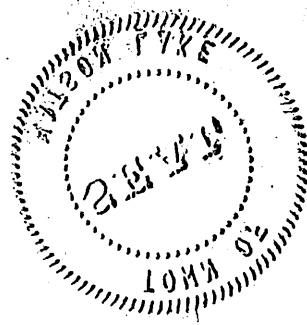


Lauren Hanchar – Mayor



Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk





Albany