



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BURNS LAKE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON Tuesday, March 16, 2021 AT 7:00 PM Via Zoom**

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**PRESENT**

Mayor D. Funk  
Councillor K. White  
Councillor H. Wiebe  
Councillor K. Bjarnason  
CAO S. Worthing  
Director of Public Works – D. Ross  
Economic Development Officer L. Watson  
Tourism Coordinator – C. Tomlinson  
Director of Protective Services – R. Krause  
Director of Recreation Services – L. Jones -*via Zoom*  
Deputy Corporate Officer V. Anderson

**GUESTS**

**PUBLIC**

3- members of the public – via Zoom

**MEDIA**

Priyanka Ketkar – *Lakes District News - via Zoom*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor D. Funk called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

*“On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the area’s Six First Nations.”*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03:16: 104**

**THAT additional information be added under Section (5) DELEGATIONS and item (o) be added under (11) ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED AND FILED;**

**AND THAT the agenda for this meeting be approved as amended.**

**CARRIED**

**PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS; AND READINGS - None  
OR ADOPTIONS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

RCMP Update— *Shaunna Lewis, Staff Sargent*

- Additional information provided at meeting.
- The information provided shows call numbers for various local areas.
- Monthly reporting is also provided to First Nation Bands.
- Notable change to the type of calls in 2020, is the increase in assaults and alcohol and drugs related incidents.
- 5 members transferred out, were able to fill 3 positions in the past year.
- Two vacant positions are in the First Nation unit.
- One member from Smithers comes weekly to Burns Lake.
- In the upcoming year resources are going to be stretched.
- Members may need to be brought in from other districts over the summer.
- RCMP across Canada have the same issue, depot has reopened, and 33 new recruits will be online soon.
- Members work with community groups will continue.
- Members assigned to work with a school hope to re-establish the connection once COVID rules allow.
- Two positions short are 'hard vacancies', and three are 'soft' vacancies. Cannot fill the 'soft' vacancies, the hard vacancies can be filled.
- Check well-being now requires two-members to respond.
- Discussions with mental health providers to possibly work together on wellness checks.
- Mental health issues continue to be a concern.

The Mayor thanked Staff Sargent Lewis for the presentation.

*Tracey Payne – Landscaping and use of Outdoor area at St. John's Anglican Church*

- Additional information provided at meeting.
- Landscaping is not in the current project budget.
- Discussion of the NKDF application.
- Discussion of how to the landscape around the church can become a usable community space.
- The first landscape element T. Payne discussed was the SW corner of the lot, along side the Comfort Zone road.
- The three popular trees need to come down.
- Suggesting a lock block retaining wall that would extend along First Ave, this would create a level lawn area.
- Installation of a gazebo that would blend with the look of the church. The gazebo could have electricity to encourage use, such as coffee houses.

- Any work would have to be consistent with the surrounding area.
- The West side of the building could have interlocking pavers.
- Outside taps should be installed for watering.
- The change in elevation towards Free Growing Forestry is substantial. In the 50 ft section visible from First Ave, the use of loc blocks and rocks to create stairs could be an option.
- Suggested lighter maintenance of the garden could be completed by volunteers as done in other communities.
- The landscaping proposal could cost \$30,000 to \$50,000 which could be included in grant applications.
- The next step for the village is to have a firm plan using an architect for the building.
- Discussion of grant funding options.
- Discussion of engaging building users in the process.

The Mayor thanked T. Payne for the presentation and the work and thought that was put into the presentation.

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 105**

**THAT February 22, 2021, minutes of the Budget Meeting of Council be adopted;**

**AND THAT February 23, 2021, minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council be adopted;**

**AND THAT March 8, 2021, minutes of the Budget Meeting of Council be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

#### **MAYOR, COUNCILLOR, CAO. REPORTS**

Mayor D Funk

- CGL has been approved to administer AstraZeneca Vaccine.
- Mayor Funk attended meeting with Geoff Recknell, Brad McRobert and Anthony Gianotti. Agreed there will be economic impacts that will result in jobs losses.

Councillor Wiebe

- Attended Chinook AGM – the community forest would like to be able to invest their silviculture fund in low-risk equity investments.
- RBC Investment Advisor provided a low-risk investment option.
- They would always leave something in GICs.
- Chinook Management is not required to be audited.

2021-03-16: 106

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**THAT Council authorizes Chinook Community Forest Board of Directors to place silviculture obligation funds into low level risk equity investments that align with Chinook's investment strategy.**

**CARRIED**

Councillor Bjarnason

- Met with Emma Palmantier about the Supportive Housing Project
- Demolition and construction to start this spring.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 107

**THAT the Village of Burns Lake Mayor and Councillor reports be received.**

**CARRIED**

## REPORTS

Burns Lake Fire Department Level of Service Report – *Director of Protective Services, R. Krause*

- This is a housekeeping issue, the policy has been in use since 2019; however, it was not previously passed by council.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 108

**THAT the Burns Lake Fire Department Level of Service Policy No. ES2 be amended.**

**CARRIED**

Burns Lake Fire Department – February Call-out – *for information.*

Curling Rink Rental – Northern Health Vaccination Clinic – *Director of Recreation Services, L. Jones*

- Northern Health requires a location for the mass vaccination for the community.
- Northern Health will be supplying the Wi-Fi for the clinics.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 109

**THAT Staff enter into an agreement with Northern Health for the rental of the Curling Rink for COVID-19 vaccination clinics.**

**CARRIED**

Anglican Church Class D Estimate – *Director of Public Works D. Ross*

- A structural engineer will be involved.
- The estimate is \$35,000.
- It will take time for the architects to complete a site visit and the estimate.
- Staff is unsure of the timeline.
- An *As Built Drawing* will be completed.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 110

**THAT staff are directed to allocate up to \$35,000 from Comfor Reserves to complete a Class D estimate, Architectural Design, and a Structural Scope of Work planning documents for the St. John’s Anglican Church restoration project.**

**CARRIED**

Burns Lake Business Accelerator Program Final Report– *EDO L. Watson*

- Charleen Tomlinson was introduced to council.
- Discussion of the businesses that are now online due to the program.
- The program was a good introduction and was all encompassing.
- It was a 3-month program.
- Selling of products to increase their revenue was a focus of the project.
- Each participate had different requirements.
- The EDO will follow up with participants.
- The feedback from participants was very good.
- Council would like a 6 month and a one year follow up.
- COVID increased the importance of communicating with customers.

It was moved seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 111

**THAT the Burns Lake Business Accelerator Program final report be received.**

**CARRIED**

Tourism Committee Terms of Reference – *EDO L. Watson*

- Discussion of the mayor becoming the Chair of the committee.
- The next steps include having the committee oversee the mural project.
- Council will approve the committee members in April.
- Discussion of the mural project.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 112**

**THAT a Tourism Advisory Committee of Council be established for the purpose of developing tourism in Burns Lake and the surrounding area;**

**AND THAT the Select Committee of Council be called the Tourism Advisory Committee;**

**AND THAT The Tourism Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be approved as amended to reflect the appointment of the Mayor as Chair of the committee;**

**AND THAT Council appoint two members of Council to the Tourism Advisory Committee:**

**Member #1 Mayor Funk as Chair**

**Member #2 Councillor White**

**CARRIED**

*Resolution Tracker – for information*

**BUSINESS ARISING**

*Burns Lake Public Library Report – for information*

**ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS ACTION**

*Lakes Animal Friendship – Advertising Opportunity*

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 113**

**THAT staff are directed to purchase a sign directly from Lakes District Printing and Stationery for up to \$250 from the annual sign budget;**

**AND THAT the Village of Burns Lake purchase the sign rental for a period of two years at the MacEwen Dog Park from the annual advertising budget.**

**CARRIED**

*Burns Lake Curling Club – rent relief request*

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 114**

**THAT staff are directed to write a letter to the Burns Lake Curling Club, informing the club that the request will be considered after the 2021 budget has been adopted.**

**CARRIED**

UBCM Resolution – *Resubmission of Private Liquor Store Moratorium*

- Discussion of changes to the resolution not reflecting Council's original intent.
- Staff will clarify with UBCM why a section was deleted.

Tree Canada – *Thank you letter to program sponsor*

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 115

**THAT** staff are directed to write a thank you letter to Leanne LeBlanc (leanne1\_leblanc@tcenergy.com) for the sponsorship of the landscaping at the MacEwen Dog Park.

**CARRIED**

**ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS – RECEIVED AND FILED**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-16: 116

**THAT** the original communication (a) through (o) be received and filed:

- a) EDABC 2021 Award Winner – Burns Lake EDO Lorie Watson!
- b) LCRB – New Rural Licensee Retail Store Announcement
- c) Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation – *Pathways 2.0 Agreement*
- d) City of Williams Lake - *Vaccine Distribution*
- e) UBCM – *Endorsement of NR79 Post-Secondary Education in Rural Communities resolution*
- f) UBCM – *Endorsement of NR57 Invasive Species Act*
- g) Canadian Forest Products Ltd. – *Forest Stewardship Amendment #2*
- h) City of New Westminster – *seeking support for laid-off Hotel and Tourism Workers*
- i) Township of Spallumcheen – *seeking support for 988 Crisis Line.*
- j) BC Hydro – *Prince George to Terrace Capacitor Project update*
- k) City of Williams Lake – *seeking support for Stronger Sentencing for Prolific and Repeat Offenders*
- l) City of Pitt Meadows – *resolutions being brought forward to the LMLGA Convention for information.*
- m) NCLGA – *ICBC information regarding regional premiums and settlements*
- n) Margret McCullough – *Request to support an e-petition.*
- o) NCLGA – *Update of BC's Drought Level Scale*

**CARRIED**

Council brought out the following items:

(b) for clarification

(e) UBCM endorsement took out all the reasons for the autonomy. The Mayor will contact President Brian Frenkel.

(k) Prolific and Repeat Offenders letter of support

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 117**

**THAT the Village of Burns Lake write a letter of support calling for a public inquiry into stronger sentencing for prolific and repeat offenders**

**CARRIED**

(l) City of Pitt Meadows letter. CAO Worthing will provide taxation numbers received from CNR.

(m) ICBC Premium and Claims – VOJ 1E0 \$37M in claims, premiums for VOJ 1E0 \$64,000M. The hypothesis was that claims in the north are subsidizing the south. Darcy Repen will be contacted for comment.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The municipal accounts of \$215,894.94, dated March 11, 2021, Were found to be in good order.

**READING FILES**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 118**

**THAT the March 11, 2021, Reading File be received:**

1. Volunteer on Committee with College of Pharmacists of BC
2. Coastal GasLink - Construction Update
3. Public Comment Period: Amendment of Schedule 1 of Species at Risk Act
4. LCRB - Policy Directive 21-02
5. BC Parks Discover Camping 2021 Reservations
6. BC Community Forest February 2021 Newsletter
7. Northern Health - Feb. 24, 2021 Community Update
8. BC Hydro - 2021 Electrical Safety Note
9. ICBC - Distracted Driving & ICBC Customer Rebates
10. Healthier Northern Communities - March E-Brief
11. Province of BC - BC Vaccination Program Phase 2 Update
12. Northern Health - COVID-19 Immunization Update March 2, 2021
13. Northern Health - March 3, 2021 Community Update
14. Northern Health - COVID-19 Immunization Update - March 5, 2021
15. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure - Load Restrictions
16. Letter sent RE: Changes in service levels at Northern BC airports
17. Northern Health - COVID-19 Clinic Locations - Phase 2
18. BC Oil and Gas Commission - Research Initiative



- 19. LCRB - Changes to the Cannabis Retail Store Handbook
- 20. The Employers Adviser Office March 2021

**CARRIED**

Council brought out the following Item:  
(1) Volunteer Committee selection is closed.

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**                      None


**RELEASE OF CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION** - None

**ADJOURN**

It was moved and seconded by Council:

**2021-03-16: 119**                                      **THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:40 pm**

**CARRIED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake held on Tuesday, March 16, 2021