



**MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 16, 2023**

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**ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT**

MAYOR	Genevieve McLeod
COUNCILORS	Julia Capot Blanc
	Greg Wilson
	Hillary Deneron
	Barbara McLeod

**ABSENT**

DEPUTY MAYOR	Eva Hope [With Notice]
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STAFF - Senior Administrative Officer	John W. McKee
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The Chairperson (Mayor) took the chair and called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Council approved the meeting agenda without changes.

**MOTION 2023- 55**

That the agenda for the meeting of November 16, 2023, be approved as presented.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interests were declared.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

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

**MOTION 2023- 56**

That the minutes for the meeting of September 14, 2023, be approved as presented.

Moved: Greg Wilson

Seconded: Barabara McLeod

Carried.

Noted- The September 21, 2023, meeting was cancelled – no quorum.  
The October 19, 2023, meeting was cancelled – no quorum.

**BUSINESS ARISING FOR THE MINUTES**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

The 2023 Municipal Election for one Hamlet Councillor will be held December 11, 2023, and the advance poll will be held November 27, 2023.

The S.A.O. will be the Returning Officer as the council did not appoint a Returning Officer by October 23, 2023

**FINANCIAL**

**AUDITOR**

Council is required to appoint an Auditor pursuant to Section 106 of the Hamlet's Act. The SAO made a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Auditor and Management's responsibilities for financial reporting. A proposal calling for audit services has been advertised with a closing date of November 22, 2023. The council will review the proposals and appoint an auditor for the fiscal years 2024 to 2027.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Operational Financial Statements for the period ending September 2023. Note that there is an operational period surplus. Utilities are significantly more expensive during winter, and maintenance projects are not fully expensed.

Waste disposal is a major expense, and there is a deficit of \$17,000 at the end of the period.

The economic rate for water and sewage services was raised on October 1, 2023.

Residential subsidies have been reduced. It is still projected to be a year-end deficit of \$60,000.00 and raising the economic rate early in 2023 will be necessary. Operation of the sewage trucks is identified as a major cost. Two sewage trucks require \$20,000 in repairs.

The SAO answered specific questions from councillors.

**MOTION 2023- 57**

That the Operational Financial Statements for the period ending September 30, 2023, be accepted as presented.

Moved: Barbara McLeod

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

**BYLAWS**

**BYLAW 328**

Bylaw 328, "Asset Disposal" was presented to the council in writing and given a third and final reading without change. This Bylaw authorizes the disposal of non-certifiable fire equipment.

**MOTION 2023- 58**

That Bylaw 328 "Asset Disposal" be given a third and final reading.

Moved: Greg Wilson

Seconded: Hillary Deneron

Carried.

**BYLAW 331**

Bylaw 331, "Municipal Services Rate Amendments," was presented in writing and given a third and final reading without change. The Bylaw raises the economic rate, reduces residential subsidies, and changes in eligibility for senior subsidies.

**MOTION 2023- 59**

That Bylaw 331 "Municipal Service Rate Amendments" be given a third and final reading.

Moved: Greg Wilson

Seconded: Hillary Deneron

Carried.

**BYLAW 332**

Bylaw 332, "Noise Abatement," was presented in writing and given a third and final reading without change. This Bylaw provides for a 'Quiet Time' between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am.

**MOTION 2023- 60**

That Bylaw 332 "Noise Abatement" be given a third and final reading.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

**BYLAW 333**

Bylaw 333, "Finance Officer Appointment," was presented in writing and given a third and final reading without change. This bylaw appoints Eathan Oatman as Finance Officer.

**MOTION 2023- 61**

That Bylaw 333 "Finance Appointment" be given a third and final reading.

Moved: Barbara McLeod

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

**BYLAW 334**

This Bylaw approves the disposal of seven computer workstations that have reached their end of life and have been removed from service. The computers will be professionally cleaned and disposed of. Bylaw 334 was given a first reading.

**MOTION 2023- 62**

That Bylaw 334 "Asset Disposal" be given first reading.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Barbara McLeod

Carried.

Bylaw 334 was given a second reading.

**MOTION 2023- 63**

That Bylaw 334 "Asset Disposal" be given a second reading.

Moved: Second Reading

Seconded: Hillary Deneron

Carried.

## **ZONING AND COMMUNITY PLAN BYLAWS**

Agenda item deferred.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

An updated list of the Emergency Response Team was presented to the council.

A letter of concern from Acho Dene Koe re Emergency Response and Preparedness for Wildfires was presented to the council. Records indicate that ADK did participate in the process of developing a Fort Liard Emergency Response Plan.

A hazard and risk for wildfires was undertaken in 2011. A plan was developed using data from 2009-2018. This plan needs to be updated. The plan does not address the specifics of a firebreak.

Staff have been assigned to prepare an emergency evacuation plan to be completed by January 2024. Tabletop exercises will be developed.

The Department of Health and Social Services has raised concerns that wildfire smoke can contaminate community water supplies. Communities will be required to submit water samples for testing.

Concerns -

The GNWT evacuation system is still not available.

A staging area for cleared brush needs to be identified.

The firebreak funding agreement is still not finalized, and funding is available.

## **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER TAX CREDIT**

Volunteer firefighters get a tax credit of \$3,000.00. Bill C-310 proposes an increase to \$10,000.00. The Hamlet supports the petition supporting legislative amendments to the Income Tax Act to increase the tax credit to \$10,000.00.

### **MOTION 2023- 64**

The Hamlet of Fort Liard supports the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs' Petition to Have the Government of Canada amend the Income Tax credit for volunteer firefighters to \$10,000.00.

Moved: Barbara McLeod

Seconded: Hillary Deneron

Carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Reviewed and Noted -**

Enbridge – Pointed Mountain Project  
Department of Infrastructure – Renewal Application  
Acho Dene Koe – Emergency Preparedness  
Premier – Carbon Tax and Transition of Fossil Fuels

- MLA – Social Worker Vacancies and Hiring
- Housing Authority Vacancy and Hiring
- Renewable Resource Officer Vacancy
- Highway 7 Road Maintenance

## **REPORTS**

Recreation and Youth Programs  
Safety –October 2023  
RCMP – October 2023  
Water Licence – Annual Report

## **NOTICES**

Scientific Research Applications and Licenses

## **COUNCILLOR CONCERN**

Councillor Wilson requested that casual staff be hired to answer telephones when front desk staff are unavailable.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular council meeting - December 21, 2023  
NWTAC AGM – Hay River – February 29 to March 2, 2023 – Hay river

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **MOTION 2023- 65**


That the meeting of November 16, 2023 be adjourned.

Moved: Hillary Deneron

Seconded: Barbara McLeod

Moved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.43 pm.



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Genevieve McLeod  
Mayor



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John W. McKee  
Senior Administrative Officer