



**MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, January 25, 2024**

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

MAYOR	Genevieve McLeod
COUNCILORS	Julia Capot Blanc
	Greg Wilson
	Hillary Deneron

ABSENT

DEPUTY MAYOR	Eva Hope	[with notice]
COUNCILORS	Barbara McLeod	[with notice]

STAFF - Senior Administrative Officer John W. McKee

The Chairperson (Mayor) took the chair and called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

Cathy Gonet was sworn in as a new Fort Liard Hamlet Council councillor.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council approved the meeting agenda without changes.

MOTION 2024- 001

That the agenda for the meeting of January 25, 2024, be approved as presented.

 Moved: Hillary Deneron

 Seconded: Greg Wilson

 Carried.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cathy Gonet declared a Conflict of Interest – Agenda item "Timber Cutting Permit."

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting, and no changes were made.

MOTION 2024- 002

That the minutes for the December 16, 2024 meeting be approved as presented.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF AUDIT PROPOSALS

Two proposals were received –
Crowe MacKay LLP
YK Accounting Professional Corporation

The SAO reviewed both proposals to External Audit Services with the council. Both were qualified to perform audits for NWT Hamlets. Both were compared to the services required, and it was noted that YK accounting added a separate section on additional services. Both proposed meeting the timeline to complete the audit by June 30, 2024. Crowe MacKay had more experience auditing NWT Municipalities. Staff turnover is a reality, and Crowe added a section on how they would deal with such a situation should it arise. Both costs were within the Hamlet budget, but Crowe MacKay was higher.

Council reviewed and discussed both proposals and agreed to accept the Crowe MacKay proposal as presented.

MOTION 2024- 003

That the proposal from Crowe MacKay to perform External Audit Services be accepted and presented.

Moved: Julie Capot Blanc

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

The calendar for the 2024 Municipal Election was presented. All council members are up for Election. Council accepted the recommendation that Marie Kotchea be appointed as Returning Officer.

MOTION 2024- 004

That Marie Kotchea be appointed as Returning Officer for the 2024 Municipal Election.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Julie Capot Blanc

Carried.

Councillor Cathy Gonet declared a Conflict of Interest and left council chambers.

TIMBER CUTTING PERMIT APPLICATION

Council reviewed Application FA#7F79F1 for a Timber Cutting Permit from Level Up Contracting. After discussion, councillors agreed to support the application.

MOTION 2024- 005

That the Fort Liard Hamlet Council supports Level Up Contracting Application FA#7F79F1 for a Timber Cutting Permit.

Moved: Julie Capot Blanc

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

Councillor Cathy Gonet returned to the council meeting.

FINANCIAL

OPERATION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO DECEMBER 31, 2023

The SAO presented the Operational Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2023. Note that there is an operational deficit at the end of the period. More is being spent on maintenance and continues to be so. Reserves have been set up to provide funds for maintenance projects. With high capital infrastructure costs, more emphasis must be placed on increasing the life cycle of facilities.

A Statement of Five-Year Water and Sewage Operations was reviewed and noted that expenses for the sewage trucks have been high. Reserve funds must be and have been set aside to replace municipal service vehicles. A five-year review allows the examination of expenses over a more extended period to smooth out the bumps. The economic rate for the 2025 fiscal year is anticipated to remain the same. The SAO answered questions. Council accepted the financial statements as presented.

MOTION 2024- 006

That the Operational Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Noted...

Territorial Statistician – NWT Community Survey
MLA – Fire Smart and Fire Break Funding

REPORTS

Fire Department – December 2023
RCMP – December 2023
Safety – no report – officers on training
Information Sheet – CPP 2024

NOTICES

Research Licence 5856
Research Licence 5817

MEETING WITH MLA – January 31, 2024

Agenda Items

Interprovincial Health Services
Nursing Station Services
Follow-up on Email re firebreak
Housing – Vacant units and Local Authority Housing

NEXT MEETING

The next regular council meeting - February 15, 2024

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Operational Budget
Five-Year Capital Plan
New Employment Bylaw
Five-Year Strategic Plan

Emergency Evacuation Plan
Community Plan
Zoning Bylaw
Land Administration Bylaw
Liquor Restrictions

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2024- 007

That the Special Council Meeting of January 25, 2024, be adjourned.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.



Genevieve McLeod
Mayor

John W. McKee
Senior Administrative Officer