

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday July 15, 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 Neil Ferrier and Virginia Wilkins

**ALSO PRESENT:** Gary Champagne, C.A.O.; Dennis Manuel, Superintendent of Public Works and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

**PUBLIC GALLERY:** 3 people and one media representative

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

**08-186 MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

*Add*

F.3 Beth Collingwood, Teacher-Principal, Wells-Barkerville School re: Matching funds for playground improvement

**B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**08-187 MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, June 17, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**08-188 MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Mayor Vermette **THAT** the Minutes of the Special Meeting, June 23, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

1. Amber Macarthy, recipient of the 2008 District of Wells Bursary  
Amber Macarthy was not present for the meeting, but Councillor Wilkins noted that Amber Macarthy was the recipient of the 2008 District of Wells Bursary.
  
2. Dan Thorsen and Lorraine Kozar re: Bridge on Hardscrabble Road  
Dan Thorsen and Lorraine Kozar provided Council with an overview of the possible removal of the bridge on Hardscrabble Road by the Ministry of Forests due to safety concerns over the structural integrity of the bridge, and noted that they were looking to see what the District of Wells could do to help save the bridge, which is key to accessing their property. Councillor Ferrier noted that Desi Cheverie, District Recreation Officer, from the Ministry of Tourism Sport and the Arts came up and met with representatives from the District of Wells and the Wells Snowmobile Club to see if a recreation based solution to the problem could be found. The Administrator gave an overview of the meeting, noting that there might be a possibility of getting a new bridge built on Hardscrabble Road as part of the recreation trails network. He also noted that individuals are able to get a personal permit to build a road on unsurveyed Crown Land, and that might be an option. General discussion took place in regards to the type of bridge that could possibly be constructed for the crossing. Councillor Ferrier asked about the time frame for the possible removal of the bridge as well as the possibility of

fixing the existing bridge. The Administrator noted that he heard that the Ministry of Forests was planning to remove the bridge in one to two months, and noted that fixing up the bridge would probably be unfeasible. Dan Thorsen noted that keeping the bridge open and accessible, at least to them, was key while a new bridge was being procured. Councillor Ferrier noted that keeping access open for Dan and Lorraine was vital, and that the District of Wells needed to meet with the Ministry of Forests on their behalf to ensure that the bridge isn't removed before a replacement is ready.

- 08-189** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** staff invite representatives from the Ministry of Forests and West Fraser Mills Ltd. to meet with Dan Thorsen and Lorraine Kozar as well as representatives from the District of Wells, the Wells Snowmobile Club and the Wells & Area Trails Society to discuss solutions for maintaining or replacing the bridge on Hardscrabble Road.  
Carried Unanimously

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Future of school swing set on Mildred Avenue  
The Administrator noted that the swing set on Mildred Avenue at the Wells-Barkerville School was unable to be brought up to current CSA standards and was a liability, and asked for permission to remove the swing set. Mayor Vermette noted that the swing set should be put in storage rather than thrown out.

- 08-190** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the swing set on Mildred Avenue at the Wells-Barkerville School be removed and held in storage.  
Carried Unanimously

2. District of Wells Budget Update  
The Administrator provided an overview of the amended 2008 District of Wells Budget.

- 08-191** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the 2008 District of Wells Approved budget be replaced by the amended 2008 District of Wells budget.  
Carried Unanimously

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 08-192** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 08.06.10 Rick Thorpe, Minister of Small Business and Revenue re: *Straightforward* BC: Regulation, clear and simple.
2. 08.06.16 Owen Dickie, President Canadian Association of Home & Property Inspectors (BC) (CAPHI BC) re: CAPHI (BC)
3. 08.07.09 Gail and Ron Dunn re: Thank-you for letter of thanks from District of Wells for renovations to Homespun Gallery and upper Pooley St.
4. 08.07.11 Dr. Charles Jago, Chairman, Northern Health re: "Shaping our Future" Consultation – Updating Northern Health's mission statements and strategic direction

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 08.07.02 Gordon Campbell, Premier, Province of British Columbia re: Requesting meetings with ministers at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities UBCM Convention in Penticton in September.  
The Administrator noted that meeting with the province in regards to changing the *Property Tax Deferral Program* to allow people with arrears and delinquent taxes to be allowed into the program would be beneficial. Councillor Wilkins agreed that this would be a good idea. Council discussed items that might be discussed with Ministers at the UBCM Convention. It was decided that meeting in regards to the Barkerville Circle Route would be beneficial as well. The Deputy Clerk noted that arranging a meeting in regards to future, stable funding for Barkerville Historic Town might be a good idea. Councillor Wilkins concurred.  
**08-193** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** staff arrange meetings with the relative ministries to discuss the *Property Tax Deferral Program*, the Barkerville Circle Route and future stable funding for Barkerville Historic Town.  
Carried Unanimously
2. 08.07.09 Reversing the Tide Conference Invitation – Strategies for Successful Rural Revitalization. To be held in Prince George on October 6-8, 2008  
**08-194** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** Councillor Campbell and possibly one other person attend the Reversing the Tide Conference – Strategies for Successful Rural Revitalization.  
Carried Unanimously
3. 08.06.27 Beth Collingwood, Teacher-Principal, Wells-Barkerville School re: Matching funds for playground improvement  
Councillor Wilkins noted that the topic arose at a Quality of Life Meeting and Ms. Collingwood was encouraged to contact the District of Wells to look for matching funds. The Administrator noted that the District of Wells could use funding for an existing project to cover the matching contributions.  
**08-195** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the District of Wells use funding for an existing project to cover the matching contributions necessary for the Wells-Barkerville School playground improvement project.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of Electoral Officers  
**08-196** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** pursuant to Section 41(1) and (2) of the Local Government Act, Gary Champagne be appointed Chief Election Officer for the District of Wells, to conduct the 2008 general local elections, with power to appoint other election officials as required, **AND THAT** Sundance Topham be appointed Deputy Chief Election Officer for the District of Wells for the 2008 general local elections.  
Carried Unanimously
2. Date for Special Meeting to give final reading to Wells Election Procedures Bylaw No. 95, 2008.  
The Administrator noted that the provincial election regulations had changed, and the new District of Wells Election Bylaw needed to be passed prior to

August 1, 2008, and therefore a Special Council Meeting would need to be held. General discussion took place in regards to a date for the meeting.

- 08-197** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** July 17, 2008 at 1:00 PM be set as the date for Special Meeting to give final reading to Wells Election Procedures Bylaw No. 95, 2008.

Carried Unanimously

#### H. REPORTS:

1. Cheque Register 08.06.01 to 08.06.30

- 08-198** **MOVED** Councillor Ferrier Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** Council approve cheques numbered 4887 to 4916 for the period of June 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008 for a total amount of \$39,884.98.

Carried Unanimously

2. Wells/Barkerville Heritage Trust Retail Fuel Sales Project – NDI Grant Update  
The Administrator noted that the Wells/Barkerville Heritage Trust Retail Fuel Sales Project had been conditionally approved at the Northern Trust Regional Advisory Committee.

- 08-199** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Wells/Barkerville Heritage Trust Retail Fuel Sales Project – NDI Grant Update be received.

Carried Unanimously

3. Public Works Report

4. Fire Chief Report

The Superintendent of Public Works gave a verbal Public Works Report and Fire Chief Report.

- 08-200** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Public Works Report and Fire Chief Report be received.

Carried Unanimously

5. Marketing & Economic Development Officer Report

The Marketing & Economic Development Officer was unable to attend the meeting, but the Administrator provided a brief update.

- 08-201** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the Marketing & Economic Development Officer Report be received.

Carried Unanimously

#### I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. District of Wells Election Procedures Bylaw No. 95, 2008

- 08-202** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** Council give first three readings to the Wells Election Procedures Bylaw No. 95, 2008.

Carried Unanimously

#### J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Wilkins noted that the Quality of Life Committee Minutes would be presented on the first meeting of August.

Councillor Ferrier asked how the Wells Ball Park project was proceeding.

Mayor Vermette noted that the ball park grass seemed to be in poor shape and needed attention.

2. Staff:

The Administrator noted that Council should decide who would be attending the UBCM Conference in Penticton. Councillor Wilkins, Councillor Ferrier and Mayor Vermette all noted that they would be attending the conference. The Administrator also noted that Island Mountain Arts had asked for permission to attach Art Flags to the Municipal Office. Council noted that attaching the Art Flags to the Municipal Building would be fine.

3. Public Gallery:

K. ADJOURNMENT:

**08-203** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Ferrier **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:04 PM.

Carried Unanimously

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John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

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Gary Champagne, CAO