

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Council reviewed the minutes for the regular meeting of December 17, 2020. Correction required to Motion 107 and text errors in Business from Minutes. Minutes were approved with errors corrected.

MOTION 2021- 07

That the minutes of the regular meeting of December 17, 2020 be approved as presented with errors noted corrected.

Moved: Kathie Hardisty
Seconded: Colin Woehl
Carried.

Council reviewed the minutes for the special meeting of January 6, 2021. Noted that councilor Julia Capot Blanc did not attend meeting. The minutes were approved with the noted error corrected.

MOTION 2021- 08

That the minutes of the special meeting of January 06, 2021 be approved as presented with the error corrected.

Moved: Kathie Hardisty
Seconded: Colin Woehl
Carried.

MEETING WITH MLA SHANE THOMPSON

MLA acknowledged outstanding community response to the COVID infection in Fort Liard. The Leadership and challenging work were noted. Everybody learned a lot and conversations with the Premier were helpful. Eight five percent of the population was vaccinated.

Mayor Deneron noted that council was terribly upset with the fact the \$100.00 gift cards were issued by Department of Health for the purchase of alcohol that they could purchase from the liquor store in Fort Simpson. That last thing the community need was people prone to violence, depression, anger, and suicide having access to alcohol.

The MLA responded that he did not know about the gift cards and apologized on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories and will raise the issue with Cabinet.

Councilor Eva Hope raised concern over access to alcohol. The MLA noted that there was a \$200.00 purchase limit at all liquor stores except Norman Wells restrictions are in effect.

He noted the liquor restriction in Fort Simpson lifted as the result of a public plebiscite.

Mayor Deneron raised the issue of people getting approval to cross the border from BC back into the NWT. The MLA responded that he did not support any requests any requests and referred requests to the proper authorities, He had not supported any re-entry on highway 7. He only asked questions, did not give approval. Noted that there was more COVID infection in Fort Nelson than the whole Northwest Territories. He will follow-up on a person receiving approval.

MLA Thompson noted that he was receiving different information from the GNWT which do not agree with reality. The community leadership had more accurate numbers. It was also noted that with the proximity to the BC border there are going to be more cases.

Mayor Deneron raised the issue of an infected person not being removed from the community. The person referenced was not intent on isolating and should have been removed from the community rather than be housed at the only hotel. This isolation effected the hotel business and the isolation required should have been an issue delt with the government. Noted that a Market housing unit has been furnished and could be used in isolation. Again, why COVID positive persons not removed from the community?

Mayor Deneron noted that she was not responding to the press. She was more concerned with communication within the community and that she wanted residents kept informed and that communications were understood and translated.

Community concerned with a public impression that was coming from government officials. Despite following all protocol residents of Fort Liard are still considered a threat when visiting a doctor or dentist and treated differently than other residents of the NWT. This even though completing isolation where necessary, tests, and vaccines.

Other issues raised -

An oil spill at a provide residence and the need for RWED to investigate. RWED Superintendent will follow-up.

Issues at the Nine plex [Seniors] and specific issues raised by residents. MLA responded that a meeting had been scheduled for March 15, 2021. He was also trying to schedule a community meeting with the Housing Minister.

In July, the MLA will be scheduling a trip to Fort Liard with the Minister of Infrastructure. He will plan trips with other Ministers each separately.

NEW BUSINESS

RETURNING OFFICER

The Hamlet requires a byelection for the vacant seat on council. Council approves the appointment of Marie Kotchea as returning officer.

MOTION 2021- 09

That Marie Kotchea be appointed as returning officer for the 2021 by-election for the vacant council seat.

Moved: Kathie Hardisty
Seconded: Colin Woehl
Carried.

FINANCIAL

AUDITOR APPOINTMENT

The Hamlet is required to appoint an auditor each fiscal year. For the 2020/21 fiscal year council appoints EPR Yellowknife Accounting as the auditor.

MOTION 2021- 10

That EPR Yellowknife Accounting be appointed as the Hamlet auditor for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Moved: Colin Woehl
Seconded: Kathy Hardisty
Carried.

BYLAWS

The Hamlet is required to pass a bylaw the authorize borrowing during the fiscal year. The VISA credit card is considered a form of borrowing and council gave first reading to a Temporary Borrowing bylaw for the 2021/22 fiscal year for the Hamlet CIBC Visa Card.

MOTION 2021-11

That Bylaw 295 Temporary Borrowing receive first reading.

Moved: Cathy Kotchea
Seconded: Eva Hope
Carried.

Council gave second reading to a Temporary Borrowing Bylaw for the 2021/22 fiscal year.

MOTION 2021-12

That Bylaw 295 Temporary Borrowing receive second reading.

Moved: Colin Woehl
Seconded: Eva Hope
Carried.

Agenda item remaining will be deferred to Special Meetings on February 25 and March 4, 2021.

NEXT MEETING

Special meetings February 25 and March 4, 2021
Regular Meeting March 19, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2021- 13

That the meeting of February 18, 2021 be adjourned.

Moved: Kathie Hardisty
Seconded: Colin Woehl
Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.



Hillary Deneron
Mayor



John W. McKee
Senior Administrative Officer