

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday September 4, 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 Virginia Wilkins

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Champagne, CAO and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 3 Persons

A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:

07-224 MOVED Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting, August 21, 2007

07-225 MOVED Councillor Wilkins seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the minutes be adopted as amended as follows.

C.1. Evan Williams Foundation instead of Evan Williams Scholarship.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS: NIL

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Recommendations for the Board of Variance

The Administrator provided a verbal update in regards to the Board of Variance appointees.

07-226 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the following citizens be appointed to the District of Wells Board of Variance: Carol Pinette, Michael Wallace, and Linda Champagne.

Carried Unanimously

2. Highway 26 Condition - Ministry of Transportation Response from Peter Milburn, Chief Operating Officer

Mayor Vermette noted that he was supposed to meet with Kevin Falcon, the Minister of Transportation, on August 23, 2007 in Wells, but was stood up. He said that Ministry of Transportation officials are supposed to be coming to the area in September, and believes they may contact him to rebook a meeting. Mayor Vermette also said that Todd Hubner from the Ministry of Highways had noted at a Cariboo Regional District meeting that it could be up to two years before Highway 26 would be paved, but that data was still being analyzed. General discussion took place in regards to the condition of Hwy 26.

07-227 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 07.08.21 letter from Peter Milburn, Chief Operating Officer, Ministry of Transportation be received.

Carried Unanimously

3. B.C. Hydro Damage to School – Response from Bev Van Ruyven, Executive V.P., and additional information from meeting with BC Hydro representatives
The Administrator noted that District of Wells staff and Councilor Wilkins had met with Bob Gammer from BC Hydro, as well as three other BC Hydro representatives in late August. He said that at the meeting the BC Hydro personnel noted that BC Hydro could not provide the District of Wells with a reimbursement for power surge damage claims, but encouraged the District of Wells to apply for a grant through the BC Hydro Outreach Program. Councillor Campbell noted that she hoped that Island Mountain Arts grant funding through BC Hydro would not be affected if the District of Wells applied for a BC Hydro Outreach Program grant, and, if it is, that the District of Wells would reconsider any future applications to BC Hydro. General discussion took place in regards to application possibilities for the BC Hydro Outreach Program.

07-228 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the letter from Bev Van Ruyven, Executive Vice President of Customer Care and Conservation at B.C. Hydro re: Damage to Wells Community School be received and that staff apply directly, or through a community group, to the BC Hydro Outreach Program for a \$2,000 donation towards an eligible project.

Carried Unanimously

4. Invitation to lunch with Cariboo North MLA Bob Simpson and Columbia-Revelstoke MLA Norm MacDonald (Opposition Critic for Tourism, Sport and the Arts) in order to discuss drop-in issues at Bowron Lake Provincial Park and other rural tourism related issues
Councillor Campbell noted that she would not be able to attend the lunch on Monday, September 10 at the Wells Hotel, but would be meeting with the MLA's at Barkerville Historic Town later that afternoon. Mayor Vermette noted that he would be attending, as did Councillor Wilkins. Councillor Ferrier said that he would be working and unable to attend.

07-229 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the invitation to lunch with Cariboo North MLA Bob Simpson and Columbia-Revelstoke MLA Norm MacDonald (Opposition Critic for Tourism, sport and the Arts) in order to discuss drop-in issues at Bowron Lake Provincial Park and other rural tourism related issues be received.

Carried Unanimously

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

07-230 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 07.08.14 BC Transmission Corp. – UBCM Convention information
2. 07.08.15 Mary Sjostrom – UBCM Convention information
3. 07.08.17 Smart Growth BC – Donation request

4. 07.08.17 Western Canada Wilderness Committee - St'at'imc Territory Land Use Plan information
5. 07.08.20 Minister Ida Chong, re: Twinning with Asian City information
6. 07.08.29 Recycling Council of BC - Waste Reduction Week
7. 07.08.27 David Conway, Community Relations Manager, BC Hydro re: 2007 UBCM Convention
8. 07.08.28 Mayor Herb Pond, City of Prince Rupert re: Emergency Resolution – 2007 UBCM Convention – Provincial Electoral Boundaries
9. 07.08.29 North Central Municipal Association re: Measuring up the North Project
10. 07.08.30 Dick Klein Geltink, Chair, BC Agriculture Council re: 2007 UBCM Resolution on Biomass Boiler Standards
11. 07.08.30 UBCM Local Government Program Services Reports
Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE: NIL

1. 07.08.28 Bob Simpson, MLA Cariboo North re: Meeting invitation – UBCM
Councillor Campbell noted that a meeting with Bob Simpson, MLA Cariboo North, might be a good forum to discuss the possibility of a Wells Community Forest, but said that it is hard to make meeting plans prior to knowing the Agenda for the UBCM Conference. General discussion took place in regards to the current state of the Wells Community Forest group. Mayor Vermette asked staff to enquire as to the District of Wells meeting schedule for the UBCM Conference.
07-231 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 07.08.28 Bob Simpson, MLA Cariboo North letter re: Meeting invitation – UBCM be received.
Carried Unanimous
2. 07.08.27 BC Chamber of Commerce – Provincial Business Licences
The Administrator provided Council with a verbal update of the Provincial Business Licences initiative, noting that although the District of Wells does not have a business license program, a province-wide system may be implemented.
07-232 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 07.08.27 BC Chamber of Commerce letter re: Provincial Business Licences be received.
Carried Unanimous
3. 07.08.27 Eileen Benedict, NCMA President re: Electoral Boundaries
Commission Preliminary Report
The Administrator noted that he had already submitted a written report for the District of Wells in regards to the Electoral Boundaries Commission Preliminary Report.
07-233 MOVED Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 07.08.27 Eileen Benedict, NCMA President letter re: Electoral Boundaries Commission Preliminary Report be received.
Carried Unanimous
4. 07.08.31 UBCM Community Excellence Awards Invitation (Two invitations)

The Administrator provided a verbal update in regards to the UBCM Community Excellence Awards Breakfast invitation, noting that the invitation was a result of the District of Wells submission of the www.wellsbc.com website in the Community Excellence Awards. General discussion took place in regards to who should attend. It was decided that Mayor Vermette and the Administrator would attend the awards ceremony.

- 07-234** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 07.08.31 UBCM Community Excellence Awards Invitation letter be received.
Carried Unanimous

G. NEW BUSINESS: NIL

H. REPORTS:

1. Property Improvement Contest Update

The Administrator provided an update on the judging for the Property Improvement Contest. He noted that Andrea Johnson, the Editor of the Quesnel Observer had agreed to judge the contest, and that the judging would be taking place on Saturday, September 8.

- 07-235** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Property Improvement Contest Update be received.
Carried Unanimously

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Wilkins noted that she would like to see all of the Protective Services members in the community be offered free membership to the Wells Community Gym. These would include the Wells RCMP and the Wells Ambulance personnel.

- 07-236** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Wells RCMP and the Wells Ambulance personnel be offered free memberships to the Wells Community Gym.

Councillor Campbell noted that she would miss both of October's Council meetings due to a trip to Scotland and Ontario.

2. Staff:

The Administrator noted that he had spoken with the owners of the Northwoods Restaurant in regards to the unsightly condition of their premises. He also said that he had prepared a letter, outlining Council's concern with the property, and that the letter would be sent to the owners of the Northwoods Restaurant. The Administrator also noted that a draft version of the District of Wells Unsightly Premises Bylaw would be brought before Council at the September 18, 2007 meeting.

3. Public Gallery:

K. ADJOURNMENT:

07-237 **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 7:34 PM.

Carried Unanimously

John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

Gary Champagne, CAO