

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

**MEETING NO. 15
September 23, 2025**

ATTENDANCE

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

Administration
Shannon Bergeron – A/CAO
Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk

Absent

Denina Paquette – Councillor

Public

P. Agana * J. Carlson * P. McLeod
L. Berry *

Delegation

Samantha Salter – YG Health and Social Services
Sarah Marsh – Yukon Hospital Corporation

*Electronic attendance **

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

AGENDA

MOTION 025-015-121

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

The agenda be adopted as amended, to move Delegation to #2.

- CARRIED -

DELEGATION
YG, Dept. of Health and Social Services
Community Health and Wellness Plan

Samatha Salter of YG Health and Social Services and Sarah Marsh from the Yukon Hospital Corporation presented on what they heard from Watson Lake stakeholders and community groups during public engagement sessions regarding the new health authority and Community Health and Wellness Plan. Council agreed with the issues reflected in the 'what we heard' report and asked about next steps, which include drafting a final report and the Community Health and Wellness Plan.

MINUTES

MOTION 025-015-122

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Whimp THAT:

The draft minutes from the Council Meeting of September 9, 2025, be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED -

PAYABLES

MOTION 025-015-123

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$332,225.55 be approved.

- CARRIED -

Council sought clarification on payables to Norcope, a Housing Accelerator Fund advancement, and various local businesses.

DECLARATIONS
National Forest Week
September 21 – 27, 2025

Council was in receipt of correspondence inviting the Town of Watson Lake to participate in National Forest Week and make a declaration.

MOTION 025-015-124

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

The week of September 21 – 27, 2025, be declared National Forest Week in Watson Lake.

- CARRIED -

CORRESPONDENCE
Watson Lake Youth Hockey
Donation Request

Council received correspondence from Watson Lake Youth Hockey seeking a donation for youth hockey programs in the community. Council discussed the limit set for cash donations such as this and the possibility of waiving ice fees for extraordinary events in the future, such as their potential First Assist Program.

MOTION 025-015-125

Moved by Councillor Whimp, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

Council donate \$500.00 to Watson Lake Youth Hockey to support local programs.

- CARRIED -

REPORTS
Admin Report
HAF Service Standards Manual RFP

A proposal from WSP Engineering for the Servicing Standards Manual project in the amount of \$130,119 was approved by Council on September 9th, 2025, with a caveat that the Town of Watson Lake would enter into a cost sharing agreement with the Town of Faro to reduce cost, however the Town of Faro did not approve the cost sharing approach.

Administration made a new recommendation to Council, that the contract be awarded to WSP Engineering in the amount of \$130,119 and reallocate HAF funding to cover the difference from the project budget. Councillor Slager proposed that the contract be awarded to the other bidder, The Write Direction, whose bid was \$75,468.75 but who scored lower during the bid evaluation process.

MOTION 025-015-126

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

Council direct Administration to explore the possibility of advancing the contract to The Write Direction in the amount of \$75,468.75.

- CARRIED -

BYLAWS
First Reading of Bylaw
Enforcement Bylaw 2025-08

The draft Bylaw Enforcement Bylaw 2025-08 was before Council for First Reading. The purpose of the bylaw is to outline the authorities of a Bylaw Officer.

MOTION 025-015-127

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

Bylaw Enforcement Bylaw 2025-08 be introduced for First Reading.

- CARRIED -

NEW & UNFINISHED
Recreation Advisory Committee – Community
Lottery Fund Approval Recommendations

Councillor Slager spoke to the funding award recommendations made by the Rec Advisory Committee and answered questions about the Community Lottery Fund. Councillor Slager also noted that there are areas of the Lottery Fund policy that the Committee would like to amend, which will be brought forward to Council for consideration at a later date.

MOTION 025-015-128

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Whimp THAT:

Council approve the Community Lottery Fund approval recommendations of the Recreation Advisory Committee.

- CARRIED -

**Conditional Use Application to Operate a B&B
At 1165 Campbell Highway, Watson Lake**

A Public Hearing was held on September 9, 2025, to hear and consider comments regarding the conditional use application to operate a B&B at 1165 Campbell Highway, which was before Council for a decision.

MOTION 025-015-129

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

The Conditional Use Application to operate a B&B at 1165 Campbell Highway, Watson Lake, be approved.

- CARRIED -

**Procurement and Purchasing
Policy 2022-02 Review**

The Procurement and Purchasing Policy was before Council for a review to determine if amendments are needed. Councillor Whimp suggested the policy be amended to ensure there is preference given and concerted efforts made to support local contractors and suppliers and to re-evaluate Administration's purchasing limits and authorities. Council agreed that the policy would be discussed in greater detail during upcoming Councillor training.

COUNCILLOR OPEN FORUM

Mayor Hanchar:

- Provided Council with an overview of the recent AYC meetings attended by Mayor Hanchar and Councillor Paquette.
- Confirmed attendance at the upcoming Yukon Biomass Conference in Whitehorse.
- Advised that Councillor Slager will be chairing the October 7th COW Meeting in Mayor Hanchar's absence. Mayor Hanchar will join the meeting virtually.
- Confirmed that the new flagpoles will be installed in time for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation so an Orange Flag could be flown.
- Reminded everyone of the community dinner hosted by LFN on September 29th for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Councillor Whimp:

- Asked that a meeting invitation be sent to LFN to continue discussions about potential collaborations and partnerships.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 025-015-130

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Whimp THAT:

The Meeting move in-camera.

- CARRIED -

MOTION 025-015-131

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

Council revert back to an Open Meeting.

- CARRIED -

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 025-015-132

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Puckett THAT:

There being no further business to discuss that the meeting be adjourned.

- CARRIED -



Thomas Slager – Deputy Mayor



Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk

