

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday August 5, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 4243 Sanders Avenue, Wells, BC V0K 2R0

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Jay Vermette and Councillors Judy Campbell, Virginia Wilkins and Richard Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Champagne, C.A.O.; Dennis Manuel, Superintendent of Public Works; Jason Griffin, Marketing and Economic Development Officer and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 3 people and one media representative

A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:

08-207 MOVED Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

08-208 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, July 15, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

08-209 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Minutes of the Special Meeting, July 17, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Bob Simpson, MLA Cariboo North

MLA Bob Simpson gave an update on the various issues that he had been working on that pertain to the District of Wells, including the problems with bridge access in the community and the condition of Highway 26. Bob Simpson noted that the shoulders of Highway 26 weren't going to be fixed when the paving work was implemented in 2008, and recommended that Council investigate whether they could be upgraded. General discussion took place in regards to the condition of Highway 26. Bob Simpson noted that he had met with a group of concerned Wells residents in regards to bridge access to One Mile Lake Road and Hardscrabble Road, and would look into who has the authority to make the decisions in regards to the bridges prior to the meeting with ministerial officials at the District of Wells on August 14, 2008, and try to ensure that the proper authorities were at the meeting. Bob Simpson asked for an update as to what is happening with the Wells Community Forest application. The CAO noted that the funding for the start-up application had been delayed on a federal level. The CAO also said that the District of Wells would most likely be looking for another extension of the deadline to apply for a Community Forest in order to get the proposal submitted. Bob Simpson also asked for an update on the state of the fuel situation in Wells. Councillor Campbell and the CAO provided the update, noting that the matching funding was being solicited from community members

and sponsors. Councillor Wright brought up the possibility of a bus lane between Wells and Barkerville Historic Town, and Bob Simpson noted that cycling funding infrastructure seemed to be tied with transportation, but that his office would investigate the funding possibilities. The CAO noted that there was a public transit proposal currently underway that might tie in with any funding proposal.

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Change of Bank from Royal Bank of Canada to Integris Credit Union
The CAO gave Council an overview of the reasoning behind wanting to switch the District of Wells' bank accounts, noting that Integris was willing to pay 2% interest on the money in the account while the Royal Bank paid a negligible amount. The CAO also noted that his dealings with the Royal Bank had been less than favourable.

08-210 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** Council authorize the District of Wells to change our bank from the Royal Bank of Canada to Integris Credit Union before December 31, 2008.

Carried Unanimously

2. Hardscrabble Road Bridge – August 14th Meeting update
The CAO noted that the meeting would be taking place at 1:00 PM on August 14, 2008 at the District of Wells townhall.

08-211 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Hardscrabble Road Bridge – August 14th Meeting update be received.

Carried Unanimously

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

08-212 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 08.07.15 Robin Junger, Associate Deputy Minister, Environment Assessment Office re: Tsilhqot'in Power Development Project
2. 08.07.16 Charlotte Ciok, President, Smart Growth BC re: 2007 Annual Report
3. 08.07.21 Susan Gimse, President, UBCM re: Gas Tax Agreement Community Works Fund Payment

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 08.07.14 Heritage Strategy Stakeholder Workshops – Quesnel, August 28, 2008
Councillor Campbell noted that there would be value in attending the workshop, and that she would be attending and that Jason Griffin, the Marketing and Economic Development Officer for the District of Wells, should be attending as well. Councillor Campbell also noted that as many community members as possible should try to attend and that a meeting prior to the workshop would be beneficial.

08-213 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the 08.07.14 Heritage Strategy Stakeholder Workshops – Quesnel, August 28, 2008 update be received.

Carried Unanimously

2. 08.07.21 Colin Kingsley, Mayor, City of Prince George re: Support of University of Northern British Columbia Application to Canada West Universities Athletic Association
- 08-214** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the District of Wells write a letter of support for the Northern British Columbia Application to Canada West Universities Athletic Association.
Carried Unanimously

3. 08.07.29 CRD request for support to be designated a Forest Capital for 2009. The CAO gave an overview of the Cariboo Regional District request.
- 08-215** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** staff write a letter to the Cariboo Regional District supporting their submission to be designated a Forest Capital for 2009.
Carried Unanimously

4. 08.07.31 UBCM Small Talk Forum – Request for discussion topics
Councillor Campbell noted that access to the Internet is an issue for small communities and the topic could be brought forward. Councillor Wright noted that access to health care for small and remote communities was another topic of importance. Councillor Wright also noted that public transit and transit infrastructure issues could be brought up.
- 08-216** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the UBCM Small Talk Forum – Request for discussion topics be received.
Carried Unanimously

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. NCMA Membership Fee Structure Changes
The CAO noted that the North Central Municipal Association membership fee structure was changing and that the new changes would lead to a small annual increase. He also noted that the proposed fee structure would be voted on at the Union of BC Municipalities Conference in Penticton in September.
- 08-217** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the report on the NCMA Membership Fee Structure Changes be received.
Carried Unanimously

2. Mileage rates for business travel
Councillor Wright noted that the mileage rates for other organizations and agencies have been increasing and should be examined. The CAO noted that staff would present a report on mileage rates at the next Council meeting.
- 08-218** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the District of Wells Mileage rates for business travel update be received.
Carried Unanimously

H. REPORTS:

1. Wells Quality of Life Committee Minutes
Councillor Wilkins gave a verbal overview of the Wells Quality of Life Committee Minutes. General discussion took place in regards to a location to store the Wells Parent Advisory Committee recyclables as well as difficulties with the lock on the Mildred Avenue entrance to the Wells Community School.

08-219 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Wells Quality of Life Committee Minutes be received.

Carried Unanimously

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Wilkins noted that all of the feedback that she had received in regards to the ArtsWells Festival was generally great, but that there were a couple of complaints in regards to liquor consumption outside of the Wells Community Hall. She also noted that there was a complaint in regards to noise emanating from the Wells Community Hall on the Sunday night, and the lighting of candles in the Wells Community Church.

Councillor Campbell noted that she heard tons of positive feedback from participants and visitors to the ArtsWells Festival, and said that the candles in the Wells Community Church were lit with permission. Councillor Campbell also said she wants to make sure that the gas fundraising situation gets priority attention, and noted that she was concerned in regards to email communication problems between her Barkerville Historic Town and the District of Wells.

Councillor Wright noted that he heard a few complaints in regards ArtsWells, but that generally speaking the event went very well.

Mayor Vermette said that he heard nothing but positive comments in regards to the ArtsWells festival. Mayor Vermette said he noticed an extra influx of dogs for the weekend, and that the off-site alcohol enforcement needs to be improved.

2. Staff:

The CAO noted that the ArtsWells Festival went very well, and he had heard nothing but positives in regards to the weekend.

The Superintendent of Public Works noted that the ArtsWells Festival went well.

3. Public Gallery:

Aleta Wallace from the Wells Chronicle noted she noticed that someone had driven their vehicle onto the ball diamond and tented in the corner of the land during the ArtsWells Festival weekend. She also asked if the pink Island Mountain "dry" building would work as a storage space for Wells Community School recyclables. Councillor Campbell noted that this space wasn't an available option.

General discussion took place in regards to the condition of the grass on the ball diamond and festival site.

Carol Pinette noted that she heard lots of feedback in regards to the ArtsWells Festival, with most of it being positive. She also noted that she heard some

negative feedback in regards to the alcohol segregation at the Wells Community Hall.

K. ADJOURNMENT:

08-220 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:39 PM.

Carried Unanimously

John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

Gary Champagne, CAO