

A regular meeting of the District of Wells Council was held Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 7:04 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, and Virginia Wilkins and Richard Wright

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dennis Manuel, Superintendent of Public Works; Jason Griffin, Marketing & Economic Development Officer and Sundance Topham, Deputy Clerk

**PUBLIC GALLERY:** 1 Person

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

**09-285 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Agenda be adopted as amended as follows:

F.2 09.11.27 Paul Crawford re: Wells Community Church Rental Fee  
Carried Unanimously

**B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**09-286 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, November 17, 2009 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**C. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS: NIL**

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

**E. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of District of Wells' representative to the Cariboo Regional District for 2010

**09-287 MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** Council appoint Mayor Vermette, or in his absence the Acting Mayor, to represent the District of Wells on the Cariboo Regional District Board for 2010.

Carried Unanimously

2. Appointment of District of Wells' representative to the Northern Development Initiative Trust Regional Advisory Committee for 2010

**09-288 MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** Council appoint Councillor Wallace to represent the District of Wells at the Northern Development Initiative Trust Regional Advisory Committee for 2010.

Carried Unanimously

3. Approval of District of Wells Council Meeting Schedule for 2010

**09-289 MOVED** Councillor Wallace Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** Council approve the Council Meeting Schedule for 2010.

Carried Unanimously

4. Approval of Acting Mayor schedule for the District of Wells for 2010  
**09-290** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** Councillor Campbell be appointed acting Mayor for the months of January, February and March 2010 AND THAT Councillor Wilkins be appointed Acting Mayor for the months of April, May and June, 2010 AND THAT Councillor Wright be appointed Acting Mayor for the months of July, August and September 2010 AND THAT Councillor Wallace be appointed Acting Mayor for the months of October, November and December, 2010.

Carried Unanimously

5. Appointment of District of Wells Auditor for 2009 fiscal year  
**09-291** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** the Chartered Accounting firm of R.E. Rasmussen of Quesnel, B.C. be appointed to prepare the District of Wells Audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2009.

Carried Unanimously

6. Appointment of District of Wells Standing Committee Chairpersons by the Mayor for 2010  
**09-292** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wright **THAT** the following Councillors be appointed committee chairs for the following committees for 2010:  
Economic Development: Councillor Wallace  
Protective Services and Emergency Planning: Councillor Wright  
Quality of Life: Councillor Wilkins  
Planning, Zoning and Public Works: Councillor Campbell

Carried Unanimously

7. 2010 Administrative Strategic Planning Session  
Councillor Wright noted that January 8, 2010 wouldn't work for him as he would be in Vancouver. He suggested January 15, 2009. The other Councillors said that this date would work for them.  
**09-293** **MOVED** Councillor Wallace Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the 2010 Administrative Planning Session be held on Friday, January 15, 2010 in the Banquet Room of the Wells Community Hall.

Carried Unanimously

F. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 09.11.20 MLA Harry Bains and MLA Gary Coons, Opposition Critics for Transportation and Highways re: Input in regards to Transportation and Highway topics.  
Councillor Wright said that he would like to find out what is happening with the paving of the second half of Highway 26 between Wells and Quesnel, and Councillor Campbell noted that she would like to find out what is happening with the proposed Purden Lake-Barkerville Connector.  
**09-294** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** the 09.11.20 letter from MLA Harry Bains and MLA Gary Coons, Opposition Critics for Transportation and Highways re: Input in regards to Transportation and Highway topics be received.

Carried Unanimously

**09-295** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** staff write a letter to MLA Harry Bains and MLA Gary Coons, Opposition Critics for Transportation and Highways asking if they could enquire in regards to the paving of the second half of Highway 26 between Wells and Quesnel and the proposed Purden Lake-Barkerville Connector.

Carried Unanimously

2. 09.11.27 Paul Crawford re: Wells Community Church Rental Fee.  
Councillor Wright noted that he had contacted Paul Crawford to get a sense of what a fair weekly fee for use of the Wells Community Church would be if recording artists were providing in-kind marketing. He said that Mr. Crawford had noted a fee of around \$250.00. Councillor Wilkins asked what type of heat was in the Wells Community Church, what the heating costs were and whether the building was set-up properly for recording. The Deputy Clerk noted that there was an electric furnace in the building and that recording had taken place in the past without any incident. The Deputy Clerk also noted that heating costs would be known after the upcoming BC Hydro bill was received as an artist had rented the building for one week in November for recording. General discussion took place in regards to an appropriate fee to charge for rental of the Wells Community Church for recording, if in-kind marketing was also provided by the artist. The Deputy Clerk noted that staff could bring a proposed recording rental policy for the Wells United Church to the January Council meeting. This policy would include information on the actual heating costs for the building.

**09-296** **MOVED** Councillor Wallace Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the 09.11.207 letter from Paul Crawford re: Wells Community Church Rental Fee be received.

Carried Unanimously

**09-297** **MOVED** Councillor Wallace Seconded Councillor Campbell **THAT** staff prepare a recording rental policy for the Wells Community Church for the January Council meeting that included a proposed fee structure and information on heating costs for the Wells Community Church.

Carried Unanimously

G. BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS: NIL

H. REPORTS:

1. Superintendent of Public Works Report  
The Superintendent of Public Works provided a verbal report.

2. Fire Chief Report  
The Fire Chief provided a verbal report.

**09-298** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councillor Wallace **THAT** the Superintendent of Public Works Report and Fire Chief Report be received.

Carried Unanimously

3. Marketing & Economic Development Officer Report

The Marketing & Economic Development Officer provided a verbal report. Councillor Campbell asked questions in regards to the new handicap washroom in the Wells Community Hall and the Wells Community Forest planning.

**09-299** **MOVED** Councillor Wright Seconded Councilor Wilkins **THAT** the Marketing & Economic Development Officer Report be received.

Carried Unanimously

I. CONSENT CALENDAR:

**09-300** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the Consent Calendar be adopted as amended as follows:

2. 09.11.25 Shannon Watt, Federation of Canadian Municipalities re: Municipal Leadership on Climate Change Action: FCM's Plans in the Lead up to COP-15 in Copenhagen.
3. 09.11.26 Darrell Mussatto, Mayor, City of North Vancouver re: Provincial Funding Assistance to the Arts.
4. 09.11.26 Harry Nyce, President, UBCM/Gas Tax re: Gas Tax Agreement Community Works Fund Payment

Carried Unanimously

1. 09.11.13 Ben Stewart, Minister of Citizens' Services and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism and the Public Affairs Bureau re: Grants-in-Lieu of Taxes payment.

Councillor Campbell asked which buildings were affected by the Grants-in-Lieu of Taxes payments and whether the taxes were in line with what non-provincial government owners paid. The Deputy Clerk provided the information in regards to the buildings and general taxing parameters.

**09-301** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councilor Wallace **THAT** the 09.11.13 letter from Ben Stewart, Minister of Citizens' Services and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism and the Public Affairs Bureau re: Grants-in-Lieu of Taxes payment be received.

Carried Unanimously

J. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Council Members:

Councillor Wallace noted that she was unable to attend the Cariboo Regional District Forest Capital of Canada announcement in Williams Lake.

Councillor Wilkins said that she'd heard some rumours in regards to the future RCMP staffing in Wells once the current members left. She said that she'd heard that there might no longer be two full-time members based in town, and she voiced her concern over what that might mean to the community. She said that the District of Wells should write a letter to Staff Sergeant Clark-Marlowe in Quesnel to find out what plans were being made to replace the current officers. Mayor Vermette noted that he'd heard the rumours as well and had spoken with Wells RCMP Constable Trainor, who assured him that it was just a rumour. Mayor Vermette noted that sending a letter to Staff Sergeant Clark-Marlowe was a good idea.

**09-302** **MOVED** Councillor Wilkins Seconded Councilor Wright **THAT** staff write a letter to Wells RCMP Staff Sergeant Clark-Marlowe to find out how plans were unfolding in regards to replacing the outgoing RCMP members in the District of Wells.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Campbell reminded Council about the upcoming Old Fashioned Christmas in Barkerville on December 12-14 and provided a brief overview of her recent trip to China, noting that the trip highlights were available on the Barkerville Historic Town blog.

Mayor Vermette provided information in regards to discussions the Wells Snowmobile Club had with Ministry of Environment officials in regards to Mt. Caribou habitat in the Wells-Barkerville area. Mayor Vermette noted that other user groups should be brought into the discussions as potential Mt. Caribou areas could affect groups such as the Wells and Area Trails Society. Mayor Vermette noted that he would provide contact information for the Ministry of Environment official to interested local groups.

2. Staff:  
The Deputy Clerk provided Council with information in regards to the holiday hours for the District of Wells office and the District of Wells Council Christmas party. He also provided information in regards to the West Fraser Open House in Wells, which takes place on December 3, 2009 from 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM in the Banquet Room of the Wells Community Hall.
3. Public Gallery: NIL

K. ADJOURNMENT:

**09-303** **MOVED** Councillor Campbell Seconded Councillor Wilkins **THAT** the meeting adjourn at 7:44 PM.

Carried Unanimously

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John P.S. Vermette, Mayor

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Gary Champagne, CAO