

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday March 4, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 4243 Sanders Avenue, Wells, BC V0K 2R0

## MINUTES

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Jay Vermette and Councillors Judy Campbell, Neil Ferrier, and Virginia Wilkins

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

**PUBLIC GALLERY:** 6 people

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:**

**08-49 MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

F.5 08.02.28 Aleta Wallace re: Wells Community Hall Chairs

G.2 District of Wells MEC Avalanche Scanner Possible Purchase

G.3 Cariboo Regional District Fire Protection Contract

H.3 2008 North Cariboo Municipal Association Convention

H.4 Vadim Computer Hosting

Carried Unanimously

**B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**08-50 MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Minutes be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

1. Friends of the Wells Community Hall re: Wells Community Hall tables and chairs

Lois Herrick spoke for the Friends of the Wells Community Hall. She noted that the Friends of the Wells Community Hall were looking to have the old tables replaced with new lightweight tables that wouldn't damage the new hardwood floor. The Administrator noted that any decisions made in respect to the tables at the Wells Community Hall could be seen as a different issue than the future of the chairs at the Wells Community Hall, which was being discussed later in the Agenda. Councillor Wilkins spoke to the issue, noting that the newly restored hardwood floors cost approximately \$20,000 to repair, and to have the heavy tables on the floor could damage the finish of the new floor. Councillor Wilkins noted that the Friends of the Wells Community Hall didn't want to get rid of all of the tables, but the majority of them. Councillor Campbell noted that it was possible to purchase felt leg protectors that could be put on the bottom of all of the tables that would protect the new flooring. Councillor Wilkins said that if there was a possibility to purchase lighter tables it would be easier to set-up for functions. Councillor Campbell noted that she had heard from a number of old Wells residents that would no longer support the Wells Community Hall if the old tables were removed; and that a considerable number of people value the heritage value of the Wells Community Hall, including the chairs and tables. Councillor Campbell said that the issues with the tables seemed to have more to

do with the fact that the tables aren't foldable, not that they will wreck the new floor in the Wells Community Hall, as felt sliders could protect the floor's finish. The Administrator noted that if any tables were auctioned off, that they would need to be replaced in order to ensure adequate seating. Mayor Vermette said that he didn't believe that the real issue involved getting rid of the tables, he noted that auctioning off a few of the old tables might be possible and purchasing new tables that could be used for events was a good idea, but that storage of the old tables would be an issue. General discussion took place in regards to seating capacity at the Wells Community Hall and the design of potential replacement tables. Councillor Ferrier noted that a compromise he would like to see would be to have tables auctioned off to be refinished, but not auctioned off to be removed from the hall. The winning bidder would then have their names put on plaques that would be placed on the refinished tables.

**08-51** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the Friends of the Wells Community Hall be permitted to auction off the old fixed-leg large tables from the Wells Community Hall, with the caveat that the tables would be refinished and stay in the Wells Community Hall. The winning bidders would then have their names put on plaques that would be placed on the refinished tables.

Carried - Councillor Wilkins opposed

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Staff Report re: Conflicting resolutions on wooden chairs at the Wells Community Hall

The Administrator gave an overview of the conflicting resolutions applying to the wooden chairs in the Wells community Hall, and provided Council with directions as to how they could rescind one of the motions. General discussion took place in regards to the wooden chairs in the Wells Community Hall. Councillor Ferrier brought up the fact that auctioning off the chairs to be repaired and to stay in the Wells Community Hall might be an appropriate action.

**08-52** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** resolution 08-29 from February 5, 2008 donating six chairs to the Friends of the Wells Community Hall for their Dinner and Auction be rescinded

Carried Unanimously

**08-53** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the wooden tables in the Wells Community Hall remain with the Wells Community Hall in perpetuity.

Carried - Councillor Wilkins opposed

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

**08-54** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 08.02.12 Rick Thorpe Minister of Small Business and Revenue and Minister Responsible for Regulatory Reform re: Mobile Business Licenses
2. 08.02.15 North Central Municipal Association re: Tradeshow Booth Space Available at 2008 NCMA Convention
3. 08.02.15 North Central Municipal Association re: Remembrance Ceremony Request for Information

4. 08.02.15 Colin Kinsley, Mayor, City of Prince George re: Electoral Boundaries Commission: Amendments to the Preliminary Report
5. 08.02.21 Clint Hames, Chair, Fraser Valley Regional District re: Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) and Homelessness Partnership Initiative (HPI)  
Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE:

2. 08.02.22 Tracy Carson re: Chairs and tables at the Wells Community Hall
1. 08.02.14 Bill Quackenbush re: Chairs and tables at the Wells Community Hall  
**08-55** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 08.02.14 Bill Quackenbush letter re: Chairs and tables at the Wells Community Hall and the 08.02.22 Tracy Carson letter re: Chairs and tables at the Wells Community Hall be received.  
Carried Unanimously
3. 08.02.22 Lindsay Read re: Letter of Thanks for HMC Services Inc.  
**08-56** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the 08.02.22 Lindsay Read letter re: Letter of Thanks for HMC Services Inc. be received and forwarded to HMC Services Inc.  
Carried Unanimously
4. 08.02.27 *UBCM In The House* re: Federal Budget 2008 Overview  
The Administrator noted that the *UBCM In the House* newsletter contained information noting that the Federal Fuel Tax funding received by the District of Wells was going to be extended in perpetuity.  
**08-57** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** 08.02.27 *UBCM In The House* newsletter re: Federal Budget 2008 Overview be received.  
Carried Unanimously
5. 08.02.28 Aleta Wallace – Wells Community Hall Chairs  
**08-58** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the 08.02.28 Aleta Wallace letter re: Wells Community Hall Chairs be received.  
Carried Unanimously

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Date for RCMP Strategic Planning Session  
The Deputy Clerk provided an overview of the reasoning behind the RCMP Strategic Planning Session. Councillor Wilkins noted that she attended the RCMP Strategic Planning Session in Quesnel on February 25, 2008, and that having a separate meeting in Wells is a good idea.  
**08-59** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** staff set-up a RCMP Strategic Planning Session meeting to be held on April 22, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the Wells Community Hall.  
Carried Unanimously
2. District of Wells MEC Avalanche Scanner Purchase  
The Administrator noted that the MEC Avalanche Scanner Purchase discussion could be deferred until Councillor Wright was back at Council. Mayor Vermette

asked if provincial emergency funding could be used to pay for the item, to which the Administrator noted that it's not likely. Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Erickson gave Council an overview of the response time to reach an avalanche if it occurred at Groundhog Lake, as well as the possible scenarios in which the scanner could be used. The Administrator asked who would use the Avalanche scanner in the case of an emergency. Constable Erickson said that in theory it would be used by all first responders in the community, and would sit in a central location. General discussion took place in regards to who would fund the Avalanche scanner.

- 08-60** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the District of Wells purchase the MEC Avalanche scanner.  
Carried Unanimously

3. Cariboo Regional District Fire Protection Agreement  
The Administrator gave an overview of the Cariboo Regional District Fire Protection Agreement, noting that the Fire Protection Agreement is part of the District of Wells' Letters of Patent.

- 08-61** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the District of Wells enter into the Cariboo Regional District Fire Protection Agreement.  
Carried Unanimously

H. REPORTS:

1. Public Works Report
2. Fire Chief Report

The Public Works Superintendent and the Fire Chief provided Council with verbal reports; as part of the Public Works Report the Deputy Clerk provided a verbal update in regards to the cost of propane currently being paid by the District of Wells. In the Public Works Report it was noted that the clips that held the old canvas cover on the floor were removed in order to facilitate the finishing of the flooring. Councillor Campbell said that the Wells Community Hall has a management plan associated with it, and that this plan needs to be examined prior to making changes that affect the heritage value of the Wells Community Hall. Councillor Campbell noted that if upon consulting the management plan there is an issue, it needs to be brought before Council.

- 08-62** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Public Works Report and Fire Chief Report be received.  
Carried Unanimously

3. 2008 North Cariboo Municipal Association Convention  
General discussion took place in regards to who would be attending the North Cariboo Municipal Association Convention in Prince George. Councillor Wilkins noted that she would be able to attend the event. The Administrator noted that either himself or the Deputy Clerk could attend the conference with Councillor Wilkins.

- 08-63** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** Councillor Wilkins along with either the Administrator or the Deputy Clerk attend the 2008 North Cariboo Municipal Association Convention in Prince George.  
Carried Unanimously

4. Vadim Computer Hosting  
The Administrator noted that staff was looking into having the Vadim Accounting Software hosted remotely for the cost of \$75.00 per month. General discussion took place in regards to the merits of remote hosting.

**08-64** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** Council authorize the District of Wells entering into an agreement to have the Vadim Accounting Software hosted remotely.

Carried Unanimously

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. District of Wells Bylaw No. 90, 2008 – A Bylaw to amend the District of Wells “Wells Volunteer Fire Department Establishing Bylaw No. 28, 2000.”

**08-65** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** Council give final reading to and approve the District of Wells Bylaw No. 90, 2008 – A Bylaw to amend the District of Wells “Wells Volunteer Fire Department Establishing Bylaw No. 28, 2000.”

Carried Unanimously

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Campbell noted that Dianne Nvysen from Barkerville Historic Town attended a Protective Services Meeting at the District of Wells where the May 9, 2008 Evacuation planned for Barkerville Historic Town was discussed.

Councillor Campbell noted that this evacuation exercise was planned during Emergency Preparedness Week, and Councillor Campbell asked if there was any funding specifically earmarked for Emergency Preparedness Week. The Administrator noted that there was no funding available that he was aware of.

Mayor Vermette commended the Friends of the Wells Community Hall for all of their hard work in relation to renovating the Wells Community Hall.

2. Staff:

3. Public Gallery:

Lois Herrick noted that the Hubs Motel paid 75.9/ liter for propane through Superior Propane and that there seemed to be room for negotiating the cost.

K. ADJOURNMENT:

**08-66** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:22 PM.

Carried Unanimously

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John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

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Gary Champagne, CAO