# Town of Norman Wells Minutes

## Regular Council Meeting #19-22 Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 7:00pm Council Chambers, Town of Norman Wells

Present:

Frank Pope

Mayor

Alexis Peachey

Deputy Mayor (Chairperson) Councillor

Pascal Audet Jim Boyle David Wever

Councillor Councillor

Regrets:

Trevor Smith

Councillor (Personal)

Jean-Paul Bernard

Councillor (Out of town)

Staff:

Misty Rayner

Finance Manager/Acting Senior Administrative Officer

Johannie Lapierre Shawn Donahue Secretary/Development Officer Public Works Manager

Hugo Pabke Alex Millette Utility Manager
Recreation Director

Randy Sinasac

Fire Chief

Jennifer Waterhouse

Governance / Community Engagement

**Delegation:** 

**Guest:** 

Cindy Collier Chris Chivers

1. Call to Order- 7:00PM

The Mayor welcomes Jennifer Waterhouse as new member of the staff.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

3. Review and Adoption of Agenda

'Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting, dated November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 is hereby adopted as amended to cancel the delegation and to include in 11. Correspondence, a letter to Council from the Recreation Manager.'

**Motion:** 

No. 19-22-01

Moved by:

**Councillor Wever** 

Seconded by:

**Deputy Mayor Peachey** 

**Motion Carried** 

4. Delegation

a) Roberta Bighetty

Cancelled

5. Minutes

a) Regular Council Minutes of Council #19-21

'Be it resolved that the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 are hereby adopted.'

**Motion:** 

No. 19-22-02

Moved by:

**Councillor Boyle** 

Seconded by:

**Deputy Mayor Peachey** 

**Motion Carried** 

6. Old Business

None

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#### 7. New Business

## a) Winter Maintenance and Roads Operations Policy

The Public Works Manager and the Senior Administrative Officer worked on this policy requested by Council to avoid staying in reactive mode. The S.A.O. notes HRN Contracting Ltd.'s good work in the time during the period the Town was short staffed. The policy will be posted for public review after the corrections identified by Council have been made.

Received as information

### b) Capital Budget 2020 discussion

Each department will present their capital projects for discussion in order to finalize the 2020 operational and five years capital budget at the next Council meeting.

Public Works Department:

Request: Dump Truck with Snow Plow and Sander, Bobcat Street Sweeper, Garbage Bin Dumper. Questions were raised about the impact on the contractor for the garbage collection and the contract expiry date. The Public Works Manager explained that he is planning for more control on the maintenance and optimization of the bins and implementing bins to be used for recycling so we can better manage the landfill as well as money saving due to the current state of the bins (many bins are 35 years old and in poor condition) and the expensive replacement cost. Council is being advised of the current bins conditions and the work that will be necessary. Garbage bin dumper would allow Public Works to be more accountable and in better control of the bin maintenance, dumping schedule and recycling. It was proposed to purchase a truck as the Town is not the only contractor's contract. The quotes have been studied with the criteria of the cost, warranty, size and attachments and a build time of 6 months and barging schedules. The condition and placement of the bins is the biggest concerns right now with the garbage contract. Recommend that Public Works Manager continue to work with contractor to improve performance in meeting terms of contract.

A 5 ton dump truck with sander and plow request was brought to Council this year. The vehicle could be used for some of the heavy work planned by Public works such as the fixing and re-sanding of playgrounds, fixing and installing guard rails, upcoming work at Jackfish, road and parking lot sanding and cleaning of the ditches, it will also be utilized in work in other departments. Questions were raised about the vehicle recommended. Public Works Manager obtained a number of quotes and the International vehicle was the best value for money and had very good reviews and warranty. The bobcat street sweeper would be used for the walking trails and parking lots.

The work and discussions with the contractors will continue and be reported to Council. The Town is currently "playing catch up" and on maintenance mode to better serve the community and be more accountable for the work needing to be done. Options will be presented to council

#### Fire Department:

Request: Garage Doors, Washer Extractor, Fire Truck, Exhaust System.

The Fire Chief explained that the request is based on the evaluated risks to maintain the level of service and includes a variety of options depending on council's directions and priorities.

Council was advised that the Fire Truck has a maximum of 2 years according to the legislation. It takes at least 18 months to build a fire truck once a RFP has been approved. Report will be provided to Council about the Fire truck's condition and the possible options. The funding opportunities are raised such as the property taxes and corporate partnerships. Report of the on-going discussions will be provided to Council.

The Fire Station is in need of significant maintenance. The garage doors are in need of replacement. They can be repaired but the long term plan for the building needs to be considered when deciding to replace or repair. It is time to plan instead of reacting, depending on the desire to still use this building in the long term.

The lack of reserve fund was also brought up as a difficulty to put money aside for new investments while "playing catch up". The planning would avoid spending to much money on maintenance. The Fire Department can still fulfill its mission in the meantime.

Recruitment continues to be an issue (only 2 firefighters at the last landfill fire), which shows the importance of making the department more appealing.

#### **Utilities Department:**

Request: Truckfill Arm Replacement, Hydrant Replacement, Lagoon De-Sludging.

Questions were raised about the damages that occurred to the Arm and the temporary set-up and the impacts on the operations & the building. A report of the different possible options for the replacement will be provided to Council.

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The Finance Manager explains the importance of accounting of the production costs as per the legislation as well as the use of the hydrants for good fire protection. Hydrants are also used to flush the water mains and the replacement work wouldn't affect the operations.

The Utilities Manager wished to advise Council of an up-coming report from Stantec on the lagoon. Options will be presented to Council based on the recommendations.

Recreation Department:

Request: Utility Vehicle (UTV)

The request is justified by the desire to improve efficiency as the recreation department is increasing in number of staff, projects, responsibilities and outside activities. Questions were raised about the use during the winter and reconsidering the proposed shared use with other departments. The curling club renovations should be done for the beginning of the season.

The Finance Manager reminds Council that a capital project has been conditionally approved by the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan (ICIP) funding. There is a risk that the purchase for this project will be bumped to the 2020 capital project if the Town doesn't get the permission before the end of the year.

Mayor: Inquires on the funding announced by MACA a while ago.

SAO: We haven't received more information on the required consultation.

Mayor: Plans to bring the subject at his next meeting with the Premier of the NWT.

SAO: Advises that the summaries of the operational and capital budget discussions will be ready for the Committee of the Whole meeting next Tuesday.

Received as information

#### 8) Committee Reports

a) Planning: None

b) Economic Development: None

c) Recreation: None

## 9) Departmental Reports (2nd meeting of each month)

## 10) Council Forum

Councillor Wever:

-Suggests sending a letter of congratulations to Paulie Chinna, the newly elected MLA for the Sahtu Region.

Mayor replies that it has already been done.

-Suggests bringing to the next meeting the report from Arctic Energy Alliance for the arena.

### **Councillor Audet:**

-Suggests more street lights for the community as LED doesn't use a lot of power and as the winter is dark. A suggestion made to light areas for children to play.

Councillor Boyle:

-Advises that the pedestrian crosswalk light is not working well.

Mayor:

- -Advises that the draft newsletter is ready for review by the Council members.
- -Expresses him concern that the waste at the landfill might not have been pushed back as far as usual.

#### 11) Correspondence

Information. Recreation department has donated gym passes to the biathlon team

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## 12) In Camera

Legal

'Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby go in camera the time being

8:45PM'

**Motion:** 

No. 19-22-03

Moved by:

**Deputy Mayor Peachey** 

Seconded by:

**Councillor Boyle** 

**Motion Carried** 

'Be it resolved the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby leave in camera the time

being 9:35PM'

Moved by

No. 19-22-04

Moved by: Seconded by: Councillor Boyle Councillor Wever

**Motion Carried** 

**13)** Adjourn – 9:36 pm

Frank Pope Mayor Cathy Clarke

Senior Administrative Officer