

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 14
July 15, 2014

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

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

PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATION

STEPHEN CONWAY – CAO
TERRI CLOSE – Municipal Clerk

S.Maclean G.Vigeant
S/B Drury F.Statham
S.Boone C.Hamer
E.Labonte M.Frazer
R.Laukkanen
R.Wilkinson

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

AGENDA

MOTION 014-14-137

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

The Agenda be amended to add the CAO Report.

- CARRIED –

Councilor Slager thanked Debbie Lewis for taking time to clean and reorganize the recycling depot share shed.

Mayor Durocher thanked the public for attending the meeting and apologized for the mishaps that occurred during the In-Camera sessions when comments were made about staff.. Mayor Durocher explained the reasons why some matters of Council are closed to the public. He stated that the staff are valued employees and an essential part of the team structure. He would like to mend fences and move forward.

Councilor Kearns also apologized for the incident however stated will not apologize for accusations made by the public for comments that she did not make.

MINUTES

MOTION 014-14-138

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Slager
that:

The minutes be adopted from the last regular meeting of July 2, 2014 as presented.

- CARRIED –

CAO REPORT

Administration provided a report on a press release that was released on July 9th regarding the following information:

- A joint statement of claim was filed with LFN in the Supreme Court against YG for environmental issues in Watson Lake.

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- A legal opinion on the validity of the petition that was filed on May 20th regarding the solid waste management bylaw leaves no solution on how to proceed.

MOTION 014-14-139

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Kearns that:

The CAO Report be accepted.

- CARRIED -

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MOTION 014-14-140

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

The payroll cheques #53171 through #53212 in the amount of \$62,463.79 and the Open Payables in the amount of \$151,987.17 be paid.

- CARRIED -

FINANCIAL INFO

MOTION 014-14-141

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

The financial statement of July 10th be accepted.

- CARRIED -

BY-LAWS

MOTION 014-14-142

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

By-Law 14-10, being a By-law to repeal By-Law 10-15, being a By-Law to impose & Collect fees be introduced for First & Second Reading.

- CARRIED -

NEW & UNFINISHED

WL COMMUNITY
CHARRETTE

Council reviewed a work plan and budget for the delivery of a Community Charrette for Watson Lake. The Charrette is intended for Council, Administration and citizens to share information, and educate the public on the role, responsibilities and functions of municipal council. Mayor Durocher believes this would be an excellent opportunity to encourage community members to discuss community issues and provide input into such things as the Solid Waste Management By-Law, proposed Water/sewer bylaw and be involved in the departmental review process. Councilors Slager & Leach expressed concern with the cost. Council suggested that Administration contact the Consulting firm to negotiate cost before proceeding. Council agreed to table this item.

STIKINE WATERLINE

Council reviewed information provided by Administration regarding a request that was received by the WL Community Gospel Chapel to replace its water service line on Stikine Avenue due to freeze ups that have occurred on the street.

Council discussed the situation and questioned why the service line was not replaced when YG was upgrading the roads last year.

Council agreed more information is required and instructed Administration to research the Stikine Water line and collect data of any other freeze-ups that may have occurred on Stikine Avenue.

WATSON LAKE GRADER STATION
SEWER LINE

Council reviewed a letter from Yukon Government advising of the steps they have taken to address the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons in the sewer lines at the YG Dept. of Highways. They believe that the situation has been addressed satisfactorily and as a result request that the Town of Watson Lake remove the plug from the YG sewer line without delay. Administration advised that this matter is before the courts.

YG COMMERCIAL SPECIAL
WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

Council addressed proposed changes that YG is making to the commercial special waste collection program. As of April, 2015 YG is transitioning out of Commercial special waste collection. Commercial Customers wanting this service can continue with the program at a cost. The program will still be available for domestic users free of charge.

FISCHER ESTATE
PROPERTY SALE

Administration informed Council that the Fischer Estate property has been offered to the Town for \$1.00. Councilor O'Brien advised that he has looked at the property and there are many derelict vehicles that will need to be removed and possible contaminants on the property. Council were in agreement that the property could be sold for outstanding taxes with the condition that the property be cleanup.

MOTION 014-14-143

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

The Town purchase the Fischer estate property for \$1.00.

- CARRIED –

PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Administration provided Council with an update on various properties which the Town has acquired through tax lien. Council needs to determine how to dispose of these properties, and a By-Law be prepared that outlines the conditions of the sale.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council received the following correspondence:

- Johnson Elementary School – Letter thanking the Town of Watson Lake for their sponsorship of the Citizenship Award.

COUNCIL QUESTION
PERIOD

Councilor Kearns enquired about the sani-dump in Wye Lake Park. Administration advised that the sani dump is operational, however the potable

water has been turned off as ordered by Environmental health due to potential of cross contamination.

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IN-CAMERA

MOTION 014-14-144

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

Council go In-Camera.

-CARRIED –

MOTION 014-14-145

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

Council revert to an open Meeting.

- CARRIED –

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 014-14-146

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

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 pm.

- CARRIED –

R. Durocher – Mayor

Terri Close – Municipal Clerk