Town of Norman Wells Minutes

Regular Council Meeting #20-28 Tuesday, December 1, 2020, 7:00pm **Council Chambers**

Call in 1-866-969-8429 ID: 5040455

Present:

Frank Pope

Mayor

Alexis Peachey Pascal Audet

Deputy Mayor Councillor

Jean-Paul Bernard

Councillor

Jim Boyle

Councillor- telephone

Trevor Smith

Councillor

David Wever

Councillor

Staff:

Cathy Clarke

Senior Administrative Officer

Alex Millette

Recreation Director/Acting Public Works Manager

Hugo Pabke

Utilities Manager

Kayla Turner

Governance and Community Engagement Manager

Guests:

Chris Chivers

Telephone

Call to Order 7:00PM

Declaration of Conflict of Interest 2

Councillor Audet item 7a. Councillor Smith item 10b.

Review and Adoption of Agenda 3.

Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting, dated December 1st, 2020 is hereby adopted.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-01

Moved by:

Councillor Peachey

Seconded by:

Councillor Smith

Motion Carried

The agenda is adopted with the following changes:

4. No delegation.

5. Add Town Planning Committee meeting minutes from November 26, 2020 meeting and Norman Wells Housing Project presentation.

Delegation 4.

No Delegates.

5. **Committee Reports**

- a) Town Planning Committee
 - a. Minutes November 5 and 26, 2020
 - b. Norman Wells Housing Project Presentation.

The Committee continues to review the Property Standards By-Law. They have been editing the Draft Community Plan and have sent requested changes to WSP.

Janelle Doerksen attended the Town Planning Committee Meeting on November 26 to present to the Committee the Norman Wells Housing Project. Council will review the presentation and project agreement at a later date.

The Committee has had a request for cold storage on lot 130 from the NWT Housing Corporation. The Committee did not recommend this as the purpose would be for storage which is against the

current and new Zoning By-Laws. They also advised that NWT Housing Corporation remove a garage that is currently on a lot that they would like to buy which is also against the By-Law.

6. Minutes

a) Regular Meeting of Council #20-27

Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated November 17th, 2020 are hereby adopted.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-02

Moved by:

Councillor Peachey

Seconded by:

Councillor Bernard

Motion Carried

Councillor Audet left Council Chambers at 7:06PM

7. Old Business

a) HRN Contracting Ltd.

Resolution

a. Contract Negotiation

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby grants the extension of the Municipal Civil Works Contract with HRN Contracting Ltd. for a period of two years.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-03

Moved by:

Councillor Smith

Seconded by:

Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried

See below a statement from Mayor Pope:

I have no issues with the performance of HRN on Town work. To be clear, contractors work for the Town, the Town does not work for any of the Town Contractors. We as a Town need more than one contractor, we need to see opportunities spread among all contractors and businesses where possible. Allowing all of them a chance to survive, especially during the Covid-19 situation we all face.

Last Monday morning, an employee of HRN Contracting texted several members of Council with information not yet reported in the Northern Media. Also, in this text was a comment that I, Frank, have a hidden agenda. My agenda is wide open, nothing is hidden. I have done everything within my power working in partnership with my fellow Council members to recover from the chaos of the former administration, working diligently to improve the lives of our residents, contractors, and businesses large and small.

As a result of this personal attack on myself by a representative of HRN, copied only to certain members of Council and who knows who else, I will be abstaining on the vote extending the contract.

Mayor Pope and Councillor Boyle abstained from voting.

Councilors Smith, Peachey, Wever, and Bernard voted in favor of extending the contract.

Councillor Audet joined Council in Chambers at 7:14PM

b) Green Enterprises Northwest Territories

Resolution

a. Contract Negotiation

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby grants the extension of the Municipal Garbage Collection and Disposal Services Contract with Green Enterprises Northwest Territories for a period of two years.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-04

Moved by:

Councillor Peachey

Seconded by:

Councillor Wever

Motion Carried

Council voted all in favor of extending contract with Green Enterprises Northwest Territories.

8. New Business

a) Committee Proposal- Norman Wells Advancement of Equity and Inclusion Committee

'Be it resolved that the Norman Wells Advancement of Equity and Inclusion Committee is formally adopted by the Town Council of Norman Wells.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-05

Moved by:

Councillor Wever

Seconded by:

Councillor Smith

Motion Carried

See Committee Proposal attached.

The Norman Wells Advancement of Equity and Inclusion Committee is open to all residents. The Committee would be confronting systemic discrimination and racism within corporations. They would also support a strong social infrastructure, neighborhood programs, as well as intersectionality when planning and delivering services. This will allow for allies and marginalized communities to come together. The Committee will assist in education, health care, workplace equity, and how to be a role model in the community. The SAO mentioned there would be an impact on the internal policies that are currently in place such as hiring procedures and grievance policies. Councillor Peachey noted that the Committee is designed to be a working group that analyze hiring procedures, human resources standards, by-laws, and other policies. A notice will go out for community members to apply, and there will be a training process once members are chosen. Councillor Peachey also mentioned that the Committee is going to be a lot of work and that it will be slow moving and not see instant results but will set the Committee up for future success. The By-Law will carry on to the next council as it will be written into the Council By-Law just like the other Council Committees. The By-Law will also state that three members of the Committee will remain members when a new Council is sworn in. Council voted in favor of adopting this Committee.

b)Williams Engineering Building Assessment Proposal

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby approves Williams Engineering Canada to provide a Building Condition Assessment of the following facilities: Norman Wells Pool, Curling Rink, Arena, Fitness Centre, and Community Hall for the amount of \$116,420.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-06

Moved by: Seconded by: Councillor Wever Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried

The recreation consultants recommend that all town recreation facilities be assessed as part of the recommendations given in the long-term Recreation Plan. This will help support any funding or grants available towards a facility replacement plan. As of right now, Gas Tax will not cover the assessment, however the SAO and Alex have a meeting with MACA to discuss this further as Gas Tax can be applied to recreation and the betterment of its facilities. CPI will help fund some of this project. The last assessments done on any recreation facilities were done in 2007. The Town is not looking to replace all facilities at this time but is looking for information on the condition of existing infrastructure in order to put a facility replacement plan in place. Councillor Boyle suggested that the Town ask for more quotes to compare costs. The benefit of using Williams Engineering is that they are local to the Territory and would not have to self-isolate to visit the Community where they could deliver a personal report to Council. Councillor Wever suggested having other Town infrastructure assessed (fire hall, town office, public works shop). The initial plan was to have recreation facilities assessed because of the Recreation Plan being put in place. Council approves this proceeding subject to the SAO and Alex finding funding for this project. Approved by all.

Councillor Smith left at 7:33PM

c)Negotiated Contracts Policy

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby approves sole sourcing for the construction of two of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation homes on Marten Avenue to the Norman Wells Land Corporation and the Yamoga Land Corporation as per the requirements of the Policy attached.'

The remaining home will go out for tender

Motion: No. 20-28-07
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Bernard

econded by: Councillor Bernard Motion Withdrawn

The SAO explained the context of the letter Council received from the Yamoga Land Corporation and the Norman Wells Housing Corporation. Policy 11.26 is a standing policy with the GNWT. When they choose to sole source, Council must be in agreement. The rules state, that each of the Land Corporations must utilize local staff. Mayor Pope noted that this is the first time that we have ever been asked to comment on any sole sourced work. He suggested that nothing else be sole sourced unless passed through Council first. This item came back to Council because proper context was not given in the letter originally submitted to Council. Council agrees that there are companies who are local to Norman Wells who support this kind of work and Council would like to support them. Councillor Wever suggested inviting the Minister to come visit and explain to Council why this project is being sole sourced.

Council tabled the motion subject to meeting with the Minister of Housing.

Councillor Smith joined Council in Chambers at 7:40PM

9. Council Forum

Councillor Bernard- none.

Councillor Audet- asked if the road to Jackfish Lake will be plowed again this year. Alex responded that, yes, the road will be plowed again this year.

Councillor Boyle- none.

Councillor Wever- he read an article that came out on the Federal Government giving Norman Wells \$500,000 towards a Waste Management Facility. The SAO clarified that this money is not given to the Town of Norman Wells, it is misleading as the funds are directly related to Imperial Oil's remediation plans.

Councillor Peachey- none.

Councillor Smith- none.

Mayor Pope- debate and approval of the 2021 Operating and Capital budgets to happen December 15, 2020 at 7pm (Regular Scheduled Meeting of Council #20-29).

10. Correspondence to Council

a) ENR Response to Mayor Pope

Information

Councillor Smith left at 7:46PM

b) Federal Rapid Housing Initiative

Discussion

There is a short timeline on this project, as the Town received this document late. It is something that Council would like to get out to the Community in case anyone is interested.

Councillor Smith returned at 7:49PM

c) Request Regarding Bill C-213

Information/Discussion

Mayor Pope suggested that each Council Member judge whether they wish to support this Bill as individuals.

11. Correspondence from Council

12. In Camera

'Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby go in camera the time being 7:53PM.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-08

Moved by:

Councillor Wever

Seconded by:

Councillor Smith Motion Carried

a) Legal

Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby leave in camera the time being 8:56PM.'

Motion:

No. 20-28-09

Moved by:

Councillor Smith

Seconded by:

Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried

13. Adjourn

8:57PM Councillor Smith

MAYOR

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER