



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council

October 26, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Members Present:

Mayor D. Funk
Councillor H. Wiebe – via Zoom
Councillor C. Rensby – via phone
Councillor K. White – via Zoom
Councillor K. Bjarnason – via Zoom

Staff Present:

CAO S. Worthing
DCO, V. Anderson

Guests:

Eddie Huband – *Lakes District News* – via Zoom
Taddea Kunkel – *RDBN First Nations Liaison* – via Zoom
Dr. Tammy Williams, *Chief of Staff - Lakes District Hospital & Health Centre*
– via Zoom
Vicky Rensby, *Health Services Administrator - Lakes District*
– via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

"On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the area's Six First Nations."

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 334

THAT the Agenda for October 26, Regular Meeting of Council is approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS AND READINGS OR ADOPTION

3.a 2021 Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw 1039 2021
Acting Director of Finance S. Worthing

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 335

THAT the 2021 Five Year Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1032, 2021 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

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5. DELEGATIONS AND PETITION

5.a RDBN First Nations Liaison
Taddea Kunkel, RDBN First Nations Liaison

- Taddea Kunkel thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to speak about her new role at the RDBN.

- NDIT and a Healthy Communities grant fund the First Nation Liason position.
- A key aspect of the role is to engage community members during treaty negotiations.
- The role is also to empower the RDBN departments and municipalities to advance UNDRIP and Truth and Reconciliation.
- To increase RDBN awareness of Indigenous communities located within the region.
- T. Kunkel is at this time setting up introductory meetings with local first Nations and will be reaching or to member municipalities to understand what Service Agreements are in place.
- COVID has hindered her ability to engage with communities.
- She would like to work with municipalities to share information and work with key staff members.
- The mayor reiterated that the municipality is keen to work with First Nation neighbours and to keep the communication lines open.
- Mayor Funk thanked Taddea for the presentation.

5.b Lakes District Health Centre Status Update

Dr. Tammy Williams, Chief of Staff - Lakes District Hospital & Health Centre

Vicky Rensby, Health Services Administrator - Lakes District

- Dr. Williams began the presentation. Her role includes being a mediator between Northern Health and physicians.
- She provides updates to many members of the health team.
- Responsible for training for Staff regarding COVID, for example, intubating of patients.
- We have transferred 25 people out of Burns Lake in the past four weeks because of respiratory failure, and many had to be intubated.
- Five Doctors work in Emergency, PPE protocols take an increased amount of time. PPE must be put on and removed each time a healthcare provider enters their room, and other departments must do the same. The flow-through emergency has slowed because of COVID protocols.
- Severely ill patients have been difficult to transfer out, the hospital in Prince George is full of COVID emissions.
- Our severely affected patients are being sent farther away, impacting family members.
- A tremendous effort was made to get vaccinations to elders and seniors.

- Are finding that First Nation elders with multi-generational families are at risk.
- This is a deadly disease, and we must increase the vaccination rate.
- Third doses will be available for those over 70.
- Staff running clinics are overwhelmed with swabbing.
- The information needs to get out there to get vaccinated.
- V. Rensby shared a PowerPoint presentation showing positivity rates.
- Vaccination rates are increasing at about 1% per week, vaccination clinics will continue over the next few months.
- The hospital has seen 392 cases and 12 deaths due to COVID 19 since the beginning.
- PHO for long-term care resulted in 10 staff members that refused the nasal swab testing, and some staff have refused vaccination and are off work.
- Agency staff have been brought in from other provinces to fill shifts.
- The PHO is effective today. Four staff have chosen to remain unvaccinated and will be unable to work.
- The Pines staff is working hard to ensure staffing levels are sufficient to provide proper patient care.
- 13.9% of tested are positive, which is a significant number for our area.
- Working with First Nation communities to increase vaccination and swabbing.
- The mayor spoke about hearing from vaccination hesitant residents because of a lack of a double-blind placebo study. V. Rensby is unsure if double-blind studies have been conducted, we do know the vaccines are safe and decrease becoming infected and lessen the effect of COVID.
- The mayor spoke about the implementation of a Vaccine Hesitancy Support Group, which at this point is for Northern Health employees only.
- Discussion of speaking to a healthcare professional for information.
- Discussion of how patients are sent out and wondering about the capacity of the system. What is the status here? Dr. Williams said they know patients that are going to have problems, and they try to get them out right away by road ambulance and not waiting for the air ambulance. They have been successful to date.
- Currently, there is only one COVID patient on the floor, quick transfers out ensure capacity for other emergencies on a local level.

- The critical care team (flying in and out) typically takes 4 hours, having to take patients to Vancouver Island and other locations has increased the transfer times up to 8 hours. COVID is taxing the system.
- The representatives reiterated the importance of getting vaccinated.
- The mayor thanked Dr. Williams and Vicky Rensby for the presentation.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 336

THAT October 12, 2021, Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council be adopted.

CARRIED

7. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR AND CAO REPORTS

- **Councillor White** reported that he attended the financial planning meeting at the Public Library.
- **Councillor Rensby** attended the Timber Supply Coalition meeting with the Minister.
- **Mayor Funk** spoke to MOTI about completing the safety study; the study has been conducted and will be provided to Council soon.
- Attended a primary care meeting, and they are putting together a mental health resource document
- Attended the NCLGA meeting on Saturday, they are focussing on BC Hydro outages due to losses for residents. The mayor asked Council to pass along any incidents of outage caused losses they know of.
- Also looking for broadband issues to forward on to NCLGA

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 337

THAT the Mayor, and Councillor reports be received.

CARRIED

8. REPORTS

8.a Temporary Use Permit Application 2021-01 BC Housing *Amy Wainwright, Plan North*

- The timeline includes the proposed date for the opening of the Emergency Shelter.
- Should Council approve tonight, there is a notification requirement of one week of advertising.
- The application would be presented to Council for a final decision on November 9, after the public notification period.
- Council asked if there was a faster way to approve the TUP.
- November 9 is the soonest it can return to Council for approval.
- Discussion of why the process cannot be speeded up. Can Council determine that this is an emergency and circumvent protocols?
- Staff will investigate emergency powers and report back to Council.
- The existing Zoning Bylaw does not permit this type of use anywhere and should be added when the bylaw is reviewed.
- The TUP process is a quicker way to move the project forward instead of a zoning amendment.
- With the current timeline and restrictions, November 9 is the soonest the permit could be approved.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 338

That Council directs Staff to proceed with processing Temporary Use Permit Application 2021-01.

CARRIED

8.b Rainbow Crosswalk Request *V. Anderson, DCO and D. Ross Director of Public Works*

- Staff gave an overview of the report.

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- Long-term maintenance costs are lower with a rainbow sidewalk when compared to a rainbow crosswalk.
- Discussion of delaying providing an answer to the YAK.
- The mayor had a preliminary discussion about installing a sidewalk instead of a crosswalk with The Foundry representative.

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 339

THAT Council supports the request by The Foundry's Youth Advisory Committee to install a rainbow sidewalk or crosswalk in the community;

AND THAT Staff brings back a report including whether The Foundry funding can be used for a rainbow sidewalk instead of a rainbow crosswalk, location options for installing a rainbow sidewalk, location options for installing a rainbow crosswalk and a timeline for completion of the project. Pros and cons for each location are to be included.

CARRIED

8.c 2021 NDIT's Northern Housing Incentive Program

V. Anderson, DCO

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 340

THAT Council approves the Village of Burns Lake's *Northern Housing Incentive Program Guide and Application Policy*;

AND THAT Council directs Staff to submit a grant application to NDIT for funding under the *Northern Housing Incentive Program* for the housing development at 375 – 5th Avenue for the October 31, 2021, deadline.

CARRIED

8.d Resolution Tracker – *for information*

9. BUSINESS ARISING

- 9.a Artisan Centre Mural Revision
CAO S. Worthing, verbal

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 341

THAT the winter scene option provided by the Lakes Artisan Centre for the October 26 regular meeting is approved to replace the original third panel for the mural at the Lakes Artisan Centre.

CARRIED

10. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS ACTION

11. ORIGINAL COMMUNICATION RECEIVED AND FILED

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 342

THAT original communications (a) through (a) be received and filed:

- a) City of Victoria – Paid Sick Leave for Workers**

CARRIED

12. NEW BUSINESS - None

13. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The municipal accounts of \$112,857.68, dated October 20, 2021, were found to be in good order.

14. READING FILE

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 343

THAT the October 22, 2021 Reading File be received:

- 1. Rivershed Society of BC News**
- 2. United Way of Northern BC AGM October 28, 2021**

3. BC SPCA Science and Policy Newsletter

CARRIED

15. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

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16. RELEASE OF CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTIONS

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 344

THAT the following Closed Meeting resolutions be released to the public:

IC 2021-06-15: 92

THAT Council for the Village of Burns Lake directs Staff to proceed with forming an economic development corporation based on the article reviewed and approved by the Economic Recovery Development Committee;

AND THAT Brenda Hiebert, Councillor Henry Wiebe, Paul Hilliard, Sheryl Worthing, and Dale Ross be appointed Directors to the Burns Lake Venture Corp.;

AND THAT Mayor Dolores Funk acts as an ex-officio member of the Venture Corp.

IC 2021-07-13: 100

THAT Council awards the Lakeside Multiplex HVAC and Controls Upgrade RFP to BV Jet Controls Corp.

IC 2021-07-01: 101

THAT Staff are directed to write a letter to Ts'il Kaz Koh First Nation informing them of FLNRORD's jurisdiction for the naming of creeks in the province;

AND THAT the Village of Burns Lake supports the process.

CARRIED

17. ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded by Council:

2021-10-26: 345

THAT October 26, 2021, Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:48.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Swamy", written over a horizontal line.

MAYOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Swamy", written over a horizontal line.

CORPORATE OFFICER

Certified to be a true copy of the minutes of the Budget Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021