



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BURNS LAKE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON Tuesday, November 17, 2020 AT 5 15 PM**

**PRESENT**

Mayor Funk  
Councillor Wiebe  
Councillor White  
Councillor Rensby  
CAO Worthing  
Director of Finance B. Jawhare  
Deputy Corporate Officer V. Anderson

**GUESTS**

Michael Riis-Christianson, RDBN Area B Director  
Clint Lambert, RDBN Area E Director  
John Illes, RDBN CFO

**PUBLIC**

0 members of the public

**MEDIA**

None

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Funk called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded by Council

**2020-11-17: 372**

**THAT the agenda for November 17, 2020, Special Meeting of Council be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS; AND READINGS OR ADOPTIONS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**DELEGATIONS**

None

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

None

REPORTS

Lakes District Museum Society – *Cameron Hart, Secretary*

- C. Hart provided an overview of operations for 2020
- The digitization project was mostly completed in 2020.
- Opened a public art gallery this summer.
- Repairs and maintenance were completed.
- Museum bookstore and curiosity shop provides a bit of revenue and brings people into the museum
- The Facebook posts have attracted attention globally.
- There was grant writing success, which mitigated the financial effects of COVID 19
- 2021 we are expecting to display works from a minimum of five artists.
- Striving to increase First Nation content at the museum.
- Creation of a mining exhibit next year.
- Fundraising events will depend on the pandemic.
- Creation of an emergency plan to safeguard museum items will be completed.
- Creating a *History Matters* book from Facebook posts.
- Requesting \$51,037 from Arts & Culture approximately a 4% increase.
- The Museum Society will use reserves to balance the budget.
- Using reserves is not sustainable, but the society feels they have momentum and will be able to increase revenues internally.
- The society has trimmed the budget and is being fiscally responsible.
- Wages were higher because of not receiving a local grant that had been received for years.
- Slowly working through duplicate items to ensure space for new items.
- Digitized items are now correctly stored in a climate-controlled room.
- Discussion of linking the audio files with the centennial celebration.
  
- The Mayor thanked the Museum presenter for the presentation.

Burns Lake Public Library – *Monika Willner, Manager*

- M Willner gave an overview of 2020 operates
- Cardholders continue to grow steadily.

- Only open for 24 hours per week, staff are still working behind the scenes, cleaning, providing curbside services and answering the phone.
- There was less programming this year.
- During the pandemic, the four seniors housing asked for books, which have been provided.
- The curbside service, our library was one of the first in the province to offer this service. The service has provided 7,500 items to residents.
- The curbside service was so necessary for patrons. 6.5 hrs. were spent a day on phone calls for books and for advice for seniors and others who were feeling isolated.
- Collaborated with The Link, the Community Library, they put packages for anyone in the community that wanted seeds. 52 packages were gone in a week.
- The Children's Library was renovated with funding from the Rotary Club. Three local artists are creating a magical environment.
- The village assisted financially to install Plexiglas.
- Burns Lake Public Library was asked to share their COVID Procedures with larger libraries in the province.
- Staff and public computers have been replaced.
- Seven tablets were purchased; they are looking at rent to own program for seniors.
- Training is a constant struggle. IT services are a challenge for the organization.
- Grant applications have been submitted, looking at online technology to serve children/students and homeschoolers.
- CELA assists print disabled patrons to increase audio library books.
- Working with NH, the Pines to get cognitive kits for use at the facility.
- Self-generated income shrunk in 2020 due to a lack of fundraising.
- The online Craft Fair is not as successful as an in-person event.
- Expenses wages are still the largest expense, part-time staff were laid off, and professional development expenses were lower.
- Retention of part-time staff and students is a challenge.
- The library board would like to offer staff a higher wage to hang onto them
- Additional funding for an IT person is essential to keeping the organization going.
- Patrons would like increased hours, required to close and clean at mid-day.
- The library did not stop during COVID.

- The additional cost of the audit is \$11,000.
- Vandalism is an issue.

Mayor Funk thanked the Burns Lake Public Library for their presentation.

**BUSINESS ARISING** None

**ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS – ACTION** None

**ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED AND FILED** None

**NEW BUSINESS** None

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** None

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded by Council

**2020-11-17: 373**

**THAT November 17, 2020, Special Meeting is adjourned at 6:25 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

  
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 MAYOR

  
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 CORPORATE OFFICER

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake held on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.