

DISTRICT OF CHETWYND

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

Date: February 3, 2020
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Courtoreille
Coun. Bassendowski
Coun. Deck
Coun. Galbraith
Coun. Weisgerber
C. Newsom, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Adams, Director of Engineering & Public Works
K. Franson, Director of Financial Administration
E. McAvany, Economic Development Officer
D. Way, Deputy Director of Corporate Administration
(Recording Secretary)

Absent: Coun. Disher
Coun. Wark

1. **Call to Order** Mayor Courtoreille called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and an opening statement was read.
2. **Adoption of Agenda** MOVED by Coun. Weisgerber, SECONDED by Coun. Galbraith
THAT the Regular Council Meeting Agenda for February 3, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED
3. **Minutes**
M-1 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
MOVED by Coun. Deck, SECONDED by Coun. Galbraith
THAT the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 13, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED
4. **Delegations & Presentations**
D-1 Chetwynd Chainsaw Carving Society
Chris Larsen, Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Championship Society provided Council with an update as outlined below:
 - 2020 is the 4th year of Society; 16th year of Chainsaw Carving Championship event
 - Increased appearance fees were given to carvers last year
 - 2019 was the highest grossing quick carve
 - Added \$10,000 to event last year

Delegation (continued)

- 2020 carver lineup consists of 4 Canadian, 4 US and 4 international carvers
- The Society is investing in capital this year, including two 10x10 retail tents; portable tool crib and tools
- 75% of the wood for this year's event has been put aside and almost ready to ship
- 8 of the 12 carvers have been sponsored

Council thanked Mr. Larsen for the presentation.

D-2
Jennifer
Baddeley re:
Electric
Vehicles

Jennifer Baddeley provided Council with an overview of Electric Vehicles as outlined below:

- Three types most commonly found in BC:
 - Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) - Range 150-600 kms; electrical energy stored onboard which propels vehicle; regenerative braking
 - Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) - Electric Range 19-76kms, full range up to 1,035kms; electrical energy propels wheels for short period of time, then switches to Internal Combustion (IC) engine
 - Extended Range Electric Vehicle (EREV) – Electric range 85-246kms, full range 203-676kms; electric energy propels vehicle; IC engine recharges battery
- Pros: low driving cost; low maintenance costs; environmentally friendly
- Cons: limited repair shops for electric vehicles (EVs); geographical challenges; “range anxiety”; affordability & availability; limited charging station infrastructure
- Level 1 & 2 Alternating Current (AC) Chargers: Level 1- about 4-20 hours charge time; Level 2 – up to 5 hours charge time
- Level 1 & 2 Direct Current (DC)/Fast Chargers: Can charge up to 80% in 30-40 minutes
- Recommendations: Acquire BEV or EREVs for fleet; invest in more charging station infrastructure in town and surrounding area – winterized; invite Emotive and the Community Energy Association to host info presentations in Chetwynd; have information incentives for personal EVs/Charging Stations at Municipal Office

Council thanked Ms. Baddeley for the presentation.

Bylaws

Nil

6. Council Committee and Liaison Reports

CR-2
Councillor
Reports

Coun. Weisgerber reported that she attended the BC Natural Resources Forum in Prince George last week and advised the following:

On January 28 she attended a workshop on Crisis Communication:

- We need to make sure that our “Crisis Communications Plan” is up to date and the Mayor and Council are aware of it and understand it.
- We need to have staff look into getting training for Mayor and council on how to deal with media through a crisis, so wrong information is not given or promises are not made.

On January 29 she attended the Minister Breakfast for a presentation on Bill 41 – UNDRIP -United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. The keynote speaker was Premier Horgan, who talked about Bill 41 and the LNG pipeline which will be constructed. Premier Horgan spoke right after the LNG Rally, which was attended by 25-30 people.

On January 30 one Panel was “Fresh Perspectives from Tomorrow’s Leaders” a group of young people who talked about Climate change and how they could help to fix things. They all are aware that they need the Oil and Gas for their laptops and phones. The keynote speaker was Chrystal Smith who is the Chief of the Haisla Nation. She talked about her life on the reserve and how she grew up there. She started out as an aide to Ellis Ros who was the Chief and is now the MLA of Skeena Regional District. She also talked about how their nation signed on with Coastal GasLink and how it is going to save their people from poverty by providing jobs and creating a proud nation.

Beside the session there was a lot of time to network. The Mayor and Coun. Weisgerber met with Trans Canada Energy about the Coastal GasLink project. They provided an update about the camp that was supposed to be going at 6km on Tumbler Ridge highway but which is now not going ahead because construction would displace the frogs, and also it’s too wet. They did mention that they may partner with one of the First Nations to provide a space for the camp at a different location.

BC Hydro mentioned a project they are doing with EV Stations, the Economic Development Officer will contact them and find out more info.

BC Forest Council has more bursaries and scholarships available, so that information will be passed onto the Chetwynd Senior Secondary School.

Councillor Weisgerber Report (continued)

She sat by one of the owners from Chetwynd Mechanical Pulp at the banquet and asked if they are opening the mill up again; he advised that the company that was supposed to buy their product fell through after all the improvements they did and how there is a lack of wood they need. He had our picture taken, so Coun. Weisgerber is probably in China by now.

They also talked to Juergen Puetter about his RH2C renewable hydrogen east of Chetwynd project and hope that it materializes.

Surerus Place will be having their fund raiser this Saturday and the hope is that everyone goes.

Pine Valley Seniors are applying for a grant from Northern Development Initiative Trust to redo their kitchen, which Coun. Weisgerber is helping them with.

The Chamber of Commerce is working hard on the upcoming trade show and will be giving Council an update next month.

CR-3
Mayor's Report
0550.04

Mayor Courtoreille advised that he also attended the BC Natural Resources Forum last week and spoke to Premier Horgan regarding the caribou recovery plan and the Partnership Agreement; he advised that the Province cannot unilaterally change the Partnership Agreement, which requires the consent of all parties involved, including the Provincial and Federal governments and the West Moberly and Sauleau First Nations. Mayor Courtoreille told Premier Horgan that he has the ability to change the Partnership Agreement but has done nothing.

The District of Chetwynd will abstain from participating in any Partnership Agreement working groups unless the Premier approves the District of Chetwynd's representation on the Caribou Recovery Committee, as otherwise it may be perceived that we agree with the Partnership Agreement as written; the District of Chetwynd does not agree with the Partnership Agreement.

We had advice a year ago that we should step back and step out and maybe in hindsight that's what we should have done, but we are doing it now. It is very important that we stand together as a community, not just because we are here in Chetwynd but our community includes our surrounding areas West Moberly First Nations, Sauleau First Nations, Hasler, Jackfish, East Pine; we all live here. We wanted to make a point that we would like a voice in the Partnership Agreement but in the January 16, 2020 letter from Premier Horgan "we will not change any text in this agreement", we were told no you aren't going to be part of this Agreement.

Mayor's Report (continued)

Blair Lekstrom has resigned as the Premier's community liaison after it became very clear in the letter the Premier sent to the Peace River Regional District that he had no intention to change any text within the Partnership Agreement. We would like to thank Mr. Lekstrom for taking the initiative and for all of his hard work on this issue.

It is our hope that the Agreement does not affect what we do here.

7. Discussion Items

Nil

8. Correspondence

- C-1
RCMP –
COPS for
Cancer
- MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck
- THAT the letter from Chetwynd RCMP dated January 14, 2020 re: Cops for Cancer, be received for information; and
- C-2
Southern
Mountain
Caribou
Working
Groups
- THAT the letter from Mayor dated January 23, 2020 re: District of Chetwynd Declines Participation in Working Groups, be received for information; and
- THAT the letter from Peace River Regional District to Premier Horgan dated January 23, 2020 re: Regional District Supports the District of Chetwynd, be received for information; and
- THAT the letter from Premier Horgan dated January 16, 2020 re: Caribou Leaders' Table, be received for information; and
- C-3
BC Hydro –
Safety of
Peace River
Dams
- THAT the email from BC Hydro dated January 14, 2020 re: BC Hydro – Safety of Peace River Dams, be received for information; and
- C-4
Enbridge re:
Integrated Pest
Management
Plan Renewal
for BC
Pipeline
Business Unit
- THAT the letter from Enbridge dated November 29, 2019 re: Westcoast Energy Inc., doing business as Spectra Energy Transmission (an Enbridge company), Integrated Pest Management Plan Renewal for BC Pipeline Business Unity, be received for information; and

C-5 THAT the TransCanada Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project Construction Update
TransCanada dated January 16, 2020, be received for information; and
re: Coastal
GasLink
Update

C-6 THAT the Rural Coordination Centre of BC Rural Visits Project Community
Rural Report #3 dated January 22, 2020, be received for information; and
Coordination
Centre of BC
Rural Site
Visits Project
Community
Report #3

C-7 THAT the RH2C (Juergen Puetter) and Fortis BC Renewable Hydrogen
RH2C and Project in British Columbia Information, be received for information; and
Fortis BC -
Renewable
Hydrogen
Project in
British
Columbia

C-8 THAT the Information re: The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People
The Act, be received for information.
Declaration on
the Rights of
Indigenous
Peoples Act CARRIED

9. Information Items

II-1 MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck
Information
Items THAT Information Items I-1 – I-11 be received for information.
I-1 – I-11
0550.02 CARRIED

10. Reports for Action

RA-1 MOVED by Coun. Galbraith, SECONDED by Coun. Deck
Zoning
Amendment – THAT the report dated January 16, 2020 re: Zoning Amendment – 53rd Place
53rd Place NW NW prepared by Administration, be received; and
THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1107, 2020 (4701 53rd Place NW) be
introduced and given first and second readings; and

Motion (continued)

THAT a Public Hearing be scheduled to obtain public input on Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1107, 2020 on February 18, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED

RA-2
North Central
Local
Government
Association –
2020
Resolution

MOVED by Coun. Weisgerber, SECONDED by Coun. Deck

THAT the report dated January 28, 2020 re: North Central Local Government Association – 2020 Resolution prepared by Administration, be received; and

THAT Council authorize the following resolution be forwarded on to the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) before the friendly deadline of February 21, 2020:

WHEREAS ongoing labour shortages are prevalent in most small rural communities in Ambulance Halls throughout British Columbia, leading to increased response times and reducing patients' access to possibly lifesaving treatment;

AND WHEREAS B.C. Emergency Health Service (BCEHS)'s ambulance service is a vital component of life safety and access to healthcare for those who live and work in small rural communities, which are often a significant distance from fully-equipped hospitals:

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the North Central Local Government Association endorse the following resolution and forward it to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for ratification and submission to the Province of British Columbia:

“THAT the Province of BC be requested to provide more resources along with a commitment to finding a long-term solution to staff shortages for small rural community ambulance services.”

Background:

B.C. Emergency Health Service (BCEHS) has an ongoing, serious problem with recruiting and retaining ambulance personnel in small rural BC communities. This personnel shortage has resulted in periods of time with reduced or no ambulance service at all in small rural communities; this situation is more impactful in small rural communities because the distance to a fully-equipped hospital is often quite significant. It is important that all residents of BC have access to reliable local emergency services, and the BCEHS is a vital component of this service for rural residents.

CARRIED

RA-3
2020
Equipment
Purchase

MOVED by Coun. Wesigerber, SECONDED by Coun. Bassendowski

THAT the report dated January 30, 2020 re: 2020 Equipment Purchase prepared by the Engineering & Public Works department, be received; and

THAT Council authorize the purchase of a 2019 GMC Sierra 2500 4x4 pickup; and

THAT the Financial Plan be amended to include purchase of the above mentioned truck for \$40,511.88.

CARRIED

11. Reports for Information

Nil

12. New Business

Nil

13. Public Question Period

Nil

14. Adjournment MOVED by Coun. Weisgerber, SECONDED by Coun. Galbraith


THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 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 February 3, 2020 in the Council Chambers.



Carol Newsom
Corporate Officer