

**Town of Norman Wells
Minutes
Regular Council Meeting #20-15
Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 7:00pm
Norman Wells Community Hall
Zoom**

Present:	Frank Pope Alexis Peachey Pascal Audet Jean-Paul Bernard Trevor Smith David Wever Jim Boyle	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor (telephone) Councillor Councillor (telephone)
Staff:	Cathy Clarke Alex Millet Hugo Pabke Misty Rayner Jennifer Waterhouse Johannie Lapierre Randy Sinasac	Senior Administrative Officer Recreation Director/Acting Public Works Manager Utilities Manager Finance Manager Governance & Community Engagement Manager Development Officer Fire Chief
Delegation	Dr. Renee Close Karea Peachey	Superintendent Sahtu Divisional Education Council Chair Sahtu Divisional Education Council
Guests:	Chris Chivers Cindy Collier	

1. **Call to Order** 7:00PM

2. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Councillor Audet stated for the record that he is not a rental property owner in the Town of Norman Wells therefore there is no conflict of interest for him with items 8e and 8f related to utilities payments.

Councillor Audet declared a conflict of interest with items 4/8a and item 12a.
Councillor Bernard declared a conflict of interest with items 4/8a, 8b/8c/8d and item 8e.

3. **Review and Adoption of Agenda** Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting, dated June 2nd, 2020 is hereby adopted.'

Motion:	No. 20-15-01	
Moved by:	Councillor Wever	
Seconded by:	Councillor Audet	Motion Carried

Councillors Audet and Bernard left the meeting at 7:07PM

4. **Delegation**

Dr. Renee Close	Superintendent Sahtu Divisional Education Council
Karea Peachey	Chair Sahtu Divisional Education Council

Dr. Closs provided an overview of the funding formula for bussing and the tendering process for the bussing contract. Funding is allocated based on a set of criteria and not the real cost. In the past the SDEC has been able to absorb the shortfall with limited impact to school programming but with cutbacks in the budget for the 2020/21 school year it will be much harder to do this without impacting programming. While school boards have the option to charge for bussing as per the Education Act, it is the SDEC's position that this puts students at risk and created inequities therefore they will not consider this option.

b) Committee of the Whole #20-06 Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Committee of the Whole Meeting, dated May 12th, 2020 are hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 20-15-03
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Bernard

Motion Carried

c) Committee of the Whole #20-07 Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Committee of the Whole Meeting, dated May 27th, 2020 are hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 20-15-04
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried

8. Old Business

Councillors Audet and Bernard left the meeting at 7:35PM

a) Sahtu Division Education Council Bussing Request Resolution

Council elected to defer decision on this item

Councillors Audet returned to the meeting at 7:39PM

b) Firefighters Honorarium By-Law #20-05 Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives First reading to the Firefighters Honorarium By-Law #20-05.'

Motion: No. 20-15-06
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Audet

Motion Carried

c) Firefighters Honorarium By-Law #20-05 Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives Second reading to the Firefighters Honorarium By-Law #20-05.'

Motion: No. 20-15-07
Moved by: Councillor Wever
Seconded by: Councillor Audet

Motion Carried

d) Firefighters Honorarium By-Law #20-05 Resolution

Point of clarification requested regarding third reading. Confirmed that Council still had could proceed with third reading as all of Council in attendance even though one Councillor declared a conflict of interest with this item and stepped out. Ruling accepted by SAO.

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives Third reading to the Firefighters Honorarium By-Law #20-05.'

Motion: No. 20-15-08
Moved by: Councillor Wever
Seconded by: Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried

e) Utilities Arrears – Enforcement Resolution

Inquiry if owners have signed the utility account applications for all of the renter accounts (90+). The Finance Manager confirmed that yes; all applications have owner signatures as required.

Date amended from July 1st to August 1st to allow Finance Department time to prepare some communication materials and for changes to be made to the by-law. Appeal process will be discussed at the new Committee of the Whole meeting.

Question raised about cases where new occupants are taking advantage of utility accounts that have not been closed. SAO will investigate whether these accounts can be terminated.

Amendments to the by-law will be included on the agenda for the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby approves the recommendation to transfer utility arrears more than 90 days past due to Property Tax accounts effective August 1, 2020.'

Motion: No. 20-15-09
Moved by: Councillor Wever
Seconded by: Councillor Peachey **Motion Carried**

Councillor Bernard returned to the meeting at 7:30PM

f) Utility Arrears – Review of By-Law #19-10 Discussion

Review of by-law to be included in the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

9. New Business

a) GNWT Leased Properties Discussion

The SAO reported that putting together a letter as nothing has changed. They will proceed with including the GNWT properties in the list published in the newspaper. They are considering withholding the school taxes.

The Development Officer has been working on this file for over a year. The working group has been meeting since January and little progress. She stated that even if the names on the properties were changed, they are still in arrears.

b) Contribution Agreement – Federal Gas Tax Funding Resolution

It was stated for the record that the money that Prime Minister Trudeau announced for municipalities was money that had already been committed. It is not new money.

Gas Tax funds can only be used for certain projects, restricted in use of these funds. Cannot borrow from these funds to cover operations.

Council is in agreement to sign the contribution agreement and join the NWT Association of Communities in pushing the federal government to provide funding to municipalities.

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into agreement with the GNWT MACA for the amount of Six Hundred Six Thousand Dollars (\$606,000) for Federal Gas Tax Funding.'

Motion: No. 20-15-10
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Wever **Motion Carried**

10 Council Forum

Councillor Smith requested an update on dust control plans for the non-chipseal roads. The Acting Public Works Manager said that working on a plan. It took 15 cubes of DLT last year to treat 3KM. Investigating options, looking at calcium chloride (Yellowknife uses this product). The SAO added that in planning stages only and that the Town is working with HRN. Dust control has a big impact on the budget. Concern raised about the use of calcium chloride in Norman Wells. The SAO reminded Council Stantec's report that identified DLT as a contributor to the drainage issues on Mackenzie Drive. Administration will do further research on the options.

Councillor Smith also shared that a softball league will not be run in Phase 1 but the committee will meet if and when the NWT moves to Phase 2 to discuss.

Councillor Boyle – none

Councillor Peachey inquired about nominees for Citizen of the Year.

The Councillor also requested an update on the status of the work being done on The Great Trail. The Recreation Manager said that work is on going on the trail. Public Works can only do work when the trail is dry. As sections are completed they will be opened.

Councillor Peachey inquired about the weigh scale calibration. Calibration was scheduled at the end of the winter road season but was cancelled due to COVID-19 travel restriction.

Councillor Peachey also stated that work needs to begin on the Council policy and procedures and by-law enforcement. The SAO updated Council that the Town is approaching this by-law enforcement first from an educational perspective. Councillor Peachey noted that the Town has never had a landfill by-law so education and engagement of the community is needed. The SAO shared with Council some of the approaches that are being used to educate and engage the community. This includes posting information on the website/facebook, mailouts, quizzes to engage community in topic. The video made of the Public Works Foreman received over 600 views on Facebook. Normally the Town could host Town Halls for some of these topics but that is not an option right now due to COVID-19. Councillor Peachey acknowledged the work the Development Officer has done on community engagement with regards to the landfill by-law and the Community Plan.

Councillor Bernard inquired if the household waste area could be moved to the other side of the landfill as one side is lower. The Acting Public Works Manager and the SAO said that could look at it. HRN is currently working on moving the steel and building an access road for household waste. Councillor Bernard also inquired about when the revised budget would be ready. The SAO anticipates the middle of July.

Councillor Wever shared with Council that the Community Plan survey is now out. He also mentioned that he thinks the work on the trail looks very good. Councillor Wever also suggested that Council request the GNWT to waive the 25% contribution amount for projects. The Yukon is currently doing this. He recommends getting other communities on board to pressure the GNWT. We should speak to the NWTAC and suggest a letter from all 33 communities.

Councillor Audet request that the action item list be returned.

Mayor Pope requested that the Recreation Committee get something going for Canada Day. Mayor Pope also inquired if it would be possible for residents with large loads of garbage to contact the Town first so that someone could meet them up at the landfill to direct them where to dump. Mayor Pope would like to speak to Infrastructure to fix the highway signage. Finally Mayor Pope issued a challenge to Council to assist with clean up of some outstanding areas. Imperial Oil is willing to put a crew out on Friday morning to clean up along Canol and the dump road. All in favour.

11. Correspondence to Council

a)

12. Correspondence from Council

a) Norman Wells and District Chamber of Commerce

Councillor Audet pointed out for the record that his name should not have been included on the communication as he had declared a conflict of interest and was a part of the discussion/decision.

b) Norman Wells Trans-Canada Trail Society

c) Yamouri Inn

d) Snowbirds

13. In Camera

a) Legal

'Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby go in camera the time being 8:39PM.'

Motion: No. 20-15-11
Moved by: Councillor Wever
Seconded by: Councillor Audet

Motion Carried

'Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby leave in camera the time being 9:40PM.'

Motion: No. 20-15-12
Moved by: Councillor Audet
Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried

14. Adjourn 9:40PM



Frank Pope
Mayor



Cathy Clarke
Senior Administrative Officer