

**Town of Norman Wells
Minutes
Regular Council Meeting #19-18
Tuesday August 20th, 2019, 7:00pm
Council Chambers, Town of Norman Wells**

Present: Frank Pope Mayor
Alexis Peachey Deputy Mayor
Trevor Smith Councilor
David Wever Councilor
Pascal Audet Councilor
Jim Boyle Councilor

Regrets: Jean-Paul Bernard Councilor (vacation) – on the phone

Staff: Cathy Clarke Senior Administrative Officer
Johannie Lapierre Secretary/Development Officer – on the phone
Misty Rayner Finance Manager
Randy Sinasac Fire Chief/By-Law Officer
Alex Millette Recreation Manager

Delegation: Tim McDonald RCMP Corporal

Guests: Cindy Collier

1. Call to Order– 7:00PM

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
Councilor Audet claims conflict on item 7b).

3. Review and Adoption of Agenda
‘Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting, dated August 20th, 2019, is hereby adopted.

Motion: No. 19-18-01
Moved by: Councilor Smith
Seconded by: Councilor Wever

Motion Carried

4. Delegation

- a) RCMP – Corporal Timothy MacDonald
Corporal McDonald introduced himself and spoke of how welcoming the community is. He noted how well behaved people are at events in town and mentioned how he intends to become very involved within the community. Corporal McDonald stated that he will be stationed in Norman Wells for 2 years with potential for a third year here. Corporal McDonald requested clarification from council on whether the detachments reports are detailed enough for use by Council, or if they would prefer less information. Council responded that the information is good information; as well they appreciate the Corporals presence at the second meeting every month so that questions can be asked as they arise. Council asked about the amount of people whom travel on ATV's without helmets. Corporal McDonald replied that the RCMP intend to come down harder on people for that in the near future, however there are not many who call in the incidents when they see them. Councilor Boyle mentioned that Yellowknife Dispatch inform complainants that a call in of this nature is not enough to warrant a call out; Corporal McDonald responded that he is aware of the issue and is working to have that taken care of. Councilor Audet said that the report structure currently used is appreciated, and allows Council to establish trends if they wish.

Received as information

5. Minutes

- a) Council Minutes: Regular Council Meeting July 16th, 2019
‘Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated July 16, 2019, are hereby adopted.’

Motion: No. 19-18-02
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Peachey
Seconded by: Councilor Smith

Motion carried

- b) COW Minutes: July 23rd, 2019
'Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated July 23, 2019, are hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 19-18-03
Moved by: Councilor Smith
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Peachey

Motion carried

- c) Draft Joint Town Planning & Recreation Committee Minutes
'Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated July 23, 2019, are hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 19-18-04
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Peachey
Seconded by: Councilor Wever

Motion carried

6. Old Business

7. New Business

- a) NWTAC AGM and potential conference attendance

Received as information

- b) Mackenzie House – Landfill, briefing and update

Councilor Audet Declared a conflict and left the room, the time being 7:15PM

The Development Officer noted that only one portion of the building will remain under the new permit that will be issued on Monday; the new permit contained the same conditions as the previous permit issued.

Received as information

Councilor Audet returned to the room, the time being 7:18PM

- c) Tax Payments – arrears and leases

GNWT has not given us any indication of how to proceed on the arrears on GNWT lands after multiple meetings. Mayor Pope said that next Thursday the Senior Administrative Officer and the Mayor will meet with the Northwest Territories Association of Communities Executive Director and President. In the afternoon of the 29th of August the Mayor and SAO will meet with the Deputy Minister from MACA regarding the issues facing the Town of Norman Wells. Administration had found some old by-laws referencing "Forgiveness of Debt" under which Council will write off amounts owed as approved by Council as well as the Minister for MACA. In the past this had been done a number of times, but no more recent than 2012. The reason cited for the By-Law was cancellation of the lease agreement. Administration does not recommend use of this practice due to the fact that GNWT does not terminate the lease even under circumstance of death, and so the debt will continue to accumulate from year to year as the lease is allowed to continue to age. Administration clarified that Council has the ability to forgive debts via the CTV Act legislation in conjunction with the creation of a By-Law. The property tax and assessment act says that you cannot write off taxes, but the CTV act does allow you to write off taxes. Councilor Audet asked if the Town of Norman Wells is able to seize the land. Administration clarified that legislation conflicts itself where this is concerned. Councilor Boyle mentioned that we do not wish to be liable for what is left on these properties if we can help it. Administration agrees.

Received as information

8) Committee Reports

- a) Planning – Councilor Wever updated that the judging for the Mountain Avens Award has been completed and the winner will be announced at the Farmers Market

- b) Economic Development

- c) Recreation – Everything has been successfully planned for Black Bear Jamboree, there are only minor adjustments left to make. Rec Committee requests the ability to close the Town Square from ~4-7PM on Saturday August 31, 2019.

Be it resolved that Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby authorize up to \$20,000.00 of funding from the Recreation Department of the Town of Norman Wells towards the costs of the Black Bear Jamboree event.'

Motion: No. 19-18-05
Moved by: Councilor Wever
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Peachey

Motion Carried

9) Departmental Reports

- a) Town Manager – Administration is putting a lot of energy into Funding and Grants. There is 9 million dollars in CanNor funding dedicated to the Northwest Territories. Administration wishes to access as many of the grants and funding available from the CanNor Economic Development Fund to include projects like the landfill remediation with economic development spin combined with the all season road. The People at CanNor have been very good in dealing with us and our timelines and wishes for projects. The Drainage Program which we applied for through ICIP (Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Programs) has been approved, but we have yet to receive word on any of our other applications.
- b) Finance – Cheque disbursement for the month of July was missing from the package and will be included in your next meeting package.
- c) Fire Department – the Fire Chief asked for feedback on the format of his report to Council. Looking for formulate a strategy into getting the administration within protective services back on track. Fire Chief mentioned that he has an open door policy for anyone who wishes to receive further clarification on anything reported. Mayor Pope asked how Chief intends to handle recruitment and retention. The Fire Chief responded that recruitment and retention is the highest priority, and efforts are being made wherever possible to recruit new members; we intend to retain by building a culture of community involvement, fire prevention and pride in what we do. Councilor Wever asked if MACA has been speaking with the Fire Chief in regards to 911, or dispatch help from the GNWT. The Fire Chief responded that meetings are ongoing, Chief is looking to make the meetings more productive and solution based. Overlaps are being established in all problem areas to identify gaps and focus on solutions rather than blame.
- d) Lands
- e) Public Works – New Manager starting on Thursday, Public Works Foreman started in August and the organization has already saved money by his presence.
- f) Recreation – Recreation Programmer received commendations from the Recreation manager for filling the shoes in the absence of a manager – a lot of good work done there. Norman Wells has been very friendly and welcoming; love the environment.
- g) Utilities – the Utilities Trainee Position worker has decided after lengthy fruitful discussion; to resign, the Utilities Department is looking for a third person, potentially someone young, who we can put through the lengthy training to become certified to work within the department.

Received as information

10) Council Forum

Councilor Audet – was informed by the contractor doing the renovations that there is mold in the curling club. It was found during the renovations to the Kitchen in the building. Mayor Pope stated that if additional funds are required, to please bring them to Council. Councilor Audet stated that he had received a complaint from Denis Rheault (Councilor Smith was approached as well) stating that his essential services may be restricted due to the potholes. The roads in Town are really bad; there is no crown on the road. Councilor Audet also mentioned that the crosswalk light is still not installed.

Councilor Smith – can Town Square be swept prior to the Black Bear Jamboree event, also can vendors be contacted and informed that Town Square will be closed to vehicles for a period of time on Saturday August 31st, 2019.

Deputy Mayor Peachey – Questionnaires will be sent out regarding the SAO Performance Review this week to Council, Department Managers as well as staff.

Councilor Wever – the park on Mountain Avens Crescent is swamped, so recommendation is to fix it or destroy it. Councilor Audet pointed out that ITI has money for such projects. Jackfish Lake maintenance – handrail needs to be welded. Ask for volunteers to assist in the minor cosmetic fixes that are required at the campground. Mayor Pope mentioned that it looks as if the permafrost has pushed the handrail posts out of the ground – not sure how we can put them back in the ground. Firewood is a continuous issue – Administration clarified that firewood is being brought out, but it is not a bottomless well; there is reason to believe that it is being taken from the campground. Possible

supplement to the landfill may be an incinerator which can generate heat that can be used to heat buildings. More research is required and will bring that back to Council – the nice thing about it is it is scalable so we can make it as large as we require. Bear Awareness – can we approach ENR to place signs around town noting that this is Bear Country, to be aware, and what to do if a bear is encountered. The Chip-Seal between the gas station and the coast guard dock has 3 really rough patches which are receiving many complaints. Mayor Pope stated that the thought is to rip it up – further discussion is required on what to do with that area. Administration stated that this has been brought to the Public Works Managers attention as a priority.

Councilor Boyle – Nothing

Mayor Pope – NWTAC Invitation to a meeting in February, and I have sent out a sheet of some of the conferences I have researched that are coming up in the next six months. If any councilor sees any conference that they would like to attend, please make note of it and let the Town Manager know; we would like to see no more than 2 councilors attend each conference. I will keep you abreast of new conferences coming up. We were approved for approximately 1.5 million dollars on roads and ditches; specifically for road-base and sub-base work, as well as to ensure we have proper ditching, and culverts. We are waiting to hear about the rest of our applications for funding.

Councilor Bernard – 4 communities have ambulances and training and were only responsible to pay for shipping on the vehicle.

11) Correspondence

a) Monthly Mayor's Policing Report July, 2019

Received as information

Mayor Pope called for a 3-4 minute break, the time being 8:20PM

12) In Camera

a) Negotiations

'Be it resolved we hereby go in camera to discuss negotiations the time being 8:30 PM'

Motion: No. 19-18-06
Moved by: Councillor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Wever

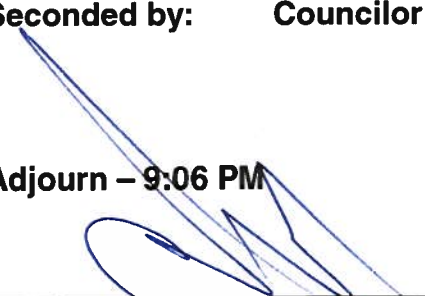
Motion Carried

'Be it resolved we hereby leave in camera the time being 9:05 PM'

Motion: No. 19-18-07
Moved by: Deputy Mayor Peachey
Seconded by: Councilor Smith

Motion Carried

13) Adjourn – 9:06 PM



Frank Pope
Mayor



Cathy Clarke
Senior Administrative Officer