

**Town of Norman Wells
Minutes
Special Council Meeting #21-35
Tuesday, December 14, 2021 7:00pm
Council Chambers and Microsoft Teams**

Present:	Frank Pope Pascal Audet Kacee Hunter Kelly McCoy Alexis Peachey Trevor Smith David Wever	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor
Staff:	Cathy Clarke Karen Boudreau Mkhabela Masuku Lucas Nadeau Hugo Pabke Kayla Turner	Senior Administrative Officer Finance Manager- Microsoft Teams Development Officer Public Works Foreman Utilities Manager Governance and Community Engagement Manager
Guests:	Chris Chivers- Microsoft teams	

1. Call to Order/Roll Call 7:00PM

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

- Councillor Wever: Item 5c.

3. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Resolution

‘Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Special Council Meeting, dated December 14th, 2021 is hereby adopted.’

Motion: No. 21-35-01

Moved by: Councillor Peachey

Seconded by: Councillor Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

4. Minutes

a) Regular Council Meeting #21-34

Resolution

‘Be it resolved that the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated December 7th, 2021 is hereby adopted.’

Motion: No. 21-35-02

Moved by: Councillor Peachey

Seconded by: Councillor Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

5. Old Business

a) 2022 Operational Budget Third Reading

Discussion/Resolution

- Staff provided a memo to Council regarding vacant property taxes. Staff investigated what other municipalities/cities (Toronto, Hamilton, and Vancouver) in Canada do for vacant property taxes. All 3 cities are proceeding differently. Toronto is currently getting an understanding of how vacant property taxes work; it is being presented at their city Council meeting tomorrow. Mkhabela will attend this meeting virtually. Hamilton introduced a by law in which residents must register their vacant homes. All three municipalities are taking their time to introduce the tax.
- The SAO recommends proceeding with vacant property tax after major public consultation and education and implementing slowly and wisely. She recommended to Council adding vacant property tax to the 2023 budget.
- The SAO also suggested referring this item to the Economic Development and Tourism Committee for further discussion and research. Council agreed.

‘Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to the 2022 Operational Budget.’

Motion: No. 21-35-03

Moved by: Councillor Wever

Seconded by: Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried Unanimously

- The Finance Manager explained what “other” sources of funding refers to on the capital plan. These are sources of funding other than Gas Tax and CPI.
- The Capital Plan can be amended by council at any point throughout the year.
- Should funding not be available for a project, items will have to be reprioritized as per what Council determines.
- Funding for the landfill will be sought through FCM which have a number of green initiative grants.
- Councillor Audet left the room at 7:16pm as discussion was regarding the excavator. The excavator was removed from the capital plan for further discussion in the new year.
- The Public Works Foreman gave Council an explanation of cost comparisons between renting, leasing and owning equipment.
- Councillor Audet returned to the room at 7:27PM.

‘Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to the 2022 Capital Budget.’

Motion: No. 21-35-04
Moved by: Councillor Wever
Seconded by: Councillor Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

Councillor Wever left the room at 7:28PM.

- Increase to Hydrocarbon Industrial mill rate is around two million dollars which will help to fund immediate reserves.

‘Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to Mill Rates By Law #21-20.’

Motion: No. 21-35-05
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor McCoy

Motion Carried Unanimously

Councillor Wever returned to the room at 7:29PM

- Councillor Hunter noted that he is against an increase in the honoraria as he feels no one ran for office for the money. He proposed that Council donate the increase in honoraria to a community organization or charity for the year.
- Councillor Peachey explained that the increase mirrors the employee salary policy. She also noted CPP is increasing to 5.5% as of January 1. There will also be times that Council has to choose Councillor duties over work which means they would be losing out on their full-time wages.
- Councillor Wever suggested donations be the choice of the individual.

‘Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to Council Honoraria By Law #21-19.’

Motion: No. 21-35-06
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried with 6 votes in favor and 1 against

‘Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to Water and Sewer Services By Law #21-18.’

Motion: No. 21-35-07
Moved by: Councillor Smith
Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried with 6 votes in favor and 1 against

‘Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to Garbage Collection Services By Law #21-17.’

Motion: No. 21-35-08
Moved by: Councillor Peachey

Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried with 6 votes in favor and 1 against

g) Service Rates By Law Third Reading

Discussion/Resolution

'Be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Norman Wells hereby gives third reading to Service Rates By Law #21-21.'

Motion: No. 21-35-09

Moved by: Councillor McCoy

Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried Unanimously

6. Correspondence to Council

a) Letter from community member

Discussion

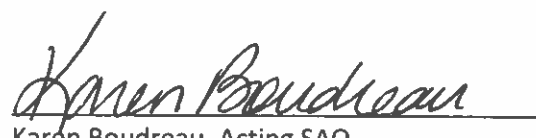
a. Response from SAO

- A letter addressed to the SAO, Mayor, and Council concerning the proposed purchase of an excavator and landfill office building.
- The SAO informed Council that ongoing dialogue with Mr. Lickoch has been very good.
- The SAO explained that the numbers in the capital plan are formulated from engineers and other experts in the field.

7. Adjourn 7:42PM Moved by Councillor McCoy



Frank Pope, Mayor



Karen Boudreau, Acting SAO