

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday August 21, 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, Virginia Wilkins and Richard Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Champagne, CAO; Carol McGregor, Marketing and Economic Development Officer; and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 8 Persons

A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:

07-209 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

G.2 Withdrawn

G.3 Withdrawn

C.2 Cassandra Chowdhury, Community Garage Sale Proposal

D.2 District of Wells Historic Plaques Update

D.3 District of Wells Lot Sale Update

F.1 07.08.21 NCMA President Eileen Benedict re: Electoral Boundaries

F.2 07.08.21 City of Prince George re: Regional Rally in regards to BC Electoral Boundaries Commission Recommendations

G.4 Resort Municipalities Update

Carried Unanimously

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting, August 7, 2007

07-210 MOVED Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the minutes be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Mia Cirotto, Recipient of 2007 District of Wells Bursary
Mia Cirotto was presented with a cheque for \$750.00 for the 2007 District of Wells Bursary and a cheque for \$250.00 for the Evan Williams Foundation.

2. Cassandra Chowdhury, Community Garage Sale Proposal
Cassandra Chowdhury, representing a number of Bowman Crescent residents, asked Council for permission to use Fred Wells Park on Saturday, August 25 for a multi-family outdoor garage sale.

07-211 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** Bowman Crescent residents, and any other interested residents in the vicinity, be given permission to use Fred Wells Park on Saturday, August 25 for a multi-family outdoor garage sale.

Carried Unanimously

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Judges for Property Improvement Contest

The Administrator provided Council with an update on possible judges for the District of Wells property improvement contest, and suggested Cariboo North MLA Bob Simpson as a possibility. Councillor Wright suggested that the District of Wells ask either the editor or the publisher of the Cariboo Observer to judge the contest as well. General discussion took place in regards to other judge possibilities.

07-212 **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the District of Wells invite Cariboo North MLA Bob Simpson, the publisher of the Cariboo Observer, and Quesnel City Councilor Ron Paull to act as the judges for the District of Wells Property Improvement Contest.

Carried Unanimously

2. District of Wells Historic Plaques Update

The Marketing and Economic Development Officer provided Council with an update in regards to the proposed layout for the District of Wells Historic Plaques. General discussion took place in regards to the plaque content and who would be responsible for checking the plaques for historical accuracy.

07-213 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the District of Wells Historic Plaques Update be received.

Carried Unanimously

3. District of Wells Lot Sale Update

The Administrator gave an update on the proposed sale of the District of Wells owned lot adjacent to the Northwoods Restaurant. The Administrator noted that the owners of the Northwoods Restaurant were given an opportunity to purchase the lot at assessed value but have not acted on it, and therefore the land would be put up for auction with a minimum opening bid of the unpaid taxes and fees. A date of Monday, September 17 for the auction was proposed.

07-214 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** Monday, September 17 be set as the date for the sale of the District of Wells owned lot adjacent to the Northwoods Restaurant.

Carried Unanimously

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

07-215 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 07.07.25 Wynne Powell, Board Chair, Provincial Health Services Authority re: *Stepsforward 2007* (Report available from Deputy Clerk)
2. 07.07.27 Bob Simpson, MLA Cariboo North re: Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services
3. 07.08.01 Bob Simpson, MLA Cariboo North re: Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention 2007

4. 07.08.01 Colin Hansen, Minister of Economic Development and Minister Responsible for the Asia Pacific Initiative and the Olympics re: Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA)
5. 07.08.10 Charles Jago, Chair, Fraser Basin Council re: Fraser Basin Council Annual UBCM Breakfast
6. 07.08.13 Municipal Finance Authority re: 2007 Semi-Annual Meeting of the Members
7. 07.08.15 Northern Sport Centre re: Invitation to Grand Opening on September 21, 2007

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE: NIL

1. 07.08.21 NCMA President Eileen Benedict re: Electoral Boundaries
07-216 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the District of Wells make a written submission to the Electoral Boundaries Commission noting that the District of Wells is opposed to the recommendations contained in the Electoral Boundaries Commission Preliminary Report that would lessen the number of MLA's in our region, with copies sent to all municipalities in the Cariboo as well as the North Central Municipal Association.

Carried Unanimous

2. 07.08.21 City of Prince George re: Regional Rally in regards to BC Electoral Boundaries Commission Recommendations
07-217 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** 07.08.21 City of Prince George letter re: Regional Rally in regards to BC Electoral Boundaries Commission Recommendations be received.

Carried Unanimous

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Fire Department Gym Membership
 The Administrator provided Council with a proposal in regards to the Wells Fire Brigade donating a piece of universal weight equipment to the new Community Gym in exchange for Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade members receiving a free gym membership.
07-218 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade members receive a free membership at the new Community Gym in exchange for the Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade donating the universal weight equipment.

Carried Unanimously

2. Wells & District Chamber of Commerce – Withdrawn
3. District of Wells Signage Policy – Withdrawn
4. Resort Municipalities Update
 Councillor Campbell said that she had read information on Civic Info in regards to extra provincial funding available for Resort Municipalities, and noted that she

had asked the Administrator to look into the possibility of the District of Wells becoming a Resort Municipality. The Administrator provided Council with a verbal update in regards to the prerequisites of becoming a Resort Municipality, noting that it looked like Wells has the possibility of becoming a Resort Municipality, and that this could lead to increased funding for the community.

07-219 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the District of Wells pursue Resort Municipality designation from the Province of British Columbia.

Carried Unanimously

H. REPORTS:

1. Outstanding Action Items Report

07-220 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Outstanding Action Items Report be received.

Carried Unanimously

2. Cheque Register 07.07.01 to 07.07.31

07-221 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** Council approve cheques numbered 4443 to 4492 for the period of July 1, 2007 to July 31, 2007 for a total amount of \$109,449.84

Carried Unanimously

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Wilkins noted that she had heard numerous complaints that the area around the Northwoods Restaurant was becoming an eyesore. Councillor Wilkins said that the District of Wells should write a letter to the Northwoods Restaurant noting that the premises is unsightly. The Administrator noted that District of Wells staff was currently working on a new Unsightly Premises Bylaw, but that the old Cariboo Regional District Unsightly Premises Bylaw is still in effect, and staff could send a letter to the owners of the Northwoods Restaurant under that Bylaw.

07-222 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** staff write a letter to the owners of the Northwoods Restaurant, using the regulations spelled out in the Cariboo Regional District Unsightly Premises Bylaw, noting that the premises are unsightly and need to be cleaned up.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Campbell noted that she had spoken with Steve Levitt from the Cariboo Fire Centre in regards to Interface Forest Fire planning. She said that Steve Levitt noted that it might be a good idea for the Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade to strike up Mutual Aid Agreements with local fire departments for Interface Wildfires. She also noted that Steve Levitt was available for another speaking engagement in the community if the Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade found this necessary. Councillor Campbell also said that the Autumn Moon

Festival was taking place on Saturday, August 25, but that the Firemen's Ball was cancelled.

2. Staff:

The Marketing & Economic Development Officer noted that the Wells Historical Society Fundraising Tini' Auction was taking place on Thursday, August 30 at the Wells Community Hall.

3. Public Gallery:

Bill Horne, a member of the public gallery, noted that there is a Ross Douglas Concert taking place at the Sunset Theatre on Wednesday, August 22 at 8:00 PM, and that this concert was a fundraiser for the Wells Curling Club.

K. ADJOURNMENT:

07-223 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 7:49 PM.

Carried Unanimously

John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

Gary Champagne, CAO