

**Town of Norman Wells
Minutes
Special Council Meeting #23-10
Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, 7:00pm
Council Chambers & Microsoft Teams**

Present:	Frank Pope Pascal Audet Kacee Hunter Alexis Peachey Kelly McCoy Trevor Smith Dave Wever	Mayor- Chair Deputy Mayor- Microsoft Teams Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor
Staff:	Cathy Clarke Karen Boudreau Alex Millette Mkhabela Masuku Kayla Turner	Senior Administrative Officer Finance Manager Recreation Manager Development Officer Governance and Community Engagement Manager
Gallery:	Chris Chivers- Microsoft Teams Nathan Watson	

1. Call to Order 7:00PM

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Resolution

- Removal of financial statements.

'Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Special Council Meeting, dated May 9th, 2023 is hereby adopted as amended.'

Motion: No. 23-10-01

Moved by: Councillor McCoy

Seconded by: Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried Unanimously

4. Committee Reports

a) Sahtu Regional Economic Development Conference Working Group

- Mayor Pope has been speaking with leadership from surrounding communities.
- Working group is meeting every 2 weeks.
- The conference curriculum is open for discussion and suggestions.

5. New Business

a) 2022 Draft Financial Statements- Item Removed

Information/Discussion/Resolution

b) Canadian North

Discussion

- Mayor Pope noted that much has been learned recently about the airline industry and the manage changes they are facing.
- Mayor Pope has been invited to meet with Canadian North board of directors and President in Yellowknife on May 12. They have offered to fly him to Yellowknife for meetings.
- Mayor Pope reported that Canadian North has listened and has heard what Council has had to say and in turn there may be some adjustments to the flight schedule.
- Canadian North Vice President was in town last Friday to meet with businesses and local grocery stores.
- Councillor McCoy suggested reiterating the importance of taking this up with our neighbors (Imperial Oil) and the potential of using scheduled flights instead of the charter. Councillor Wever declared a conflict of interest as the topic relates to his workplace.
- Mayor Pope noted that he has contact Imperial Oil for a meeting to hear their feedback.
- Councillor Hunter agreed with comments regarding Imperial Charter flights. He suggested that Council as a whole meet with Imperial. He noted that this may be an opportunity to enter into a socioeconomic agreement with imperial to ensure they provide greatest possible economic benefit to the community and for imperial to implement community friendly policies for the duration of their time in the community. He also noted that the Town should collect data from our residents and businesses on how this has impacted them and get testimonials and compile data into a report for Canadian north, imperial, GNWT, and the federal government.

- Councillor Hunter noted that when meeting with Canadian North:
 - Ask for daily service but once a day if that can't be accommodated.
 - Ask to implement reduced schedule seasonally starting in the fall.
 - Ask for more seat sales.
- Councillor Hunter suggested a meeting with the Federal Government to discuss:
 - Request an isolated travel subsidy for residents to offset increased costs and decline in quality of life.
 - Ask to repeal the carbon tax which is directly increasing cost of living and travel costs across Canada.
- Councillor Hunter suggested other things that could be done which include:
 - In addition to the added service North Wright Airways has implemented we should encourage them to expand more possibly into the Edmonton market.
 - Write to other airlines to ask them to increase their flight service to Norman Wells.
 - Use this as an opportunity to draw attention to an all weather road.
- Councillor Smith stated he likes that North Wright Airways has stepped up and offered more flights. He asked if anyone had reached out to Canada Post regarding mail as it is supposed to be delivered every day.
- Councillor Peachey suggested asking for seat sales for Norman Wells only.
- Councillor Smith would also like clarification as to why it was portrayed in the media that the cost to land in Norman Wells is high.
- Council to provide questions and suggestions to Mayor Pope for his meeting with Canadian North on Friday.
- The SAO will put some suggestions together of ideas to send off to MP McLeod.
- Councillor Hunter suggested a community survey and gathering testimonials as well as contact the grocery stores to see how their prices will be affected as well as Canada Post.
- Staff to send out survey.
- Councillor Hunter also suggested letting the community know that Council is having discussions with Canadian North as well as the Territorial and Federal governments.

6. **Adjourn** Councillor Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:31PM.



Frank Pope, Mayor



Cathy Clarke, SAO

