

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday July 17, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 4243 Sanders Avenue, Wells, BC V0K 2R0

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Jay Vermette and Councillors Judy Campbell, Neil Ferrier and Richard Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Champagne, CAO; Dennis Manuel, Superintendent of Public Works; and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 2 Persons

A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:

07-181 MOVED Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows

G.1.A 100 Mile House letter not supporting Cariboo Regional District to be the body to administer the Pine Beetle Fund

Carried Unanimously

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting, July 3, 2007

07-182 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the minutes be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS: NIL

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Upgrading Swing Sets on District of Wells property to meet Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standards

The Deputy Clerk provided a report outlining the estimated costs of upgrading the swing sets on District of Wells owned property to meet CSA standards. The Administrator noted that the costs were higher than anticipated, and that in order to complete the project in the current budget year the money would need to be taken out of reserves. Councillor Campbell brought up the possibility of repairing just one of the swing sets this year, instead of upgrading all of the swing sets at once. Mayor Vermette queried whether staff had explored the option of getting backhoe time donated, and noted that, in his experience, using treated wood to hold the Pea Gravel in place wasn't a good option due to future splintering and the risk to children. Councillor Campbell noted that the District of Wells could take no action in 2007 and put the swing upgrades in the budget as a capital item for 2008. Councillor Wright asked if the District of Wells was going to be bringing Pea Gravel into the community for any other reason in the near future, to which the Administrator noted that there were no plans to bring Pea Gravel into the community this summer. General discussion took place in regards to the possible actions for the three swing sets.

07-183 **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** District of Wells staff upgrade both the Sanders Ave. and Dawson St. swing sets to CSA Standards and do this with money taken from reserves.

Carried Unanimously

2. 2007 UBCM Convention Small Talk Forum topics
The Administrator provided an update in regards to the Small Talk Forum format and possible topics for the 2007 UBCM Conference. During the discussion the conversation touched on small town fire departments applying for BC Lotteries funding, and Councillor Campbell noted that the Barkerville Heritage Trust might be able to act as the non-profit agency to apply for BC Lotteries funding for the Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade, especially since Wells and Barkerville Historic Town have a mutual aid agreement.

07-184 **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 2007 UBCM Convention Small Talk Forum topics be received.

Carried Unanimously

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

07-185 **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** that the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 07.06.21 Jenny Kwan MLA and Charlie Wyse MLA, Official Opposition re: BC Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA)
2. 07.06.25 Ken Cameron, Chief Executive Officer, Homeowner Protection Office re: Green Roofs and Homeowner Protection in British Columbia 07.06.26
3. 07.06.26 Ian Sutherland, Mayor Squamish re: Implementation of Energy Efficiency Standards
4. 07.06.27 Jako Krushnisky, President and CEO, Run of River Power Inc. re: "Run of River" Small Hydroelectric Facility
5. 07.07.04 Colleen Lang, Mayor, City of Greenwood re: Instability in our province's forest sector arising from escalation of raw log exports
6. 07.07.05 Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator, City of Vancouver re: 2007 Operating Budget – Proposed Process

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 07.06.27 Katherine Bergen, UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator, Office of the Premier re: UBCM Meetings. Staff suggests the following topics be considered:
 - Highway Infrastructure
 - Access to BC Lotteries funding for small town fire departments
 - Update on Hwy 26 to Hwy 16 connector
 - Hwy 26 speed zones

The Administrator provided background information on the format of the UBCM meetings, and noted that staff had provided suggestions for Council to consider. The Administrator also noted that the Bowron Lake reservation issue should be raised and Councillor Campbell noted that sustainable funding for Barkerville Historic Town should be added to the list as well.

07-186 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** staff make meeting requests for Highway Infrastructure, Access to BC Lotteries funding for

small town fire departments, Update on Hwy 26 to Hwy 16 Connector, Hwy 26 Speed Zones, Reservations at Bowron Lake Provincial Park, and sustainable funding for Barkerville Historic Town at the UBCM Convention in September.

Carried Unanimously

2. 07.06.27 Joslyn Young, Executive Coordinator, UBCM re: 2007 UBCM Community Excellence Awards Applications now available
The Administrator noted that staff was considering entering the www.wellsbc.com website in the Community Excellence Awards.
- 07-187** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** staff submit the www.wellsbc.com website in the Community Excellence Awards at the UBCM conference in 2007.

Carried Unanimously

3. 07.07.04 Chris Bowers, Stop TILMA Coalition re: TILMA information
The Administrator provided background information in regards to correspondence from Chris Bowers, Stop TILMA Coalition.
- 07-188** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** that the 07.07.04 Chris Bowers, Stop TILMA Coalition re: TILMA information letter be received.

Carried Unanimously

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. 07.07.03 Jon Wolbers, Chair, Cariboo Regional District (CRD) re: Pine Beetle Fund
The Administrator provided additional information on the letter from Jon Wolbers, noting that the District of Wells had received a letter from 100 Mile House rejecting the CRD offer to act as the body to administer the Pine Beetle Fund, and Quesnel had made no decision on the request. Councillor Campbell noted that she thought it was too early to decide who is going to administer the funding. Mayor Vermette concurred that it was too early to make such a decision.
- 07-189** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the 07.07.03 Jon Wolbers, Chair, Cariboo Regional District letter re: Pine Beetle Fund letter be received.

Carried Unanimously

2. Cariboo Regional District (CRD) – Funding request for Highway Rescue and Search and Rescue functions (handout)
The Administrator provided more details in regards to the CRD funding request. The Administrator noted that it would cost the District of Wells \$1000.00 per year if the District of Wells chose to participate. Councillor Campbell noted that this function is something that would be relevant and helpful for the community of Wells. The Administrator noted that he recommended to Council that the CRD support the groups at \$25,000.00 per group, which would cost the District of Wells \$500.00 per year. Councillor Wright questioned whether the groups could operate for \$25,000.00 per year, if they needed \$50,000.00. Councillor Campbell

noted that she had no problem paying \$1,000.00 per year to support the groups. She also noted that if the groups requested less than it would make sense to provide them with less. The Administrator noted that the funding would be “new money”, and that the groups currently subsisted on what they raised through fundraising.

- 07-190** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the District of Wells is prepared to contribute to the financial support of the Highway Rescue and Search and Rescue groups to a maximum total of \$1000.00 per year.
Carried Unanimously

3. 2007 Budget Update (handout)

The Administrator provided Council with a 2007 Budget Update, including an overview of the current state of taxes collected. Councillor Campbell noted that the school heating costs were higher than budgeted. The Administrator said that staff was looking at ways to lower the costs, and noted that he could provide a report to Council outlining the fuel consumption breakdown for the Wells Community School. The Administrator also noted that the Pooley St. Signs were \$4,000.00 over budget. Mayor Vermette noted that the Wells Snowmobile Club had not paid their share of funding as of yet. The Administrator noted that the Wells Snowmobile Club had been invoiced in May. General discussion took place in regards to the 2007 Budget update and the state of the District of Wells finances.

- 07-191** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 2007 Budget update be received.
Carried Unanimously

4. Towns for Tomorrow Grant Update

The Administrator noted that Minister Stan Hogg, the Minister of State for Act Now BC was scheduled to come to Wells on July 18, 2007 at 12:00 PM to present the District of Wells with a ceremonial cheque for \$54,834 for the Towns for Tomorrow grant for the Pooley St. Performance Centre and Ball Park.

- 07-192** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Towns for Tomorrow Grant Update be received.
Carried Unanimously

H. REPORTS:

1. Outstanding Action Items Report

General discussion took place in regards to the Outstanding Action Items Report

- 07-193** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the Outstanding Action Items Report be received.
Carried Unanimously

2. Cheque Register 07.06.01 to 07.06.30

- 07-194** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** Council approve cheques numbered 4412 to 4442 and electronic transfers EFT-200706 for the period of June 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007 for a total amount of \$42,664.26
Carried Unanimously

3. 07.06.28 Quality of Life Committee Minutes
07-195 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the 07.06.28 Quality of Life Committee Minutes be received.
Carried Unanimously

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Board of Variance Bylaw No. 86, 2007
07-196 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** Council give final reading to and approve the Board of Variance Bylaw No. 86, 2007
Carried Unanimously

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:
Councillor Ferrier noted that he is happy to be back in Wells, and said that he had heard that there was an issue with one of the fire trucks at a recent fire call. This was discussed and he was informed of the mechanical issue on Fire Truck No. 2.

Councillor Campbell noted that staff at Barkerville Historic Town had been discussing “going green” and were looking to enhance their recycling efforts, including adding more recycling containers. She said that if there are any opportunities to work with the District of Wells it would be good to work together. Examples raised by Councillor Campbell included purchasing green recycling bins and the joint costing out of the removal of the recycled items from the community. General discussion took place in regards to current recycling practices at the District of Wells. Councillor Campbell noted that it is good public relations to not only recycle, but to state that you recycle, as eco-tourism is on the rise. Councillor Campbell also spoke to the current state of the Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition (CCBAC). She noted that the Arts and Cultural Strategy is basically complete, as are a number of other strategies, and that the strategies have moved into “project mode.” She said that the people that have completed the strategies are being asked to “projectize” them, as funding may become available to implement specific projects. Councillor Campbell noted that there items in the strategies that would be beneficial to the Wells, Barkerville, Bowron Lakes area if they became projects.

Mayor Vermette raised concerns in regards to the danger caused by the angular parking on Pooley St. General discussion took place in regards to the current state of parking on Pooley St. The Administrator noted that the District of Wells could put a “public parking” sign for the District of Wells parking lot as well as parking directional signs for the stop signs pointing to the lots. The Administrator also noted that the District of Wells will install parallel parking lines for in front of the Wells Hotel. Mayor Vermette also noted that the RCMP have been directed by conservation to shoot the Grizzly Bear if it comes back into the community.

2. Staff:

The Administrator noted that the “share shed” at the dump was up and running.

3. Public Gallery:

Grizz Pinette, a member of the public gallery, thanked Council for the installation of the park benches in the Fred Wells Park, and asked if there were any immediate plans to install picnic tables in Fred Wells Park. The Administrator noted that the District of Wells was waiting for approval of funding for the initiative from the province (Spirit Squares Grant) before installing picnic tables, as any work done before the grant was awarded would not be eligible for funding, and said that if a temporary stop gap solution could be implemented, such as placing a borrowed picnic table on the site, it would be fine. A table that could be relocated was suggested and staff will look into this.

K. ADJOURNMENT:

07-197 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:52 PM.

Carried Unanimously

John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

Gary Champagne, CAO