

DISTRICT OF CHETWYND

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Date: June 3, 2019
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers

Present: Deputy Mayor Weisgerber
Coun. Bassendowski
Coun. Deck
Coun. Disher
Coun. Galbraith
Coun. Wark
C. Newsom, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Adams, Director of Engineering & Public Works
K. Franson, Director of Financial Administration
D. Way, Deputy Director of Corporate Administration
L. Wilfur, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Mayor Courtoreille

1. **Call to Order** Deputy Mayor Weisgerber called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and an opening statement was read.

2. **Adoption of Agenda** MOVED by Coun. Deck, SECONDED by Coun. Bassendowski

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Agenda for June 3, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. **Minutes**
 - M-1 Minutes of the Special Regular Council Meeting
MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck
THAT the minutes of the Special Regular Council Meeting held on May 13, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

 - M-2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
MOVED by Coun. Bassendowski, SECONDED by Coun. Deck
THAT the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on May 21, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

M-3
Minutes of the
Public Hearing

MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck

THAT the minutes of the Public Hearing held on May 21, 2019 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Delegations & Presentations

Nil

5. Bylaws

B-1
***Bylaw No.
1098, 2019

MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck

THAT Bylaw No. 1098, 2019 cited as the “District of Chetwynd Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1098, 2019 (4500 42nd Avenue NE)” be given third reading and adopted.

CARRIED***

B-2
***Bylaw No.
1099, 2019

MOVED by Coun. Deck, SECONDED by Coun. Galbraith

THAT Bylaw No. 1099, 2019 cited as the “District of Chetwynd Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1099, 2019 (4500 42nd Avenue NE)” be given third reading and adopted.

CARRIED***

6. Council Committee and Liaison Reports

Nil

7. Discussion Items

Nil

8. Correspondence

C-1
UNBC –
Chetwynd
Presentation
0400.90.03

MOVED by Coun. Bassendowski, SECONDED by Coun. Disher

THAT the email from University of Northern British Columbia dated May 21, 2019 re: Chetwynd Presentation: New Tools for Assessing the cumulative Impacts of Resource Development, be received for information.

CARRIED

- C-2
Chetwynd
Communications Society –
Approval
0230.50.33
- MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck
- THAT the email from Chetwynd Communications Society dated May 17, 2019 re: Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission Approved the Applications by Chetwynd Communications Society; be received for information; and
- C-3
UBCM – The
Compass
0230.30.02
- THAT the Compass dated May 8, 2019, be received for information; and
- C-4
UBCM – The
Compass
0230.30.02
- THAT the Compass dated May 15, 2019, be received for information; and
- C-5
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated April 26, 2019 re: REMINDER: Nominations to FCM’s Board of Directors, be received for information; and
- C-6
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated April 29, 2019 re: FCM Voice: The Urban Project / FCM in Tunisia / Vietnam Solid Waste Management Program / More, be received for information; and
- C-7
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated April 29, 2019 re: Information on FCM Resolution – Streamlined Process for Sediment Management – Flood Mitigation, be received for information; and
- C-8
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated May 6, 2019 re: FCM Voice: What has the Gas Tax Fund Done for You? / Spring Flooding Highlights Need for New Tools / PLMI: Women Leaders in Tunisia / More, be received for information; and
- C-9
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated May 7, 2019 re: Apply for Capital Project Funding / Attend the Community Solutions Network’s Idea Camp, be received for information; and
- C-10
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated May 13, 2019 re: FCM Voice: Building Better Lives with the Gas Tax Fund / AC 2019 is Taking Shape / Mayor’s Council Push to Cure Congestion / More; be received for information; and
- C-11
FCM News
0230.20.02
- THAT the email from Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated May 14, 2019 re: New Webinar: Student Transit Pass Program, be received for information.

CARRIED

9. Information Items

- II-1 Information Items I-1 0550.02
- MOVED by Coun. Deck, SECONDED by Coun. Wark
- THAT Information Item I-1 be received for information.
- CARRIED

10. Reports for Action

- RA-1
***Cannabis
Retail Store
Licence – Der
Cannabis
Ventures Ltd.
– 4728 52nd
Street
- Opportunity for Public Input:
- Correspondence Received:
- Email dated May 22, 2019 in support of application
 - Email from Ernest Pfanner, along with response from Administration

Deputy Mayor Weisgerber invited those who wished to express his/her views regarding the Cannabis Retail Store Licence – Der Cannabis Ventures Ltd. – 4728 52nd Street Development to address Council.

Sarah Hoehn, Lone Prairie, BC

- Advised she is a social worker for 9 years
- Advised she is a mother, works and is active in the community
- Her opinion is not reflective of objection to a non-medical cannabis retail store in the community to meet the wide needs of local residents; however, expressed concern regarding location of proposed store at 4728 52nd Street
- Within 3 lots of local Service BC office
- Service BC office is shared work site offers a variety of services:
 - Government Agent
 - Ministry of Transportation
 - Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD)
- Staff within MCFD providing services in the areas of child protection, child and youth with special needs, child and youth mental health and youth probation all occupy offices within windows overlooking the Pomeroy Hotel parking lot
- The family meeting room used by all areas also overlooks that space
- The Pomeroy Hotel parking lot occupies two of the lots beside the proposed location
- Given the current health and fitness building footprint, this means that families and children accessing support will be conducting their counselling sessions and appointments while looking at the cannabis retail store

- The Pomeroy Hotel parking lot is used for overflow parking predominantly, it is consistently vacant between the daytime hours, specifically between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. which is the time the businesses would overlap in terms of business hours (Service BC and the cannabis retail store)
- Many of the families and youths accessing support services are affected by problematic substance use; by substance I am referring to alcohol, as well as legal and illegal drugs and misuse of prescription medication; cannabis would fall under that definition
- Furthermore drivers examinations services are also provided at the Service BC office, with the Pomeroy Hotel parking lot often serving as the start and end location of exams
- That means every young person obtaining their first drivers' license would now do so right beside a cannabis retail store
- Just over 1/3 of motor vehicle deaths in BC involve drugs or alcohol between 2008 -- 2016; more than half of those deaths are between the ages of 19-39 in BC involved drugs or alcohol or both
- I share these stats only to emphasize that in Chetwynd it would serve as a one-stop shopping opportunity to pay off impaired driving fines, take a driver's test, and purchase cannabis
- If the message is to be that driving and substances do not mix, then the message would not be consistent in our small community
- Location is on a school bus route for rural Chetwynd attending Don Titus Elementary, in the immediate vicinity to private residences and a questionable park
- There are only on-street parking spaces available; perhaps the proposed parking plan provided by Ms. Newsom to Ernest Pfanner would address potential parking congestion but there are already snow removal issues in that area
- The applicant may have already considered solutions;
- Solutions could include:
 - Discreet advertising of the product visible from outside the building
 - Safety and privacy measures including fencing, would also eliminate visibility from the windows overlooking the parking lot
 - Messaging to patrons that cannabis use is prohibited on the property, any businesses surrounding the property, any public spaces where children may be located, or as otherwise stipulated in the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act
 - I call on Chetwynd Council to ensure that local bylaws are updated to reflect the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act, also considering prohibition of use anywhere that already prohibits the use of alcohol and

smoking of cigarettes; also to update the Parks and Public Spaces Regulations bylaw if that has not already been done

- Also to ensure Bylaw Enforcement Officers and community policing presence in areas surrounding the cannabis retail store or anywhere that sell cannabis paraphernalia, specifically during events where use of the product is at higher likelihood in that vicinity, such as April 20th every year
- If none of these measures or any other suggested measures are found to be sufficient to ensure the safety and health of children in our community then I encourage Chetwynd Council to choose to support applications for cannabis retail stores in the downtown area of Chetwynd where similar products are already sold in Chetwynd.

April Barnettson;

- I spoke with you all last week about compliance and location etc.
- Sarah pretty much said everything I was going to say
- I do also realize that I am with my store within 800 allowable recommended metres but when I applied for my license I was told I was only able to do business on 3 streets in the downtown core in Chetwynd which was the main drag, 50th Street, 50th Avenue and where I'm located now, 47th Street.
- So I do object to his location.

Constable Lenin Cruz, RCMP

- Outlined information regarding the proposed store being near a "Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)" zone.
- Is an effective way to communicate to children; we have two trained officers for the DARE program.
- Would send mixed messaging to the DARE program with a cannabis store located there.
- My recommendation is that the "DARE" sign be moved.
- DARE is a program for kids in grade 5 about choosing healthy choices
- Advised that only one school participated in DARE this year, and that the RCMP are moving to an alternative program.
- Charges would be heavier with a higher verdict if one was charged within the Cannabis Act in or near schools.
- Won't fall under the criminal charges, but provincial Cannabis Act.

There being no further submissions and no further correspondence received, the opportunity for public input was closed.

MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck

Coun. Deck expressed that concerns have been brought up from the audience and asked how we address those at this point, for example fencing to be blocked off from the Government Building.

Deputy Mayor Weisgerber advised that one of the concerns addressed was parking.

Council considered the signage for the proposed cannabis retail store in their agenda package

Coun. Galbraith advised that she had spoken to owners of Weedmart and toured the store; it was very well done. The Weedmart owners stated that it's their experience that people who use drugs often buy from other sources, are not a problem, and don't congregate near the store. Their windows are all mirrored out so you can't see in. They're heavily regulated and Coun. Galbraith doesn't have any concerns. She further advised that obtaining one's driver's license near the cannabis store is no different than taking one's driver's license road test and being asked to parallel park near the liquor store.

Coun. Bassendowski confirmed the subject property is currently zoned Town Center Commercial (C1), where cannabis retail operations are permitted. He expressed appreciation for the comments from the public and advised that perhaps Chetwynd is not as heavily regulated as some communities and maybe that should be revisited, but this is the only store that Council has to provide approval for every time one comes up. He advised he wished Council didn't have to, because if something meets the zoning requirements they shouldn't have to revisit, but they did make a conscious decision last year as a Council that cannabis would be allowed in the Town Center Commercial (C1) zone, and sees no reason to vote against this one if that's what it's already zoned. As far as advertising and the way the store will look, that is covered Provincially under the BC Private Cannabis Retail Licensing Guide. There has been a lot of controversy about whether cannabis should be legal; doesn't think it should be but that's not what Council is discussing tonight. Council is discussing bylaws and zoning tonight, and advised that's as far as Council's scope goes.

Coun. Disher expressed that in looking at the pictures of the building in the agenda package, if they are in compliance with what the Province is saying, Sarah's office would look at pretty much a blank wall. There would be no flashing marijuana sign on it, no store name. So really, other than to make it look pretty, asked whether Council needs to have a fence?

Coun. Wark expressed agreement with Coun. Disher's statement, and further advised that it appears from the application that Mr. Der is going to make this building look new again, and she doesn't know that Council needs to ask him to spend more money with screening or any more landscaping, as it's not

required.

QUESTION ON THE MOTION:

THAT the report dated May 28, 2019 re: Cannabis Retail Store Licence – Der Cannabis Ventures Ltd. – 4728 52nd Street NW prepared by Administration, be received; and

THAT Council support the application from Der Cannabis Ventures Ltd. for a retail cannabis establishment at 4728 52nd Street NW.

CARRIED***

RA-2
***Façade
Improvement
Program Grant
Application

MOVED by Coun. Bassendowski, SECONDED by Coun. Deck

THAT the report dated May 28, 2019 re: Façade Improvement Program Grant Application prepared by the Economic Development Department, be received; and

THAT Council authorize issuance of Development Permit No. 02-2019 to permit façade improvements to the existing structure on the property at 4728 – 52nd Street NW; and

THAT Council authorize the Business Façade Improvement Program Grant Application and partnership agreement for Der Cannabis Ventures Ltd., located at 4728 – 52nd Street NW, Chetwynd, BC.

CARRIED***

RA-3

Ratification of
Email Poll –
Chetwynd
Rodeo Grant
Request
1770.20

MOVED by Coun. Deck, SECONDED by Coun. Wark

THAT the report dated May 29, 2019 re: Ratification of Email Poll – Chetwynd Rodeo Grant Request prepared by Administration, be received; and

THAT Council ratify the email poll of May 27, 2019 to award a \$1,000 grant in aid to the Chetwynd Rodeo Committee for its June 1-2, 2019 Rodeo event.

OPPOSED: Councillors Disher and Galbraith

CARRIED***

11. Reports for Information

Nil

12. New Business

Nil

13. Public Question Period

Sarah Hoehn asked if the District would be updating its Parks & Public Spaces Bylaw regarding Cannabis use.

CAO Newsom responded that consuming cannabis is already prohibited in the store, on the sidewalk, in public spaces and in vehicles.

Council further responded that violations are enforced by the RCMP.

14. Adjournment MOVED by Coun. Wark, SECONDED by Coun. Deck

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.



Carol Newsom
Corporate Officer



Allen Courtoreille
Mayor

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 3, 2019 in the Council Chambers.



Carol Newsom
Corporate Officer