

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 10
May 20, 2014

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

R.DUROCHER - Mayor
THOMAS SLAGER – Councilor
CYNTHIA KEARNS - Councilor
TIM O’BRIEN – Councilor
BRENDA LEACH - Councilor

B.Leach

PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATION

R.Wilkinson
S.Maclean

STEPHEN CONWAY – CAO
TERRI CLOSE – Municipal Clerk

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

Mayor Durocher expressed his support and best wishes to staff member Barb Suffesick and fellow Councilor Brenda Leach who are both out of the territory due to medical emergencies.

AGENDA

MOTION 014-10-085

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

The Agenda be amended to include the following:

CAO Report
AYC Report
In-Camera

- CARRIED –

MINUTES

MOTION 014-10-086

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Slager
that:

The minutes be adopted from the last regular meeting of May 6, 2014 as presented.

- CARRIED –

CAO REPORT

Administration provided Council with information on an Economic Development course being offered to elected officials that was recently given in Alberta. Council requested more information on the course.

AYC REPORT

Councilor Slager updated Council on the items that were addressed at the AYC AGM that was recently held in Dawson City.

The Public Utilities Act - has been amended that will enable private citizens, First Nation communities, municipalities and businesses to generate electricity without first becoming a public utility.

This amendment to the Public Utilities Act will remove a barrier to the development of micro-generation and independent power production. It will, in effect, enable a greater diversity of power generation options.

Gas tax funding – A new agreement is being signed to implement changes for eligible expenditures. The basic requirement has been amended to allow trucks and equipment as long as they meet the threshold as a capital asset. Other communities have used Gas Tax to acquire things like garbage trucks, water trucks and buses/vans.

911 expansion – Brad Cathers, Yukon's minister of Community Services, says the system will allow residents in rural communities to dial 911 and be connected to local emergency numbers. The new system would only work on landlines. Before it is activated, it will have to meet with CRTC approval.

AYC Executive - Mayor Wayne Potoroka and Councillor John Streicker have been nominated to sit as President, Councillor Gord Curran as 1st Vice President, Councillors Betty Irwin and Tara Wheeler as 2nd Vice President, and Councillor Diana Rogerson as Vice President at Large.

Yukon Solid Waste permits – The solid waste permits have been extended from 3 years to 10 years.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MOTION 014-10-087

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

The payroll cheques #53022 through #53054 in the amount of \$40,716.71 and the Open Payables in the amount of \$137,351.51 be paid.

- CARRIED -

BY-LAWS

MOTION 014-10-088

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

By-Law 14-04, being the garbage collection and recycling bylaw be introduced for Third & Final Reading

- CARRIED -

NEW & UNFINISHED

**WL RECREATION COMMITTEE
FUNDING MINUTES**

MOTION 014-10-089

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

The WL Recreation Advisory Committee minutes from the May 15th funding session be approved as presented.

- CARRIED -

Mayor Durocher discussed funding that is provided to groups for non-personal equipment. He recommended that the equipment be available to the public and the assets belong to the Town of Watson Lake. This would not affect subsequent funding applications submitted on behalf of the groups.

CIBC FUNDRAISER

MOTION 014-10-090

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Slager that:

The Town of Watson Lake donate \$500.00 towards the annual CIBC/BC Children's hospital fundraiser.

- CARRIED -

WL RIDING ASSOCIATION
LETTER OF SUPPORT

Council received a letter from the WL Riding Association who are submitting an application to CDF for funding assistance to upgrade their existing facility and are requesting a letter of support to accompany their application.

MOTION 014-10-091

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Kearns that:

Administration prepare a letter of support for the WL Riding Association.

- CARRIED -

SIGNPOST FOREST
DESIGNATION CEREMONY

Council acknowledged that the Signpost Forest designation is scheduled to take place on June 5th. Mayor Durocher will be in attendance at the ceremony to say a few words.

ALASKA HIGHWAY
NOMINATION

Council discussed information from the Alaska Highway Heritage Society wanting to nominate the Alaska Highway as a National Historic Site of Canada and are encouraging the highway communities to enhance their attractions in anticipation of the highway's 75th anniversary in 2017. Council expressed concerns that this could potentially curtail the community from pursuing future objectives if the Town of Watson Lake wants to do any changes along the Alaska Highway. Council questioned what impact this will have on the community downtown beautification program and requested more information on this initiative.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council reviewed a letter from YG requesting a meeting with Council to discuss the following issues:

- Solid Waste services in Watson Lake and Upper Liard.
- Upgrades to Watson Lake's water system
- Highway right-of-way and allegations of hydrocarbon leakage into waste water system

Mayor Durocher suggest the Town lawyers be contacted to inquire if they want to meet with YG over these items.

**COUNCIL QUESTION
PERIOD**

Councilor Kearns addressed the WL Fire Department and the YG offer to take over the department. Mayor Durocher provided some background information and an update on the proposal that is now being discussed with YG.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 014-10-092

Moved by Councilor Slager, seconded by Councilor Kearns
that:

Council go In-Camera.

- CARRIED -

MOTION 014-10-093

Moved by Councilor Kearns, seconded by Councilor Slager
that:

Council revert to an open Meeting.

- CARRIED -

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 014-10-094

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

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 pm.

- CARRIED -

R. Durocher – Mayor

Terri Close – Municipal Clerk