



MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, March 17, 2022

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

MAYOR	Genevieve McLeod
DEPUTY MAYOR	Eva Hope
COUNCILORS	Julia Capot Blanc
	Greg Wilson
	Barbara McLeod
COUNCILOR	Hillary Deneron – quarantined
	Derwin Kotchea – without notice

STAFF Senior Administrative Officer	John W. McKee
-------------------------------------	---------------

The Chairperson (Mayor) took the chair and called the meeting to order at 7: 10 pm.

Council was provided with information and reference to legislation (including the Hamlet Bylaw) on council meeting.
Council was provided with a copy of the Council Code of Ethics

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council reviewed the meeting agenda without changes.

MOTION 2022- 01

That the agenda for the meeting of March 17, 2021, be approved as presented.

Moved:	Greg Wilson
Seconded:	Eva Hope
Carried.	

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The SAO reviewed the rules against Conflict of Interest and provided councilor s with a summary and reference to pertinent legislation

No conflicts of interests were declared.

APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY MAYOR

Councilors confirmed the show of hands to appoint Eva Hope as Deputy Mayor.

MOTION 2022- 02

That Eva Hope be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the Fort Liard Hamlet Council.

Moved: Greg Wilson

Seconded: Barbara McLeod

Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Presentation on the Roles and Responsibilities of Council – Mike Drake Regional Superintendent Fort Simpson proposes to make a presentation to council. Council agreed to a workshop on a non-pay weekend. The administration to make arrangement.

FINANCIAL

Financial Statements Year Ending March 31, 2021

Council received the Statements and the Letter of Opinion. The SAO made a presentation highlighting the new Public Sector Accounting Principles and the might higher level of accountability for public governments. This included a brief explanation on the difference between cash and accrual-based accounting And the recognition that substantial wealth is tied to municipal capital assets. Staff will need to understand how fiscal management will changes, new processes and that new skills will be provided.

The auditor identifies five areas of concern

Charts of Accounts – disorganized code of accounts

IT System – failure of the system

Inventory – lack inventory management

Water Delivery – lack of reconciliation with Fluid Master

Budget Approval – late approval

The SAO updated council of the implementation of recommendations with the objective that all will be addressed before the 2022 Audit.

MOTION 2022-03

That the Financial Statements for the period ending March 31, 2021, be accepted as presented.

Moved: Eva Hope

Seconded: Barbara McLeod

Carried.

MILL Rate Increase

Council reviewed a letter from the GNWT Department of Finance asking of council wanted to raise the Fort Liard Mill Rate. The SAO reviewed the procedures now in place and the revenue dollars from property taxes. After discussion it was decided that no rate increase would be requested.

Water and Sewage Economic Rate

The SAO reviewed current revenue and expenditures and a budget for the next fiscal year. Currently there is an operational loss which had been projected for the next three years because of the large surplus in the fund. Fuel costs have been escalating over the past three months. This is one of the significant costs of providing the service. Costs are increasing the annual deficit above projected amounts. It is proposed that a surcharge will be levied effective April 1, 2022, and would remain in place until fuel costs drop to 2021 level. Council agreed with the proposed surcharge.

Financial Statements

Council was presented with Operational Financial Statements for the period ending January 2022. A brief review of the statements was provided. There is a small current year surplus but with escalating fuel and procurement costs it is now projected that the hamlet will finish the current year with a deficit but with an accumulated surplus.

BYLAWS

Councilors were presented with a summary of the purpose of and procedures for passing bylaws.

CEMETARY BYLAW

The Hamlet is unable to get land tenure on the graveyard site until NWT land legislation changes. The GNWT Department of Municipal Affairs now has land tenure and permits the Hamlet to use this site for a community graveyard.

The Cemetery Bylaw which provides for the establishment and operation of a community graveyard was given first reading.

MOTION 2022-04

That Bylaw 310 Cemetery Bylaw receive first reading.
Moved: Greg Wilson
Seconded: Barb McLeod
Carried.

The Cemetery Bylaw as given second reading.

MOTION 2022-05

That Bylaw 310 Cemetery Bylaw receive second reading.
Moved: Barbara McLeod
Seconded: Eva Hope
Carried.

EMPLOYMENT BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Bylaw 311 a Bylaw to make amendments to Sections 2, 34, 39, and adding new definitions was given first reading.

MOTION 2022-06

That Bylaw 311 Employment Bylaw Amendments receive first reading.

Moved: Greg Wilson

Seconded: Eva Hope

Carried.

The Employment Bylaw Amendments be given second reading.

MOTION 2022-07

That Bylaw 311 Employment Bylaw Amendments receive second reading.

Moved: Julie Capot Blanc

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHMENT

The Community Safety Department Establishment Bylaw 312 was given first reading. Costs for this department will be funded by a contribution agreement GNWT Department of Justice.

MOTION 2022-08

That Bylaw 312 Community Safety Department Establishment receive first reading.

Moved: Barbra Mcleod

Seconded: Greg Wilson

Carried.

The Community Safety Department Bylaw as given second reading.

MOTION 2022-09

That Bylaw 312 Community Safety Department Establishment receive first reading.

Moved: Julia Capot Blanc

Seconded: Eva Hope

Carried.

MUNCICIPAL SERVICE RATE AMENDMENT BYLAW

Bylaw 313 a Bylaw to amend section 8, amend the reconnection service charge, add the Economic Rate Surcharge was given first reading.

MOTION 2022-10

That Bylaw 313 Municipal Service Rate Amendment receive first reading.

Moved: Eva Hope
Seconded: Greg Wilson
Carried.

The Municipal Service Rate Amendment Bylaw

MOTION 2022-11

That Bylaw 313 Municipal Service Rate Amendment receive second reading.

Moved: Julie Capot Blanc
Seconded: Greg Wilson
Carried.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

Council reviewed three projects that are ongoing –

New Works Garage – material delays will necessitate the project being spread over two years with final completion summer 2023. The SAO will explore options with the engineers.

Road Upgrading – plans are nearing completion and once complete the project will be put on hold until it can be completed with a highway project. Mobilization costs for to project would be too high to complete a standalone project.

Hay Lake and Water Plant Stair project need to be completed this year and the challenge will be to get a contractor to do these two small projects.

Consideration – the Hamlet has two sewage trucks, and both are required to maintain service levels. Service levels with one truck cannot be maintained by any longer than three days. Council directed the administration to detail purchase of a third truck. It is anticipated that the earliest delivery date would be April or May 2023. Presently there are no truck chassis available in stock.

FOR APPROVAL

Council reviewed applications from Timberland Wood Services and Gah Cho Inc. for Commercial Timber Harvesting Permits. Council had no objections to either permit

MOTION 2022-12

That the Hamlet supports and approves the Timber Harvest Applications from Timberland Wood Services and Gah Cho Inc.

Moved: Eva Hope
Seconded: Greg Wilson
Carried.

NWTAC AGM

Councilors to consider attendance at the NWTAC AGM in Hay River June 9th to 11.

CORRESPONDENCE and REPORTS

Deferred until next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Emergency Response workshop meeting Thursday March 24th.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2022-13

That the meeting of March 17, 2022, be adjourned.

Moved: Julie Capot Blanc
Seconded: Barbara McLeod
Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.



Genevieve McLeod
Mayor



John W. McKee
Senior Administrative Officer