

## TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

### MINUTES

SESSION NO. 071

July 12, 2021

The meeting of Council of the Town of Fort Frances was held virtually on July 12, 2021 from 7:01 p.m. to 7:48 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT: E. Slomke, Clerk, D. Galusha, Treasurer (7:01-7:22), T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities, A. Bisson, Recreation & Culture Manager (7:01-7:22), J. Forbes, Human Resources Manager / Acting CAO, J. Hughes, Information Technology Manager (7:01-7:22), C. Vangel, CBO / Municipal Planner (7:01-7:22)

### **1. COUNCIL MEETING**

- 1.1 Call to Order at 7:01 p.m.
- 1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement
- 1.3 Moment of Meditation
- 1.4 Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof - None.

### **2. Consent Agenda:**

- 2.1 Items Referred from Committee of the Whole

731 Wiedenhoeft - Judson: THAT the following Consent items be approved:

- 1. Committee of the Whole Consent items # 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, ~~5.6~~, ~~5.7~~, 5.8, 5.9 and 5.10.
- 2. Council Consent items # 2.2 and ~~2.3~~.

CARRIED

- 2.2 Email received June 28, 2021 from R. Doyle, Canadian Author re: Request Proclamation for Bullying Elimination Week  
- will be advised of Council's proclamation

- 2.3 Email received June 28, 2021 from B. Lidkea, Lidkea Optometry re: Request for Resolution of Support  
- Council will consider separate resolution of support. This item was pulled by Councillor Wiedenhoeft who requested the resolution be read separately.

732 Judson - Brunetta: THAT the email received June 28, 2021 from B. Lidkea, Lidkea Optometry re: Request for Resolution of Support be received with thanks.

CARRIED

- 733 Hallikas - Behan: WHEREAS routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life;  
AND WHEREAS Conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crossed eyes) Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease;

AND WHEREAS payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies);

AND WHEREAS the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial government refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians;

AND WHEREAS the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery;

AND WHEREAS this job action will jeopardize good eyecare for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups. Children—who's lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision—to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision-threatening ocular diseases.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Town of Fort Frances requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it;

AND THAT the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, MPP Greg Rickford, MP Marcus Powlowski, the Ontario Association of Optometrists, the Township of Emo, the Town of Rainy River, the Township of Chapple, to seek their support and be made publicly available.

CARRIED

**3. Approval of Council Minutes: \***

3.1 Session No. 069 dated June 28, 2021

734 Brunetta - Wiedenhoeft: THAT the minutes of the Council meeting being Session No. 069 dated June 28, 2021, having been typed and distributed be approved.

CARRIED

**4. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes: \***

4.1 Session Nos. 075, 076 and 077 respectively dated June 23, June 24 and June 28, 2021

735 Behan - McTaggart: THAT the reports of the Committee of the Whole of Council meetings being Session Nos. 075, 076 and 077 dated June 23, June 24 and June 28, 2021, respectively, having been typed and distributed be approved.

CARRIED

**5. Resolutions from tonight's Committee of the Whole meeting**

5.1 Council considered the following resolutions

Councillor Judson requested a recorded vote for Resolution 737 below with the following results:

Behan - YEA Brunetta - NAY Caul - YEA

Hallikas - YEA Judson - NAY McTaggart - NAY

Wiedenhoeft - YEA

- 736 McTaggart - Behan: THAT the presentation received from G. Gillon, T. Drysdale and M. Willick re: Boundary Waters Forest Management Corporation be received with thanks.

CARRIED

- 737 Wiedenhoeft - Behan: THAT the report dated July 7, 2021 from T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities re: Request to Relocate Truck Route be approved to agree with the recommendation of the Operations & Facilities Executive Committee to keep the truck route designation on Front Street as an alternate route to Scott Street and to accept the information relating to the construction of a by-pass as information only with no additional action needed.

CARRIED

- 738 Brunetta - Judson: THAT the report dated July 12, 2021 from T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities re: Award of Tender 21-OF-09 - Trenchless Watermain Relining be approved to agree with the recommendation of Administration to award Tender 21-OF-09 to FerPal Construction Ltd. for a total tender price of \$256,375.00 plus applicable taxes, and further that the budget shortfall be funded from the Water and Sewer Reserve Fund.

CARRIED

- 739 Hallikas - McTaggart: THAT the report dated July 12, 2021 from T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities re: Award of Tender 21-OF-13 for MHSW Services to host Household Hazardous Waste Event in Fort Frances be approved to agree with the recommendation of Administration to award Tender 21-OF-13 to the Miller Group out of Winnipeg for the Town's 2021 MHSW service provider at an estimated cost of \$28,059.88 (includes HST) in accordance with the tender documents and further that the Town's MHSW event day is scheduled for Saturday September 11, 2021 from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

CARRIED

- 740 Judson - Wiedenhoeft: THAT the recommendation from Economic Development Executive Committee re: Heart of Canada Touring Route be approved designating Rainy River Future Development Corp. (RRFDC) to represent the Town of Fort Frances at the Steering Committee developed for the Heart of Canada Touring Route, with costs incurred not to exceed \$3000.00 for the remainder of 2021.

CARRIED

## 6. By-Laws:

- 6.1 37/21 being a by-law to approve an agreement with Canadian National Demolition for the delivery of building demolition services re: Mowat Nursing Station.

- 741 Wiedenhoeft - Hallikas: THAT by-law 37/21 being a by-law to approve an agreement with Canadian National Demolition for the delivery of building demolition services re: Mowat Nursing Station 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

## 7. New Items:

- 7.1 Appointment to First Nations Relations Advisory Committee

Councillor Judson requested a recorded vote for the resolution below with the following results:

Behan - YEA Brunetta - YEA Caul - YEA

Hallikas - YEA Judson - NAY McTaggart - YEA

Wiedenhoeft - YEA

- 742 McTaggart - Brunetta: THAT the following be appointed for the remainder of Council's term (Committee Chair to be selected by the respective committee):

-First Nations Relations Advisory Committee: Mayor J. Caul, A. Hallikas, M. Behan

CARRIED

**8. Information Correspondence:**

The following three items were received.

8.1 Municipality of St Charles re: Resolution - Municipal Land Transfer Tax

8.2 Regional Municipality of York re: Court Services Report and Resolutions

8.3 Letter from Office of the Solicitor General re: Pet Safety

**9. Minutes of Local Boards / Committees:**

The following three items were received.

9.1 Planning & Development Executive Committee - June 21, 2021

9.2 Community Services Executive Committee - June 21, 2021

9.3 Operations & Facilities Executive Committee - June 9, 2021

**10. In-Camera at 7:22 p.m.**

- 10.1 A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board: Letter of Interest (7:24-7:46pm)  
- T. Rob, J. Forbes and E. Slomke were connected virtually with Council for this item.  
Council gave direction for the matter to proceed.

- 743 Judson - Behan: THAT Council now meet in-camera in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board; more specifically Item 10.1 Letter of Interest

CARRIED

**11. Public Session Resumes at 7:47 p.m.**

**12. Resolutions Required as a result of In-Camera discussions:**

12.1 Council considered the following resolution

- 744 Hallikas - Wiedenhoeft: THAT the Letter of Interest pertaining to property outlined in the map attached to the letter be received and further that the matter proceed as directed.

CARRIED

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

- 745 Brunetta - McTaggart: THAT this meeting of the Council of the Town of Fort Frances be now closed.

CARRIED

J. Caul, Mayor

E. Slomke, Clerk