

TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

SESSION NO. 028

December 9, 2019

The meeting of Council of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Council Chambers , Civic Centre on December 9, 2019 from 6:34 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor J. Caul, Chairperson; Councillors M. Behan, W. Brunetta, A. Hallikas, D. Judson, J. McTaggart and R. Wiedenhoeft.

ALSO PRESENT: D. Brown, CAO, E. Slomke, Clerk, D. Galusha, Treasurer, T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities, A. Bisson, Recreation and Culture Manager, C. Vangel, CBO / Municipal Planner

1. COUNCIL MEETING

(Session No. 028)

- 1.1 Call to Order at 6:34 p.m.
- 1.2 Prayer
- 1.3 Non-agenda items identified to be considered later in this meeting - None.
- 1.4 Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof.
Councillor McTaggart disclosed an interest in Items 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 from tonight's Committee of the Whole meeting as he receives compensation from a corporation that is owned by a development corporation of one of the Agency One Bands. Councillor McTaggart disclosed an interest in Item 8.1 from the November 25th agenda as he submitted the travel expense for that trip.

2. Delegations/Deputations:

- 2.1 Presentation to Citizen of the Year - Joy Lockman (at 7:00 p.m.)
- Mayor Caul read out the nomination submission as the nominator was unable to attend. A plaque was presented.
- 2.2 Public Meeting re: 357/358 Application for Tax Adjustment re: 727 Church Street (2019).
- approval of this report will agree to the recommendation of Administration and Finance Executive Committee to approve the adjustment of 2019 taxes for April 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 under Section 357/358 of the ***Municipal Act*** for property located at 727 Church Street resulting from a fire.
- No one was present to speak to this matter when Mayor Caul inquired.
- 274 Wiedenhoeft - Hallikas: THAT the report dated November 27, 2019 from D. Galusha, Treasurer re: Public Meeting re: 357/358 Application for Tax Adjustment re: 727 Church Street (2019) be approved agree with the recommendation of Administration and Finance Executive Committee to approve the adjustment of 2019 taxes for April 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 under Section 357/358 of the ***Municipal Act*** for property located at 727 Church Street resulting from a fire.

CARRIED

- 2.3 Public Meeting re: 357/358 Applications for Tax Adjustment re: 416 First Street East (2019).
- approval of this report will agree to the recommendation of the Administration and Finance Executive Committee to approve the adjustment of 2019 taxes for June 11, 2019 to December 31, 2019 under Section 357/358 of the ***Municipal Act*** for property located at 416 First Street East resulting from a fire.

- No one was present to speak to this matter when Mayor Caul inquired.

- 275 Hallikas - Wiedenhoef: THAT the report dated November 27, 2019 from D. Galusha, Treasurer re: Public Meeting re: 357/358 Applications for Tax Adjustment re: 416 First Street East (2019) be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Administration and Finance Executive Committee to approve the adjustment of 2019 taxes for June 11, 2019 to December 31, 2019 under Section 357/358 of the *Municipal Act* for property located at 416 First Street East resulting from a fire.

CARRIED

3. Consent Agenda:

3.1 Items Referred from Committee of the Whole

- 276 Hallikas - Wiedenhoef: THAT the following Consent items be approved:

- 1) Committee of the Whole Consent items # 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.10, ~~7.11~~ and ~~7.12~~
- 2) Council Consent items # 3.2

CARRIED

- 3.2 Letter dated November 22, 2019 from C. Emes, President, Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce re: Safety & Budget Concerns
- will be referred to the Administration & Finance Executive Committee (Fire Chief/CEMC and Treasurer) for recommendation.

4. Approval of Council Minutes: *

4.1 Session No. 027, dated November 25, 2019

- 277 Hallikas - Wiedenhoef: THAT the minutes of the Council meeting being Session No. 027 dated November 25, 2019 having been typed and distributed be approved.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes: *

5.1 Session No. 029, dated November 25, 2019

- 278 Wiedenhoef - Hallikas: THAT the report of the Committee of the Whole of Council meeting being Session No. 029 dated November 25, 2019 having been typed and distributed be approved.

CARRIED

6. Resolutions from tonight's Committee meeting

6.1 Council considered the following resolutions:

-Councillor Brunetta requested a recorded vote on resolution 282 with the following results:

Behan YEA Brunetta NAY Caul YEA
Hallikas YEA Judson YEA McTaggart NAY
Wiedenhoef Yea

- 279 Brunetta - Behan: THAT the report dated November 28, 2019 from E. Slomke, Clerk re: Appointment to Boards and Committees – BIA be approved to appoint the following to the Downtown BIA:

- Stacey Cridland

CARRIED

- 280 Behan - Brunetta: THAT the report dated December 4, 2019 from T. Rob, Manager of Operations and Facilities re: Report No. 1 Establishing 2020 Water & Sewer Rates be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Operations & Facilities Executive Committee that Revised Scenario 3 (as amended) on Spreadsheet 1 be the preferred scenario and that the 2020 rates be established accordingly.

CARRIED

- 281 Brunetta - Behan: THAT the report dated December 4, 2019 from C. Vangel, CBO / Municipal Planner re: Site Plan Control - 737 Scott Street (Storage Garage and Parking Lot) be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Planning & Development Executive Committee to designate 737 Scott Street as a Site Plan Control area in the Town of Fort Frances and further that said agreement be developed and approved by by-law at a future meeting of Council.

CARRIED

- 282 Behan - Brunetta: THAT the report dated November 15, 2019 from A. Bisson, Recreation and Culture Manager re: 2020 Community Services User Fees Schedule be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Community Services Executive Committee to endorse in principle the attached 2020 user fee schedule as amended ~~presented~~ with a 1.7% increase over the 2019 user fees, along with the elimination of the non-resident user fees on a trial basis period of one year.

CARRIED

- 283 Brunetta - Behan: THAT Council authorize the attendance of the following members to the Rainy River District Municipal Association AGM & Conference on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at the LaVallee Community Hall in Devlin, ON:

- all members available

On the basis as follows: Per Diem and Travel Expense allowed.

CARRIED

- 284 Brunetta - Behan: THAT the following members of Council be authorized to attend the Association of Municipalities of Ontario - August 16-19, 2020 in Ottawa, ON:

- Mayor Caul, Councillor Behan and Councillor Wiedenhoeft

On the basis as follows: travel expense and per diem allowed.

CARRIED

- 285 Behan - Brunetta: WHEREAS in 2018 the Province of Ontario adjusted the tax rate for acreage for railway right-a-ways throughout Ontario which specifically impacted Rainy River, Kenora and Thunder Bay districts in a positive fashion; and
WHEREAS in other provinces and jurisdictions the railway companies remit a more equitable share of taxes to their local tax base by using a per tonne-mile concept; and
WHEREAS rail traffic continues to increase and the train length has more than doubled, which results in rail traffic congestion, increased wait times, noise pollution and unknown environmental concerns; and
WHEREAS the Province of Ontario should review fees based on inflation and current conditions on an annual basis to ensure that Ontario does not continue to fall further behind in their approach to railway property taxation; and
WHEREAS fair and equitable taxation revenue on railway property will reduce the financial pressure on the Province to provide financial support to municipalities going forward;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Fort Frances call upon the Minister of Finance for the Province of Ontario to undertake ongoing consideration of municipal taxation for railroad right-of-way properties based on a per tonne-mile concept; and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to every Municipal Council within the Province of Ontario seeking their support, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance of Ontario, Local MPPs, Local MPs, RRDMA, NOMA, ROMA and AMO.

CARRIED

- 286 Brunetta - Behan: WHEREAS citizens of the Rainy River District are required to travel to Thunder Bay or Winnipeg to gain access to medical specialists; and
WHEREAS there are presently no private or public transportation providers who offer these services on a daily basis to Winnipeg; and
WHEREAS Ontario Northland Transportation Corporation offers publicly funded daily transportation service as far North as Hearst, Ontario; and
WHEREAS in the Rainy River District there is currently only one private company offering travel to Thunder Bay seven days per week; and
WHEREAS citizens of the Rainy River District should be entitled to the same level of publicly funded daily transportation services being offered in other districts in the northern region of the Province; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Fort Frances call upon the Minister of Transportation to consider the present transportation services being offered to all residents in the Rainy River District which includes the Town of Fort Frances; and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation of Ontario, Local MPPs, Local MPs, RRDMA, NOMA, ROMA and AMO.

CARRIED

- 287 Behan - Brunetta: WHEREAS communities across the Rainy River District and Northwestern Ontario are struggling to recruit and retain Physicians, including Family Physicians who provide a wide scope of practice; and
WHEREAS newly recruited Family Physicians are finding the workload excessive and are challenged to find a healthy work/life balance; and
WHEREAS the continuous departure of Physicians results in excessive call and coverage pressure placed onto the remaining Physicians resulting in an unreasonable workload; and
WHEREAS our busy Emergency Department and Operating Room is supported by our existing complement of skilled local Physicians with additional relief provided by locums; and
WHEREAS the locum support is sporadic and simply not enough to maintain the surgical services or provide relief to our General Practitioner-Anaesthetist; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Fort Frances call upon the Minister of Health to consider the ever-expanding pressures that Physician Shortages place upon communities across the Rainy River District and Northwestern Ontario; and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health of Ontario, Local MPPs, Local MPs, RRDMA, NOMA, ROMA and AMO.

CARRIED

- 288 Brunetta - Behan: WHEREAS in 2018, the Ontario government implemented a requirement for all municipalities to create a Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan by January 1, 2021; and
WHEREAS the Rainy River District municipalities have determined that a district plan with individual municipal appendixes would be the most cost-effective and efficient solution; and
WHEREAS the Rainy River District has engaged the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board to lead the development of an Integrated Plan; and
WHEREAS the costs associated with RRDSSAB contracting a consultant to write the final plan will be distributed across the district municipalities using current apportionment; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Fort Frances call upon the Minister of Finance of Ontario to provide one-time funding for the creation and implementation of a Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan; and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance of Ontario, Local MPPs, Local MPs, RRDMA, NOMA, ROMA and AMO.

CARRIED

7. By-Laws:

- 7.1 By-law 24/19-A, being a by-law to amend the funding agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Minister of Industry for feasibility study.

289 McTaggart - Wiedenhoeft: THAT the following by-laws be introduced and read a first, second and third time, be finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and become law forthwith:

- By-law 24/19-A, being a by-law to amend the funding agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Minister of Industry for feasibility study.
- By-law 58/18-A, being a by-law to amend by-law 58/18 being a by-law to establish and regulate the Town of Fort Frances Fire & Rescue Service.
- By-law 43~19, being a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with Winnipeg Airport Services Corp. (WASCO) for Quality Assurance Audit of Safety Management System at the Fort Frances Airport awarded through the request for proposal process.
- By-law 44~19, being a by-law designating and deeming a certain plan of subdivision, or part thereof, not to be a registered plan of subdivision (655 First St. E.)
- By-law 45~19, being a by-law designating and deeming a certain plan of subdivision, or part thereof, not to be a registered plan of subdivision (218 Fifth St. W.)
- By-law 46~19, being a by-law to authorize execution of a site plan control agreement as a condition of development with Gardewine (1000 McIrvine Road).
- By-law 47~19, being a by-law to authorize entering into an agreement with George Armstrong Co. Limited with respect to the purchase of certain lands.

CARRIED

- 7.2 By-law 58/18-A, being a by-law to amend by-law 58/18 being a by-law to establish and regulate the Town of Fort Frances Fire & Rescue Service.
- 7.3 By-law 43~19, being a by-law to authorize the execution of an agreement with Winnipeg Airport Services Corp. (WASCO) for Quality Assurance Audit of Safety Management System at the Fort Frances Airport awarded through the request for proposal process.
- 7.4 By-law 44~19, being a by-law designating and deeming a certain plan of subdivision, or part thereof, not to be a registered plan of subdivision (655 First St. E.)
- 7.5 By-law 45~19, being a by-law designating and deeming a certain plan of subdivision, or part thereof, not to be a registered plan of subdivision (218 Fifth St. W.)
- 7.6 By-law 46~19, being a by-law to authorize execution of a site plan control agreement as a condition of development with Gardewine (1000 McIrvine Road).
- 7.7 By-law 47~19, being a by-law to authorize entering into an agreement with George Armstrong Co. Limited with respect to the purchase of certain lands.
- 7.8 By-law 48~19, being a by-law to impose certain user fees.

290 McTaggart - Wiedenhoeft: THAT by-law 48~19 being a by-law to impose certain user fees (as amended) be introduced and read a first, second and third time, be finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Corporate Seal and become law forthwith.

CARRIED

8. Information Correspondence:

- 8.1 AMO Communications

- Watchfile's Nov 28 and Dec 5
- Ontario Announces E-Scooter Pilot on Municipal Roads
- Nov 29th AMO Board Highlights Received.

9. Minutes:

The following five items were received.

- 9.1 Economic Development Advisory Committee dated September 9, 2019.
- 9.2 Administration and Finance Executive Committee dated November 19, 2019.
- 9.3 Planning and Development Advisory Committee dated November 18, 2019
- 9.4 Operations and Facilities Executive Committee dated November 20, 2019
- 9.5 Fort Frances Public Library and Technology Centre Board dated October 16, 2019 and November 20, 2019

10. Non-agenda Items - None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

- 11.1 The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

- 291 Wiedenhoeft - Hallikas: THAT this meeting of the Council of the Town of Fort Frances be now closed.

CARRIED

J. Caul, Mayor

E. Slomke, Clerk