



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF BURNS LAKE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON Tuesday, March 30, 2021 AT 6:00 PM via Zoom

PRESENT

Mayor D. Funk
Councillor K. White
Councillor H. Wiebe
Councillor K. Bjarnason
Councillor C. Rensby
CAO S. Worthing
EDO L. Watson
Deputy Corporate Officer V. Anderson

GUESTS

None

PUBLIC

15 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 6:00 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:

2021-03-30: 129

THAT the agenda for the March 30, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MAYOR, COUNCILLOR, CAO REPORTS – None

REPORTS

Home Based Business Zoning

Speaker K. Martens, *business owner*

- K. Martens has concerns with the opening up of the zoning bylaw. Concerns include insurance issues and Business Licence application requirements, the effect on the water and sewer infrastructure, the issue of off-street parking and bylaw 943, 2013, and fire code regulations.

Letters read aloud by staff:

- J. Varga, a *business owner*, is not supportive of changes to the Zoning Bylaw. Concerns of not being able to compete with home-based businesses that have much lower overhead costs. Concerned with businesses leaving the downtown, discussion of taxes that will or will not be paid by business locating in a home.
- L. White, *resident*. Is not supportive of changes to the zoning bylaw. Spoke about the importance of keeping businesses in the downtown core to support tourism and diversification efforts.
- L. Uchacz, *business owner – email* – not supportive of changes to the zoning bylaw.
- B. White, *business owner* – understands the appeal of working from home and was a home-based business operator before opening a retail location downtown. B. White provided a list of items she would like council and staff to consider.
- K. Holliday, a *business owner* – Is not supportive of changes to the zoning bylaw. Long-term plans were referenced and concerns over the potential to degrade the downtown, which has taken years to rebuild.
- J. Platt, a *business owner*, is strongly supportive of changes to the bylaw. J. Platt would go further and open the zoning up to more types of businesses.
- W. Holliday, *non-resident* – is not supportive of changes to the zoning bylaw. W. Holliday is concerned that businesses will move out of the downtown core resulting in the loss of appeal for tourists and locals to shop local.
- M. Riis-Christianson, a *resident*, *supports the effort to encourage entrepreneurship; however, he is opposed to changing the village's zoning bylaw for the following reasons: increased traffic in residential areas and the effects on the downtown core, loss of tax revenue for the municipality.*
- The mayor opened the floor for comment. The following spoke briefly:
- L. Uchacz voiced opposition to changing the Home-based Business zoning. There are two online stores and operate out of their home and are not a fair business practice. The retail core needs to be kept as is. The downtown business core supports each other. COVID has increased her business.
- T. Krause is in favour of personal services in residential areas, it is an excellent way to get established or to have a part-time job in your home. She is close to retirement and being able to work from home would ease her into retirement. She added, in our town, there is competition from rural-based businesses operating from their homes. In her experience, in-home and out-of-home hairdressing services can work well together.

- D. Cooke as a salon owner does not support allowing personal services because home-based businesses have an unfair advantage with substantially lower overhead.
- B. White, a business owner, is not supportive of the proposed changes.
- Due to time constraints, the meeting ended before all attendees had the opportunity to speak.

BUSINESS ARISING None

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS – ACTION - None

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS – RECEIVED AND FILED - None

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE None

READING FILES None

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD None

RELEASE OF CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION - None


ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-03-30: 130

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:54 pm

CARRIED



MAYOR



CORPORATE OFFICER

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021