

REPORT

COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE

December 13, 2021

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Council was held virtually in the Committee Room and Council Chambers, Civic Centre on December 13, 2021

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

ALSO PRESENT: F. Anwar, CAO, G. Lecuyer Clerk, K. Haney, Deputy Clerk. D. Galusha, Treasurer, J. Holliday, Deputy Treasurer, C. Vangel, Chief Building Inspector/Municipal Planner, T. Rob, Manager of Operations & Facilities, A. Bisson, Recreation & Culture Manager, T. Moffit, Fire Chief, Alyssha Hansma, HR Manager

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

1.1 Chair Judson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof.**

2.1 Councillor Judson declared a conflict on item 10.1 the General Nature: he is presently engaged in litigation with the member of council who is the subject of the Integrity Commissioner's report. Councillor Judson vacated the chair and Councillor Behan assumed the chair.

Change agenda order

201 Behan - Hallikas THAT Council move agenda item 10.1 - Integrity Commissioner Report re: Mayor Caul to the first item of business on the agenda following the disclosure of interest (Item 2)

CARRIED

10.1 Integrity Commissioner Report re: Mayor Caul  
- that Council table the report from the Integrity Commissioner re: Mayor Caul to the Regular Council Meeting of January 10, 2022  
The Integrity Commissioner Paul Heayn provided a verbal summary of the report pertaining to a code of conduct complaint relating to Mayor Caul. Mayor Caul and Council was provided an opportunity for clarification and questions relating to the process. A motion for Council consideration will follow at the Regular Council Meeting this evening.

**3. Delegations/Deputations:**

3.1 Public Meeting: 2022 Budget  
There was no deputation or submission.

**4. Council Reports on Board & Committee Activity:**

4.1 **Mayor Caul - Verbal Update**  
Mayor Caul provided a verbal review of 2021.

**Councillor Behan - Verbal Update**

Councillor Behan provided a reminder regarding the AGM RRDMA submission of Dec 16, 2021.

**Councillor Brunetta - Verbal Update**

Councillor Brunetta provided a verbal report on her attendance at the Health Unit Board meeting.

**Councillor Hallikas - Verbal Update**

No update at this time.

**5. Consent Agenda:**

5.1 This item was pulled by Councillor Judson

Best for Kitty Request Letter

- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Planning and Development Executive Committee to accept the letter as information and not approve the request from Best for Kitty for usage of the Town of Fort Frances Animal Pound

202 Brunetta - Behan: THAT the matters listed on the Consent Agenda be referred to the Consent Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council later tonight for approval being items # ~~5.1~~, ~~5.2~~, 5.3, 5.4, ~~5.5~~, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, ~~5.9~~

CARRIED

5.2 This item was pulled by Councillor Judson

Single Use Plastics Postponement

-approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Planning and Development Executive Committee to accept the report as presented and have an amending By-Law prepared for signing by the Mayor & Clerk.

5.3 Review of Large Industrial Tax Ratio and Rate

- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Administration & Finance Executive Committee to bring the analysis of the Large Industrial Tax rate and ratio to the 2022 Operating Budget discussions.

5.4 Donation Request Couchiching First Nation

- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Administration & Finance Executive Committee to provide a small gift for the prize table for the Couchiching First Nation Community Christmas Dinner.

5.5 This item was pulled by Councillors: Brunetta, Wiendenhoeft and Judson

Development of a Splash Pad

- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee that

1.Council selects a final location for the development of a splash pad to allow planning to begin for the future construction.

2.Administration use 2022 to plan for the construction of a splash pad development in Fort Frances.

3.That funds be considered in the 2022 capital budget for the design of related infrastructure to support a future splash pad at the desired location.

4.That Administration watch for grant opportunities in 2022 to offset the costs related to the development of a splash pad and apply for funding as it comes available.

5.That council put out a public call for a group to spearhead the development of a splash pad in Fort Frances with the assistance of Town Administration.

6.That the Traffic Safety Committee review the proposed development at the Legion park and make recommendation on measures to improve safe pedestrian and vehicular access.

- 5.6 Enter into a Contribution Agreement with the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund for Sorting Gap Marina Improvements
- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee to:
    1. Enter into a contribution agreement with Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation for funding relating to Sorting Gap Marina Improvements
    2. That an authorizing by-law be prepared authorizing the agreement to be signed by Mayor and Clerk.
- 5.7 Award of Tender 2021-OF-17 - Installation of a Standby Power System at the Fort Frances Wastewater Treatment Plant
- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee that:
    1. Tender 2021-OF-17 be awarded to Prezio Electric for a total tender price of 299,000.00 plus applicable HST.
    2. The funding shortfall be accounted for in the 2022 Capital Budget
    3. That an authorizing By-Law be prepared to authorize Mayor and Clerk to Execute the agreement on behalf of the organization.
- 5.8 Annual Energy Conservation and Demand Management Report
- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee that the 2020 Energy Conservation and Demand Management report be accepted by Council and made available to the public per the Town's Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan
- 5.9 This item was pulled by Councillor Judson
- IESO-NW Ontario Presentation
- on the recommendation of the Economic Development Executive Committee, that Council approve the submission for Fort Frances Power Corporation to the IESO, Northwest 2021 Integrated Regional Resource Plan and that Council directs the Clerk to send it to the Minister of Energy and our MPP

## **6. Administration and Finance Division:**

- 6.1 Amendment to 2022 Emergency Services User Fees & Charges
- approval of this report will agree to receive the report as presented and to bring forward the By-Law to approve the amendments to 2022 user fees and charges for the Emergency Services. There was no discussion. The motion will be presented for Council's consideration at the Regular Council Meeting following this session.
- 6.2 Council direction Re: Invoices submission for Legal / Service from Integrity Commissioner
- approval of this report Council will approve the payment of Invoices from the Integrity Commissioner number FF026 and FF027 for services in the amount of \$36,250.50 ~~and further approves any outstanding remaining expenses and fees for the remainder of the year 2021 submitted by the Integrity Commissioner~~. The motion will be presented as amended for Council's consideration at the Regular Council Meeting following this session.

## **7. Community Services Division:**

- 7.1 Memorial Sports Centre Canteen
- approval of this report will agree to the recommendation of the Recreation and Culture Manager to find an operator for the canteen at the Memorial Sports Centre and enter into an agreement based on the criteria in option 2 or 3, whichever allows the greatest benefit to the public and facility. The motion will be presented for Council's consideration at the Regular Council Meeting following this session.

**8. Operations and Facilities Division:**

- 8.1 Approval of Minutes of Settlement between the Town of Fort Frances and Ontario  
- approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of administration that the attached Minutes of Settlement be approved by Council and further that an authorizing By-Law be prepared to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the minutes of settlement on behalf of the organization. The by-law will be presented for Council's consideration at the Regular Council Meeting following this session.

**9. Economic Development:**

- 9.1 Opportunity for Tax Incentives  
-approval of this report will agree with the recommendation of the Economic Development Executive Committee to develop a model for a proposed tax/economic development incentive zone for Fort Frances to be presented to council at a future meeting. The motion will be presented for Council's consideration at the Regular Council Meeting following this session.

**10. General:**

- 10.1 Agenda Item moved to the first item of business following the disclosure of interest.  
Integrity Commissioner Report re: Mayor Caul  
- that Council table the report from the Integrity Commissioner re: Mayor Caul to the Regular Council Meeting of January 10, 2022

**11. Information:**

- 11.1 The following seven items were received. Council was provided an opportunity for clarification and questions relating to all information items.
- PDEC November report
- 11.2 Fire Rescue Service - October & November 2021 Report
- 11.3 General Fund to October 31/21 - Sewer Fund to October 31/21 - Water Fund to October 31/21
- 11.4 BDO Audit Planning Report - December 31, 2021
- 11.5 Operations and Facilities Division - Public Works Area - Operations Stats - September 2021
- 11.6 Operations and Facilities Division - Public Works Area - Operations Stats - October 2021
- 11.7 Rainy River Future Development Corporation as of November 2021, 2 year Action Plan

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

- 12.1 The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.
- 203 Behan - McTaggart THAT this meeting of the Committee of the Whole of Council of the Town of Fort Frances be now closed.

CARRIED

D. Judson, Chairperson

G. Lecuyer, Clerk