

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF BERWYN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 25, 2021
VILLAGE OF BERWYN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM

PRESENT:

Cindy Hockley
Ken Montie
Kim Steeves
Brianna Nettelfield
John Bak

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

Greg Gayton
Barb Schofield
Kristin Dyck

CAO
Recorder
Mile Zero News/Banner Post Reporter

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Berwyn Village Council was held electronically with video conferencing software. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Mayor Hockley.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 01-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak that Council approve the Village of Berwyn regular Council meeting agenda as amended.

REMOVE: 8.3 Julie Stach – Library Board Appointment Renewal and put Ethel Brightwell in her place – Library Board Appointment Renewal
ADDITION: 7.4 WSP Engineering -Projects
ADDITION: 7.5 Bids for Basement Upgrade
ADDITION: 8.5 Vivian Henderson – Arts & Crafts Club Use

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION NO. 02-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Montie that Council adopt the minutes from the February 11, 2021 Regular Council meeting as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Angie Konowalyk – Bylaw Enforcement – Attended the meeting via electronic video conferencing. Angie gave a written report and spoke about her report to Council.

Talked about a complaint regarding dogs and how the situation was handled.

Photos of certain areas of the Village were given to Angie, those issues regarding the photos have been looked into some have been and cleared up and others are still being worked on.

Angie has been looking into a one-time animal tag purchase for animal owners. She has been investigating with other communities as some are doing it. Owners would purchase a one time tag that would be good for the life of the pet or if the owner gives the animal to someone else.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Steeves to accept the Bylaw Enforcement report from Bylaw Officer Angie Konowalyk.

CARRIED

Angie left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

6.2 ATCO Power – Streetlights – Carol Broadribb and Tim Wallis - Attended the meeting via electronic video conferencing.

At the January 14, 2021 Council meeting the Councillors asked CAO to please have ATCO provide more information regarding the conversion from High Pressure Sodium lights (HPS) to LED lighting.

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Council wanted clarification that there was no Capital Contribution required, Carol Broadribb said there is no Capital Contribution required. Any recouping of the cost is done through the multiplier rate.

The Village does have a few LED streetlights right now as ATCO replaces them when the HPS quit working. ATCO Electric anticipates the conversion of HPS fixtures to LED technology will result in LED Maintenance Savings due to a reduced need for replacing HPS fixtures that are no longer working and avoided capital costs related to relamping old HPS fixtures.

How long does this project take to pay for itself? In terms of this capital expenditure with the fluctuation of the power costs it is difficult to get an exact payback period. It was mentioned before that it would be in the range of three to five years. Carol explained that the sooner communities convert the shorter the time length will be and that is why it is a little open ended.

RESOLUTION NO. 04-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Steeve that we proceed with the conversion to LED streetlighting with ATCO Electric and have CAO Gayton advise ATCO. **CARRIED**

Carol Broadribb and Tim Wallis left the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Date for Budget Meeting

The date for the Budget Meeting has been set for Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

7.2 Water North Coalition – Future Direction Meeting

Minutes from the January 27, 2021 Water North Coalition Future Direction Meeting were reviewed by Council for their information. CAO Gayton commented that by the size of the minutes sent to the Village their seems to be a lot of interest in keeping the Water North Coalition going.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Nettelfield accepted the Minutes from the Water North Coalition meeting as information. **CARRIED**

7.3 Communications Policy

The Communications Policy was brought to Council at the January 14, 2021 meeting, it was tabled at that meeting as some changes were requested to be made to the policy. The changes were made and sent to Council to review.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Montie that Council approve the Communications Policy as presented. **CARRIED**

7.4 WSP Engineering – Projects

WSP contacted CAO Gayton late Friday afternoon and asked that they get a decision as soon as possible on the project as they have to prepare drawings and technical information and need it in place by the end of March.

CAO presented a spreadsheet of the streets where the repairs will be completed and the cost. We have funding on the MSI Grant for the repairs on this particular project. There was a concern that before the project begins that there is no sewer issues that will be an issue before the project begins. CAO will look into this with Public Works Foreman.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak to proceed with the project with WSP Engineering. **CARRIED**

7.5 Bids for Basement Upgrade

Due to a possible pecuniary interest, Mayor Hockley left the electronic video conferencing meeting for Council could discuss the quote for renovations from Interstellar Electric and Kenry Electric.

Council discussed at the November 12, 2020 meeting that they would like to get three quotes before making any decision. We have only received one other quote since the November 2020 meeting. The bid was advertised with an ending date of February 23, 2021 to send bids.

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RESOLUTION NO. 08-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Steeves to accept the Kenry Electric Ltd. quote and hire them to be our contractors for the Council Chamber upgrades. **CARRIED**

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Victims Services Alberta

Victims Services money is supposed to be spent on victims to help them and for training facilitators etc. but with the new changes to the government's rules the money can now be spent where ever the government chooses to use it. Up until now the Victims Services fund has been self supporting but if the government can decide to use it wherever they want then will the help be there when its needed. The Alberta Victims Services Association is asking municipalities to send a letter of support asking the government to go back and change it so that Victims Services money is spent on Victims Services.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Nettelfield to have administration write a letter of support to Alberta Victims Services Association. **CARRIED**

8.2 Site C Dam

BC Hydro is currently constructing an earth fill hydroelectric dam, the third dam on the Peace River, named site C and located near Ft. St. John, BC. It has recently come to the attention of the County of Northern Lights council that there have been considerable concerns raised regarding the stability of the Site C dam. So why the concern for us on this side of the border? Northern municipalities in Alberta, especially those along the Peace River valley, would suffer should the structure fail and the effects on our economy would be catastrophic, and yet little information has been shared by our provincial government regarding serious safety concerns.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-02-25-21

MOVED by Mayor Hockley to have administration draft a letter speaking to the Site C dam concerns. **CARRIED**

8.3 Remove Julie Stach and Replace with Ethel Brightwell – Library Board Appointment

CAO checked into the Library Board member renewals and found that Julie Stach did not need her appointment to the board renewed until 2022.

Ethel Brightwell emailed CAO Gayton and asked to serve another three year term on the Berwyn Municipal Library Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak to renew Ethel Brightwell's appointment for Library Board member. **CARRIED**

8.4 North Peace Housing Foundation – Update

Councillor Montie spoke on the North Peace Housing Foundation Board Meeting Synopsis and informed Council of new updates since the synopsis came out. The week of February 22 the Lodge residents were starting their vaccinations, they were all approved for this unfortunately the frontline workers have not been approved yet, and no date had been set for the frontline workers as of yet.

Frontline Workers are eligible to receive a one time only top up of \$1200.00 dollars it will be give to North Peace Housing and they will disperse it to all full time employees.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak to accept the North Peace Housing Foundation Board Meeting Synopsis as presented. **CARRIED**

8.5 Vivian Henderson – Arts & Crafts Club Use

A letter sent to council from Vivian Henderson was received and brought to the council meeting. She has asked for herself and one other lady to enter the craft room through the back entrance so they can paint a sign that is too big to do at their homes. Council discussed the matter and it can't be done due to government COVID restrictions.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Nettelfield to have administration respond to Vivian Henderson's inquiry and advise her that we are unable to open the craft room due to the current government restrictions. **CARRIED**

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Peace River School Division Meeting Report – Mayor Hockley & Councillor Nettelfield

Mayor Hockley & Councillor Nettelfield attended the meeting with the Peace River School Division on February 3, 2021 via Zoom.

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The presenter/s gave a an in depth presentation on cleaning practices due to COVID.

Reduced funding available for social workers and mental health supports in our area schools due to government grant cuts. Grimshaw Public School and Peace High have their own workers funded through a different government program. All have been kept busier since the pandemic has changed the family dynamic for many.

A Junior counselor program has been proposed by MD of Peace. It would enable interested students to learn what a counselor does and start a volunteer base. Several municipalities were interested: PRSD will reach out quickly to get a basis for the program.

A new bus barn being built has a tentative completion date for August 2021. Spare buses will still be kept in Fairview and Peace River for fast change outs due to breakdowns.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Steeves to accept the Peace River School Division Meeting Report from Mayor Hockley & Councillor Nettelfield as information. **CARRIED**

9.2 Northern Alberta Elected Leaders – Mayor Hockley

Mayor Hockley attend the Northern Alberta Elected Leaders via Zoom on February 4, 2021.

Flood Mitigation Trailers are available, to help prevent loss of infrastructure in case of overland flooding. Three trailers stand ready in the southern part of Alberta but if the northern communities want them, they have to be pulled from the south. NAEL is asking for a letter of support to have the government fund a trailer to be kept in northern Alberta.

Victim's Services is a self-supporting organization created to assist victims of crime. Funds were used to provide supplies and counselling to victims, as well as train those working in the field with the victims. Government of Alberta Bill 16 changed the rules so that Victim's Services funds could be used to hire Crown Prosecutors and Police Officers, as part of Crime Reduction. NAEL is asking for letters of support to change this back so that funds for Victim's Services are used solely to assist victims.

Health Care survey will go out to municipalities asking for input on what health care currently looks like in their area and what the municipalities want/need in the future.

Site C safety concerns were discussed. Information provided says the dam is being built on soil that is known to be unstable and the foundation of the dam is already damaged. There are concerns about what that will mean for communities downstream from the dam.

A couple more letters will be coming out asking for support for municipalities; One for a Flood Mitigation Trailer and a Healthcare Survey asking for input on what healthcare looks like in your area.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Montie to accept the Northern Alberta Elected Leaders Meeting from Mayor Hockley as presented. **CARRIED**

10. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

10.1 CAO Report

An inquiry was made at the last Council meeting about Councillors voting or abstaining. Section 183 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) states that a Councillor must vote on a matter unless they abstain. Most abstentions arise from a possible pecuniary interest.

Another issue is how this is recorded in the minutes. Staff don't usually record who votes for and against a motion unless a recorded vote is requested.

Our Regional Assessment Board member (Cindy Hockley) and our Assessment Review Board clerk (Heather Fawcett) are taking the required refresher courses in March.

The front windows of the Village office have been replaced for staff can have better air circulation during the warm months.

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Grant allocations used to be known within a day or two of the governments budget announcement. Administration is interested in the MSI Capital and Operating grants, and the amount required from us for the RCMP requisition.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Nettelfield to accept the CAO Report as presented. **CARRIED**

10.2 Cheque Register #'s 15174 – 15247

RESOLUTION NO. 17-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak to accept the Cheque Register with cheque #'s 15174 – 15247 as presented. **CARRIED**

10.3 Cash Position Report

RESOLUTION NO. 18-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Montie to accept the Cash Position Report presented. **CARRIED**

No questions from Kristin Dyck, Mile Zero News/Banner Post Reporter.

Barb Schofield and Kristin Dyck left the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

11. IN CAMERA

11.1 Intermunicipal Committee Report

RESOLUTION NO. 19-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak to move into camera session. **CARRIED**

RESOLUTION NO. 20-02-25-21


MOVED by Councillor Bak that Council revert to an open session. **CARRIED**

RESOLUTION NO. 21-02-25-21

MOVED by Councillor Bak to accept the report from the Intermunicipal Committee and authorize them to proceed further. **CARRIED**

Moved by Councillor Montie that the meeting adjourn. **CARRIED**

Time of adjournment 8:34 p.m.



 Cindy Hockley
 Mayor



 Greg Gayton
 Chief Administrative Officer

