

**Town of Norman Wells
Minutes
Regular Council Meeting #23-17
Tuesday, July 18th, 2023, 7:00pm
Council Chambers & Microsoft Teams**

Present:	Frank Pope Pascal Audet Kacee Hunter Alexis Peachey Trevor Smith Kelly McCoy Dave Wever	Mayor Deputy Mayor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor Councillor
Staff:	Cathy Clarke Kayla Turner Alex Millette Lucas Nadeau Melody Puno Hugo Pabke Jaime Kearsy Brandon Scott Mkhabela Masuku Karen Boudreau	Senior Administrative Officer Governance and Community Engagement Manager Recreation Manager Public Works Manager Finance Clerk Utilities Manager By Law Officer Fire Chief- Microsoft Teams Development Officer Finance Manager- Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order 7:00PM

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

- None noted.

3. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Resolution

- Addition: In Camera- Negotiation.

'Be it resolved that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting, dated July 18th, 2023 is hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 23-17-01
Moved by: Councillor McCoy
Seconded by: Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried Unanimously

4. Delegation

5. Committee Reports

6. Minutes

a) Regular Council Meeting #23-15

'Be it resolved that the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, dated June 20th, 2023 are hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 23-17-02
Moved by: Councillor Wever
Seconded by: Councillor Peachey

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) Special Council Meeting #23-16

'Be it resolved that the minutes for the Special Council Meeting, dated June 27th, 2023 are hereby adopted.'

Motion: No. 23-17-03
Moved by: Councillor Peachey
Seconded by: Councillor Wever

Motion Carried with 6 votes in favor. Councillor Hunter abstained as he was not in attendance at the meeting.

7. Departmental Reports

a) Town Manager

- Barge Update:
 - Barge postponed and potentially cancelled.
 - Jeff Eddison, Acting Superintendent and DM has been an incredible support in helping get information regarding barge delays.
 - MACA was not aware of the barge delay and potential cancellation when we contacted them which also meant that there is no back up plan in place if the barge is cancelled.
 - The water is extremely low at Fort Liard and there are no dams on the BC side to release that would make a difference. The Mackenzie River has enough water, however getting to the Mackenzie is the challenge.
 - Jeff talked with Mike Cooper from Cooper's Barge and he said he is hoping to make the last barge of the season.
 - Dredging is planned however that takes environmental planning and approvals so that will not be an immediate fix.
 - Barge delays have been taken to the DM and made priority as we are very concerned regarding the arrival of heating supplies, food, fuel etc.
 - We have looked into MTS which will increase costs significantly.
 - Councillor Hunter suggested working with the GNWT to potentially bring the Military in for air support if needed as that has been done in other communities during such emergencies.
 - Councillor Smith noted that declaring a local state of emergency would allow MACA to step in at that point.
 - Mayor Pope noted that he called the Premier and left a message regarding opening dams on the BC side but has not received a call back.

b) Finance

- Councillor Hunter asked the Finance Manager if she was able to answer the questions he had brought up at the last council meeting. The Finance Manager responded that she has looked into the questions that were asked and is waiting for the cash flow from chipseal in order to review the budget. She will provide more information at the next meeting in August.

c) Fire Department

- Fire Department consultant Ross Potter has been training with the department this week. They have been working on practical skills for their 1001 certifications.

d) By-Law

- \$3600 was raised from the round trip tickets donated by Canadian North.
- One more set of tickets will be raffled during the month of August and will be drawn for during Black Bear Jamboree.
- July 29 there will be a corporate ball game. All proceeds go to support the food pantry.
- Jaime also shared a few statistics regarding food insecurity and poverty in the NWT and how the Sahtu region compares to the rest of Canada. She thanked Council for their ongoing support of the Food Pantry.

e) Governance & Community Engagement

f) Lands

- The Development Officer sent a package out to Council regarding the officiation of the Town Flag which will be added to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.
- Councillor Wever noted that during the branding process, it was discovered that we do not own the flag.
- Councillor Hunter asked if there are any plans to have land surveyors come up as he would like to look into having the land that we lease around Jackfish Lake surveyed. He noted that any land sold in that area could go towards park upgrades.
- Mayor Pope mentioned it might not be a good summer for tree planting as it is an unusually dry summer however he supports the initiative.
- Councillor Audet stated that he had been approached by an elder who was asking if there is anything that can be done about the erosion of the graveyard. The SAO responded that we will need to work with Imperial on that and she gave a brief history of the work that has been done regarding the river bank erosion in that area. The SAO will provide the drawings of the coastline to council which shows how the warm water from the Imperial dock has caused coastal erosion due to the change of flow of the water. Councillor Audet also asked if we have knowledge of who is buried at the graveyard and where. The Public Works manager responded that between the Public Works department and Lands we have graveyard records.

g) Public Works- Verbal Report

- The Public Works Manager thanked staff who stepped up to the plate during his holidays, especially Matthew Short who was acting manager.
- Landfill update:
 - The active slope stabilization is now complete.
 - Bear fencing materials will be flown in due to barge delays.

- Next steps at the landfill will be to install the brown water monitoring wells.
- South Subdivision final grade will take place tomorrow.
- Open municipal tenders are set to close this Friday.
- Communications regarding the Landfill scheduled to go out tomorrow to educate the public that the Town simply complies with the regulations set out as per the water license.
- Councillor Wever asked how the bear situation is at the landfill. The Public Works Manager responded that it is worse at this time. Staff have patched holes in the fence however they are still finding a way in. Due to barge delays the electric bear fence will be flown in.
- Councillor Hunter asked if Council could get notification when RFT/RFP's are awarded. Lucas noted he would add that information not his monthly report or send Council an email update.
- Councillor Hunter also noted that the blue bin on Franklin got hit during snow plow/removal and asked if the bin could be replaced or repaired. Lucas noted that the bin must be emptied manually and that he will look into replacing the bin.

h) Recreation

- This season at Jackfish Lake has been great so far and we have seen improved compliance from users.
- The Recreation Manager thanked community partners including Councillors McCoy and Hunter for their contributions to Canada Day Celebrations.
- He also thanked the community for their patience during the smokey season; the department was able to get equipment flown up which has significantly improved the air quality in the pool which has in turn allowed staff and users to be more comfortable.
- Councillor McCoy commended the recreation department on the job well done for Canada Day. He noted in 30 years it was the best Canada Day he had seen.
- Councillor Audet thanked the department for a job well done keeping things clean and organized at Jackfish Lake. He mentioned that the dock is very small and asked if the extra material we have could be used to double the size of the dock. Alex will look into this and provide information back to Council.
- Councillor Wever asked about the delays in opening the pool. Alex responded that the package for public health that is required for opening is quite lengthy. One requirement was a 24 hour test which was delayed which resulted in the final package being sent out later than anticipated.
- Councillor Hunter noted that council had been contacted by a resident regarding corporate gym memberships and asked if the rates as per the services rates by law could be clarified for users. Alex noted that there are some gaps in service which need to be addressed and that he had apologized to the corporate membership holder for any misconceptions. Mayor Pope suggested sending the process back to administration for review.

i) Utilities

- The department has started significant work on the sewer mains which includes clearing access to mains after the department received an order from ECC to do so.
- The Glycol Piping RFT closed on July 7th. There were two local bidders. Staff are currently in the process of awarding the tender.
- There is a significant water leak under the water plant (8 inch pipe which services the whole town). Hugo noted this will have to be dealt with before winter and it is going to be a significant expense.
- The SAO noted she has been working closely with Hugo regarding water leaks. She recently had a phone call with FCM and Infrastructure Canada. Funding for this type of infrastructure is not available or easily accessible.
- Mayor Pope asked if equipment will need to come in. Hugo responded that equipment will come in by plane if there is no barge.
- The SAO noted she spoke with the Finance Manager today; as per ECC oversight on the water license, some repairs and upcoming work are unbudgeted expenses.

8. Old Business

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| a) Council Communications | Discussion |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Our Role as a Municipality b. Why we buy equipment: Money Saved c. How our Finances Work: Transfer Payments, Grants, Financial Responsibilities d. Legal Explanations: Client/Solicitor Privilege (complete) e. How we affect the local economy f. Landfill (complete) g. Canadian North (complete) h. Capital Projects Update (in progress) | |
| b) Action Items of Administration Tracking | Discussion |

9. New Business

10. Council Forum

Councillor McCoy noted that garbage is still being dumped outside of the blue bin on Tulita Street and asked if it would be possible to monitor that area. The SAO noted that by law has been monitoring that area closely. Councillor

Peachey mentioned that the lids may be too heavy for children to lift and that could be why garbage is being set outside; she noted public education would be helpful.

Councillor Wever noted that he spoke with the NWTPC as there are some power lines that are leaning over. He mentioned that it is best to call the power corporation and notify them so that they can send up a linesman.

Councillor Smith

Councillor Hunter asked if it is possible to lay geo cloth near the utilidor after brush cutting is complete. Hugo noted that we have done that before however there are areas that are inaccessible to do so. He also asked if council would be willing to discuss the possibility of scholarships for local students. He mentioned this is something that would incentivize local graduates. Mayor Pope suggested a full committee of the whole discussion.

Mayor Pope noted that he met with Canadian North; there is a possibility that Monday and Friday flights will return and will provide more information to council when he receives it. He also noted that he would like Council to host an informal business meeting with local business owners to come together to discuss pressing matters, explore potential partnerships, and find innovative solutions to benefit the residents of Norman Wells. The SAO noted the importance of this meeting and has made it a priority to get invitations sent out as soon as possible.

Councillor Peachey noted that the FSGA meeting update on September 13th will be rescheduled to 1pm and a new invite will be sent out.

11. Correspondence to Council

- a) Ramparts Housing Transportation Concept, Memorandum of Understanding, and Letter of Support

12. Correspondence from Council

13. In Camera

'Be it resolved that the council of the Town of Norman Wells here by go in camera time being 8:21PM.'

Motion: No. 23-17-04
Moved by: Councillor McCoy
Seconded by: Councillor Hunter

Motion Carried Unanimously

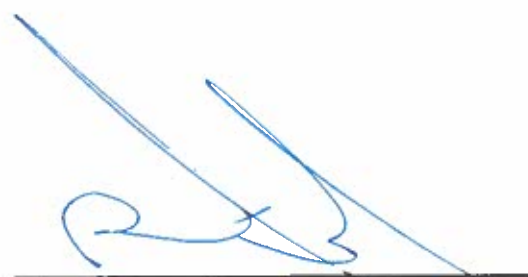
- a) Negotiation

'Be it resolved that the council of the Town of Norman Wells here by come out of in camera time being 8:47PM.'

Motion: No. 23-17-04
Moved by: Councillor McCoy
Seconded by: Councillor Smith

Motion Carried Unanimously

14. Adjourn Councillor Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:47PM



Frank Pope, Mayor



Cathy Clarke