

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 16
August 21, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Public

Justin Brown – Mayor
Stacy Bauer – Councilor
Christopher Irvin – Councilor
Brenda Leach – Councilor

D.Stubenberg
C.Craft
H/D Lister
G.Sundby
C.O'Brien
B.Drury
E.Pendlebury

ADMINISTRATION
Cam Lockwood - CAO
Terri Close – Municipal Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Mayor Brown.

AGENDA

MOTION 018-16-150

Moved by Councilor Bauer, seconded by Councilor Leach
that:

Item #8 on the agenda be amended to read: First Reading of By-Law 18-11, being
a By-law to impose an accommodation levy.

- CARRIED –

MINUTES

MOTION 018-16-151

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Irvin
that:

The minutes from the last Regular Meeting of August 21, 2018 be adopted.

-CARRIED –

DELEGATION

Dalyce Stubenberg presented Council with a petition from residents on Frances Avenue who are opposed to By-Law 18-16, being a By-Law to amend Zoning By-Law 15-07. Since the time of the Public Hearing, the YTG properties have been sold and removed from the market, so the residents on Frances Avenue agree that the By-Law should be repealed. Administration informed Ms. Stubenberg that the Public Hearing for the Zoning amendment took place August 7th and therefore the Town of Watson Lake will need to seek a legal opinion whether the petition is acceptable.

Barry Drury informed Council that although his intentions were to do something that he believed would be beneficial for the good of the community, he is withdrawing his request to change the zoning on his properties on Frances Avenue.

**ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE**

MOTION 018-16-152

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Irvin
that:

The Open Payables in the amount of \$126,607.59 and the payroll cheques #59372 through #59407 in the amount of \$56,200.67 for a total of \$182,808.26 be paid.

- CARRIED –

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REPORTS

CAO REPORT

Administration provided Council with an update on the evacuation order that became effective on August 19 for the residents of Lower Post due to the wildfire situation.

On 21 August 2018, Yukon Wildland Fire Management was asked by BC Wildfire Service to assume Incident Command for the fire. The fire was actioned by WFM and Watson Lake firefighters, supported by aviation assets. Structural protection was established and activated for vulnerable structures in the community, together with earth berms to re-direct the fire away from structures.

Residents have been received and registered at the reception centre established by Yukon Emergency Social Services in the Watson Lake Recreation Centre. Initial estimates indicate that 130-135 Lower Post residents have been affected.

The BC Wildfire Service has established a daily-scheduled meeting in the Watson Lake Recreation Centre, providing information for residents of Lower Post and Watson Lake about the fire.

Administration provided Council with current Financial reports and an explanation on revenues and expenses to date.

An Assessment Management review has been completed on the Town facilities and all facilities have been listed as poor, other than the Recycling Depot & Water Treatment Plant that received a good rating. Stantec will be conducting an assessment on both the Administration Building and Firehall for upgrades that need to be done.

BY-LAWS

MOTION 018-16-153

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Irvin that:

By-Law 18-16, being a By-Law to amend Zoning By-Law 15-07, be tabled to the next Council meeting of September 4th in order that Administration can obtain more information and a legal opinion on the matter.

-CARRIED –

MOTION 018-16-154

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Bauer that:

By-Law 18-11, being a By-Law to impose an accommodation tax levy be introduced for First Reading.

-CARRIED –

Administration advised that the Town of Watson Lake has the ability under the Municipal Act to impose a tax levy on accommodations within the community. B&B's as well as RV Parks have been included in the By-Law. Council suggested a meeting with those business owners who will be affected by the Bylaw prior to the Bylaw proceeding to Second Reading.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
ENQUIRIES**

Councilor Leach enquired about the work being done on the Fireguards in Watson Lake. Administration advised that work to upgrade the southern fireguards is underway. The program is aimed at reducing the risk of forest fire. This will involve clearing flammable ground debris, removing ground cover, thinning and pruning, including the removal of standing dead and blown-down materials.

The Town of Watson Lake EMO Plan has been updated, however there is still plenty of work to be done and more information obtained before it will be complete.

IN-CAMERA

MOTION 018-16-155

Moved by Councilor Leach, seconded by Councilor Irvin
that:

Council go In-Camera.

-CARRIED –

MOTION 018-16-156

Moved by Councilor Irvin, seconded by Councilor Leach
that:

Council revert to an Open Meeting.

-CARRIED –

ADJOURNMENT

Motion 018-16-157

Moved by Councilor Bauer, seconded by Councilor Irvin
that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.

-CARRIED –

Justin Brown – Mayor

Terri Close – Municipal Clerk

