

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday, July 21, 2009 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, Aleta Wallace, Virginia Wilkins and Richard Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Champagne, C.A.O. and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 1 Person

A. CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA ADOPTION:

**09-186 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

E.2 Built Environment and Active Transportation Contract  
Carried Unanimously

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

**09-187 MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, July 7, 2009 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Pascal Drasdauskis, 2009 District of Wells Academic Bursary recipient  
Pascal Drasdauskis was presented with the 2009 District of Wells Academic Bursary cheque and the 2009 Evan Williams Foundation cheque.

**09-188 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** Pascal Drasdauskis, recipient of the 2009 District of Wells Academic Bursary be received.

Carried Unanimously

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. RCMP Contract Renewal update

**09-189 MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** the RCMP Contract Renewal update be received.

Carried Unanimously

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2009 UBCM Convention participants and meeting requests  
The Administrator noted that Council needed to advise staff as to who would be attending 2009 UBCM Convention from the District of Wells. Mayor Vermette and Councillors Wilkins, Campbell and Wallace said that they would like to attend. Councillor Wright noted that he would have to check his schedule before deciding whether he could attend. Councillor Wright asked the Administrator whether there was money in the Council travel budget for all of Council to attend the conference. The Administrator noted that there should be appropriate funding in the budget for all of Council to attend. General discussion took place in regards to the 2009 UBCM Convention schedule. The Deputy Clerk noted that

any meeting requests with ministers would need to be brought forward at this Council meeting as the next Council meeting was not until after the August 14, 2009 meeting request deadline.

- 09-190** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** the 2009 UBCM Convention participants and meeting requests report be received.  
Carried Unanimously

2. Built Environment and Active Transportation Contract  
The Administrator provided an overview of the Built Environment and Active Transportation Contract.

- 09-191** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** Council authorize Administration to enter into a contract with Dayton & Knight Ltd. for engineering services for the Wells-Barkerville Bike Route Study funded through the Built Environment and Active Transportation program at a maximum cost of \$20,500.00 plus GST.

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE: NIL

G. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

H. REPORTS:

1. Outstanding Action Items Report  
Councillor Wilkins asked the Administrator for a progress update for the creation of the Heritage Register. The Administrator noted that staff would provide an update at the next Council meeting. Councillor Wilkins also asked for information on the Fire Chief report on hazardous buildings in the community. The Administrator noted that the Fire Chief was working on it, but that it was not completed yet.

- 09-192** **MOVED** Councillor Wallace Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Outstanding Action Items Report be received.  
Carried Unanimously

2. Cheque Register 09.06.01 to 09.06.30  
General discussion took place in regards to the District of Wells Cheque Register.

- 09-193** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** Council approve Cheques 182 to 235 from Integris Credit Union for the period of June 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009 for a total amount of \$61,465.53.  
Carried Unanimously

I. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 09-194** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as amended as follows:

2. 09.06.22 G.W. Powell, Board Chair, Provincial Health Services Authority re: Annual Report (report available from Deputy Clerk)

Carried Unanimously

1. 09.06.06 Denis Lemelin, National President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers re: Rural and small town post offices  
Councillor Campbell noted that passing a motion of support for rural and small town post offices would be a good idea. She suggested that Council pass the resolution as presented in the letter from Denis Lemelin.

**09-195** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** **WHEREAS** the report of the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review (CPCSR) recommends that the current moratorium on post office closures in rural and small towns be replaced with a mechanism involving new rules and procedures, including the ability to replace public post offices with private outlets.

**WHEREAS** the report also recommends that rural mailbox delivery be reconsidered.

**WHEREAS** these recommendations, if implemented by the federal government, would undermine public postal service and jobs in our community and fundamentally change the nature of Canada Post's retail and delivery network.

**WHEREAS** the report proposes that Canada Post's highly inadequate community consultation process be used when closing or "rationalizing" a post office/outlet and that a similar process be used when replacing rural mailbox delivery with delivery to a community box, green box or post office.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Wells write to Rob Merrifield, the Minister responsible for Canada Post, and request that the government preserve public postal service and jobs in our community by rejecting CPCSR recommendations that would:

1. Put an end to the moratorium on post office closures in rural and small towns and give Canada Post the flexibility to close post offices covered by the current moratorium or convert these public post offices to private outlets.
2. Cut delivery to rural mailboxes without exploring all options or properly consulting with residents or the representatives of rural delivery workers.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we request that Minister Merrifield consult with the public, postal unions and other major stakeholders to develop a uniform and democratic process for making fundamental changes to Canada Post's retail and delivery network.

Carried Unanimously

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:  
Councillor Wallace said that there is a Fashion Show and Lame Ass Dance at the Wells Community Hall on July 24, 2009. She said that the event is family-friendly until 10:00 PM when alcohol will be served, and then becomes adult only.

Councillor Campbell noted that Barkerville Historic Town would be inviting the District of Wells Fire Chief to attend a meeting to discuss structural fire fighting in Barkerville Historic Town in the near future.

Councillor Wright asked if the District of Wells staff had notified local campgrounds of the camp fire ban in the province. The Administrator noted that staff had not, but would notify the local campground operators. Councillor Wright asked if the municipality had received a response from the Northwoods Restaurant in regards to their unsightly premises letter from the District of Wells. The Administrator noted that he had not yet received a response from the proprietors of the business.

Mayor Vermette noted that the District of Wells won first prize for the best Out of Town Float at the 2009 Billy Barker Days Parade.

2. Staff:

The Administrator said that Island Mountain Arts had notified the District of Wells that their ArtsWells flags were going to be raised on July 22, 2009, unless Council had any concerns. Council did not raise any objections. The Administrator also noted that the District of Wells had entered into a contract with the Wells & District Chamber of Commerce for \$10,000.00 for grant writing. The Administrator also provided an update on the Geothermal test drilling at the Wells-Barkerville School, noting that bedrock had been hit at 97 feet and the heat conductivity information would be analyzed over the coming week. The Administrator noted that once the test information is available the municipality would have a better sense on how the project would proceed.

3. Public Gallery: NIL

K. ADJOURNMENT:

**09-196** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 7:38 PM.

Carried Unanimously

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John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

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Gary Champagne, CAO