

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday September 2, 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:** One media representative

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

**08-235 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

F.3 08.08.25 Cathy Ulrich, CEO Northern Health re: Meeting at UBCM  
Carried Unanimously

**B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**08-236 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 19, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS: NIL**

**D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NIL**

**E. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**08-237 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as amended as follows:

1. 08.08.22 Gwen Barlee, Wilderness Committee Policy Director, Western Canada Wilderness Committee re: No British Columbia Endangered Species Legislation

Carried Unanimously

2. 08.08.26 Cpl. Dave Clare, Quesnel RCMP Detachment re: Change in office hours for Wells RCMP  
Councillor Wright asked if this change represented a reduction of hours. It was noted that the total amount of the hours was the same; the office was just open different times of day.

**08-238 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the 08.08.26 Cpl. Dave Clare, Quesnel RCMP Detachment letter re: Change in office hours for Wells RCMP be received.

Carried Unanimously

**F. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. 08.08.14 Greg Scott, Planning Coordinator, West Fraser Mills Ltd. re: Cutting Permit Amendment: CP 429 blocks 1 to 3

General discussion took place in regards to the location of the area that would be affected.

- 08-239** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the 08.08.14 Greg Scott, Planning Coordinator, West Fraser Mills Ltd. letter re: Cutting Permit Amendment: CP 429 blocks 1 to 3 be received.

Carried Unanimously

2. 08.08.15 Janice Nelson, Executive Administrative Assistant, Emergency and Health Service Commission; BC Ambulance Service/HealthLines Services BC re: Invitation to meet with BC Ambulance at UBCM  
Councillor Wilkins asked staff to contact local members of the Wells Ambulance Station to see if there are any local issues that should be raised with provincial representatives.

- 08-240** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** staff contact local members of the Wells Ambulance Station to see if there are any local issues that need to be brought up at the Union of BC Municipalities convention.

Carried Unanimously

3. 08.08.25 Cathy Ulrich, CEO Northern Health re: Meeting at UBCM

- 08-241** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the staff arrange an appointment with Northern Health at the UBCM Conference to discuss health related issues that pertain to the District of Wells.

Carried Unanimously

#### G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. HMC Road Maintenance and Snow Clearing Contract 2008/2009  
Councillor Wilkins asked whether the cost of the snow clearing contract had gone up. The Administrator noted that the contract would be at the same rates as the 2007/2008 contract. He also noted that there were supplementary costs last winter for additional street widening in late winter, but that these would not result in increases in the new contract rates. General discussions took place in regards to HMC Services Inc. road maintenance obligations for dust control on Highway 26.

- 08-242** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** Council approve entering into a twelve-month contract with HMC Services Inc. for the provision of municipal road maintenance and snow clearing operations for 2008/2009 at a cost of \$4,525.00 plus GST per month.

Carried Unanimously

2. Roof access to Wells Community Hall for ABC Communications  
The Administrator noted that it would have to be determined who would pay for the renovations if the work on the Wells Community Hall was undertaken. Councillor Campbell said that cutting a hatchway into the Wells Community Hall was not a good idea as it would diminish the heritage value of the building, and that perhaps the District of Wells should invest in a tower or other alternative for the wireless internet antenna. Councillor Wright noted that it looked like it was a minor but functional change. Councillor Wright suggested contacting ABC Communications to examine whether there could be some improvements made to the safety and access without making irreversible changes.

**08-243** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the District of Wells seek more clarification from ABC Communications in regards to improving the safety of roof access at the Wells Community Hall.  
Carried Unanimously

H. REPORTS: NIL

I. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Wilkins noted that the Ducks Unlimited Dinner was taking place September 20, 2008 in the Banquet Room of the Wells Community Hall.

Councillor Campbell brought forward a report from BC Heritage Properties that included a request for the District of Wells to write a letter to the members of the BC Treasury Board to support sustainable funding levels for BC Heritage Sites.

**08-244** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the District of Wells write a letter to Premier Gordon Campbell along with all BC Treasury Board members supporting the sustainable funding of BC Heritage Properties.  
Carried Unanimously

Councillor Campbell also noted that provincial tourism statistics were down 7 per cent in July while Barkerville Historic Town statistics were only down 4 per cent.

Councillor Wilkins asked what progress was taking place in regards to fundraising for replacing the gas tanks in Wells. General discussion took place in regards to gas tank fundraising and whether or not the District of Wells would be able to contribute money to the fundraising process. The Administrator noted that he didn't believe that there would be any legal problem with the District of Wells providing a loan to Barkerville Heritage Trust to help purchase new gas tanks.

Councillor Wright asked what progress was taking place in regards to improving the unsightly condition of the Northwood Restaurant property. The Administrator noted that the Unsightly Premises Bylaw comes into effect on September 30, 2008 and that a reminder letter from the District of Wells would be sent out to the effected businesses in the immediate future. Councillor Wright also asked if anything had happened in regards to cleaning up "teepee town." The Administrator noted that enforcing any clean-up in residential areas would be difficult.

2. Staff:

The Administrator noted that the District of Wells hadn't received any notification from the province in relation to confirming meetings at the upcoming UBCM conference. The Administrator also said that the Northern Trust had signed off on their portion of the Wells Mountain Trails Project Grant and that work was going to be started on the trail network as soon as a contractor was procured. The Administrator also provided an update in regards to the replacement of the

existing bridge on Hardscrabble Road and noted that there was a possibility of receiving funding to replace the “white bridge” in the meadow.

The Deputy Clerk provided Council with a possible date of September 16, 2008 for a Council photograph. Council members noted that this date would work.

3. Public Gallery: NIL

K. ADJOURNMENT:

**08-245 MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 7:51 PM.

Carried Unanimously

---

John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

---

Gary Champagne, CAO