

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday August 19, 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 and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 3 people and one media representative

A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:

08-221 MOVED Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

D.2 District of Wells Fixed Cost Propane Contract with Superior Propane
Carried Unanimously

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

08-222 MOVED Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 5, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS: NIL

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. District of Wells Mileage Rate for Business Travel

The Deputy Clerk provided a report on the District of Wells Mileage Rate.

08-223 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the District of Wells Mileage Rate for Business Travel report be received.

Carried Unanimously

2. District of Wells Fixed Cost Propane Contract with Superior Propane
The Deputy Clerk gave an overview of the District of Wells' participation in the Wells BC Buying Group, which worked to negotiate a Fixed Cost Propane Contract with Superior Propane.

08-224 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** Council approve the District of Wells entering into a contract with Superior Propane under the Wells BC Buying Group to purchase propane at a fixed cost of \$0.8320/liter for the period of September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009.

Carried Unanimously

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

08-225 MOVED Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as circulated.

1. 08.08.01 - BC Hydro -2008 UBCM Conference

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 08.08.06 – Wells Best Seniors – Signs and Storage at Wells Community Hall
General discussion took place in regards to the size and design of the proposed Wells Best Seniors' sign. Councillor Campbell asked District of Wells staff to ensure that the size of the proposed Wells Best Seniors sign matched the size of the existing signage located near the rear entrance on the outside of the Wells Community Hall.

08-226 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the District of Wells allow the Wells Best Seniors to place their sign on the outside rear entrance of the Wells Community Hall conditional on the sign conforming to the existing signage.

Carried Unanimously

2. 08.08.11 – West Fraser Mills Ltd. – Cutting Permit Amendment
General discussion took place in regards to the West Fraser Mills Ltd. Cutting Permit Amendment. It was noted that there was no objection to the amendment.

08-227 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** staff write West Fraser Mills Ltd. a letter noting that the District of Wells had no objection to the proposed Cutting Permit Amendment for CP 632 block 1.

Carried Unanimously

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Designation of Firehall as Heritage Building
The Administrator noted that there is a possibility of receiving funding to upgrade the Fire Hall, and in order to obtain said funding it was necessary for Council to recognize the heritage value of the Wells Fire Hall.

08-228 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** Council formally recognize the heritage value of the Wells Fire Hall to the community.

Carried Unanimously

2. APPOINTMENT OF SIGNING AUTHORITIES for the District of Wells
08-229 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** Gary Champagne, Chief Administrative Officer of the District of Wells is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the District to deposit with or transfer to the Integris Credit Union for credit to the District's account only any cheques and other orders for the payment of money to the District, and for that purpose to endorse the same on behalf of the District either in writing or by rubber stamp, to receive statements of the District's accounts together with all relative vouchers and to manage funds within the Districts accounts for the purpose of the investment in or redemption of guaranteed term deposits.

AND THAT all cheques of the District be drawn in the name of the District of Wells and be signed on its behalf by either Mayor John P.S. Vermette, or any Councillor (one of Judy Campbell, Neil Ferrier, Virginia Wilkins or Richard Wright) **AND** either Gary Champagne, Chief Administrative Officer or Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk, or Dennis Manuel, Superintendent of Public Works;

AND THAT this resolution be communicated to the Integris Credit Union and remain in force until cancelled or amended in writing by the District.

Carried Unanimously

H. REPORTS:

1. Outstanding Action Items Report
General discussion took place in regards to the Outstanding Action Items Report.
08-230 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Outstanding Action Items Report be received.
Carried Unanimously

2. Cheque Register 08.07.01 to 08.07.31
08-231 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** Council approve cheques numbered 4917 to 4987 for the period of July 1, 2008 to July 31, 2008 for a total amount of \$102,196.41.
Carried Unanimously

3. Monthly Activity Reports
 - a. Economic Development (written report)
General discussion took place in regards to the Economic Development Officer progress report.
08-232 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the Economic Development Officer Report be received.
Carried Unanimously

 - b. Public Works (verbal report)
 - c. Fire Brigade (verbal report)
Councillor Wright asked a question in regards to the equipment that the Wells Fire Brigade has for fighting interface forest fires. General discussion took place in regards to the organizational structure for fighting forest fires that take place within the District of Wells municipal boundaries.
08-233 **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Public Works Report and the Fire Chief Report be received.
Carried Unanimously

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:
Councillor Wilkins asked the Administrator when Fire Truck 11 would be paid off. She also asked if upgrading the Fire Hall would be accomplished through Lotteries Grant funding or other sources of funding. The Administrator noted that staff was looking at a number of options, including constructing a new building or altering the existing building. General discussion took place in regards to possible upgrades to the Wells Fire Hall. Councillor Wilkins also asked a question in regards to emergency evacuation signage that was posted on the Bowron Lake Road, and how it relates to the District of Wells Emergency Evacuation Plan.

Councillor Campbell noted that the Autumn Moon Festival was taking place in Barkerville on August 23, 2008. She also noted that St. Saviour's music night was taking place on August 26, 2008 and that James Keelaghan was coming to the Sunset Theatre on August 21, 2008. Councillor Campbell also gave information on a sustainability report prepared by the Devolved Heritage Sites within British Columbia, noting that municipalities throughout the province would be asked to write letters of support to provincial representatives in regards to future funding for these sites. Councillor Campbell also noted that the possibility of obtaining funding for handicap accessibility for the upper floors of the Wells Community School should be examined. Councillor Campbell also said that 2009 was the 75th Anniversary of Wells, and that preparations should be undertaken for municipal celebrations.

Mayor Vermette noted that having a call-out list for wild fires within the District of Wells would be a good idea. He also said that he would be attending a funding presentation with Dick Harris in Quesnel on August 21, 2008 to receive a cheque for federal funding for the Wells Mountain Trail Project.

2. Staff:

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal overview of his week-long Municipal Administration Training Institute courses at the University of Victoria.

3. Public Gallery:

Neva Hohn, a member of the Public Gallery asked a question in regards to the Wells Best Seniors storage request. The Administrator responded that he had consulted with the librarian who shares the space, and as neither she nor Council had indicated objection, that administration would approve the request.

Aleta Wallace, the Editor of the Wells Chronicle, provided Council with an overview of the background and purpose of the emergency evacuation signage on Bowron Lake Road. She noted that the signage was put in place in order to make it easier for emergency services to go to the right location to access and evacuate injured workers from remote areas, and was a joint collaboration between the public and private sector.

Councillor Campbell noted that the signs could be infinitely useful for all backcountry users, not just for workers in remote areas, due to the fact that the signs are constructed in areas that are easily accessed by helicopters and are mapped with GPS coordinates. General discussion took place in regards to possible uses and tie-ins for the evacuation signage and locations.

K. ADJOURNMENT:

08-234 **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 8:13 PM.

Carried Unanimously

John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

Gary Champagne, CAO