

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 1
January 14, 2014

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

R.DUROCHER - MAYOR
THOMAS SLAGER - Councilor
BRENDA LEACH - Councilor
TIM O'BRIEN – Councilor
CYNTHIA KEARNS - Councilor

PUBLIC

Susan Drury

ADMINISTRATION

STEPHEN CONWAY - CAO
TERRI CLOSE – Municipal Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Durocher.

AGENDA

MOTION 014-01-01

Moved by Councilor O'Brien, seconded by Councilor Leach
that:

The Agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED –

MINUTES

MOTION 014-01-02

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Slager
that:

The minutes be adopted from the last regular meeting of December 17, 2013.

- CARRIED –

CAO REPORT

MOTION 014-01-03

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor O'Brien
that:

The CAO Report be accepted.

- CARRIED –

Administration provided Council with an update on the continuation of the current District Heat agreement at the High School. YECL is prepared to extend the agreement as is and will allow FVB Energy to undertake a study for expanding the system to the hospital and elementary school. Funding is available through either the Green Municipal fund or Gas Tax for the study.

MOTION 014-01-04

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Slager
that:

Administration proceed with the funding application for a study of the district heat expansion.

- CARRIED -

Council discussed a letter that was sent to YG regarding the town’s position with regard to the disposal of the old wing of the elementary school and conservation office that is about to be demolished. Given all the difficulties the Town has had with the development of the landfill and the lack of assistance from YG, the Town is not prepared to accept the buildings.

**ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE**

MOTION 014-01-05

Moved by Councilor O’Brien, seconded by Councilor Leach that:

The payroll cheques #51551 through #51580 in the amount of \$49,468.02 and the Open Payables in the amount of \$157,235.55 be paid.

- CARRIED -

Council discussed and questioned various purchases.

**FINANCIAL
INFO**

MOTION 014-01-06

Moved by Councilor O’Brien, seconded by Councilor Kearns that:

The Budget Variance Report of December 31st be accepted.

- CARRIED -

**NEW AND
UNFINISHED**

**GAS TAX
FUNDING AGREEMENT**

Council discussed the draft Gas tax agreement. YG is considering implementing an administration fee to be shared amongst all recipients for administering the Gas tax. The cost for 2012/2013 is \$348,150.00. Shared equally, this would cost the Town of Watson Lake approximately \$85,000 over the next five years. A large part of this cost is the audit. Council is willing to pay their share of the administration fee.

**OUTSTANDING
PROPERTY TAXES**

MOTION 014-01-07

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Leach that:

Council accept the list of outstanding 2013 property taxes as presented.

- CARRIED -

Abstained: Councilor O’Brien
Councilor Slager

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Council received three funding application submissions:

- WL Daycare: \$7000.00
- WL Hospital – New Years Baby \$100.00
- WL St. Vincents Soup Kitchen - \$1000.00

MOTION 014-01-08

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Kearns that:

Council approve the funding applications as presented.

- CARRIED -

Council discussed budgetary implications for approving the funding applications as there are no funds budgeted for this purpose. Administration suggested that Council approve the applications and amend the O/M budget prior to the final reading of the Bylaw. Council Slager discussed the budget and questioned whether the departments had been reviewed for budgetary constraints.

CORRESPONDENCE

YTG Historic Sites unit staff would like to meet with Mayor & Council January 15th at 6:00 pm

CBC aired a story on Watson Lake assessing the needs and setting priorities for the upcoming year.

YG is seeking input with regard to proposed changes to the Employment Standards Act.

RCMP thanked Mayor & Council for meeting with them on November 14th.

**COUNCIL QUESTION
PERIOD**

No items were presented for discussion.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 014-01-09

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Leach that

Council go In-Camera.

- CARRIED -

MOTION 014-01-10

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Leach that:

Council revert to an open meeting.

- CARRIED -

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 014-01-11

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor O'Brien that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 pm.

- CARRIED -

