

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

SPECIAL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING NO. 18
November 24, 2021

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT

CHRISTOPHER IRVIN – MAYOR
LAUREN HANCHAR – COUNCILLOR
THOMAS SLAGER – COUNCILLOR
DENINA PAQUETTE – COUNCILLOR
DALE BURDES – COUNCILLOR – Zoom

PUBLIC
P. McLeod – Zoom
J. Carson – Zoom
L. Eby – Zoom
M. Prowse – Zoom
Min. Mostyn – Zoom

ADMINISTRATION

CAMERON LOCKWOOD – CAO
TIFFANY LUND – Municipal Clerk/Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by Mayor Irvin.

Mayor Irvin welcomed Minister Mostyn and thanked him for joining the meeting on short notice.

AGENDA

MOTION 021-18-154

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Slager
that:

Council adopt the agenda as presented.

-CARRIED –

DELEGATION

HONOURABLE RICHARD MOSTYN
BETTER BUILDINGS PROGRAM

Honourable Richard Mostyn, Minister of Community Services spoke about Better Buildings, an energy retrofit loan program, which he hopes to table in the legislature on December 3, 2021. Minister Mostyn is seeking Council support for the program. If passed, a working group, which will include municipal representatives, will be formed to develop regulations, program details, and terms of the loan program. He spoke to some of the program benefits, which includes:

- a. Ultra low interest loan for borrowers; up to \$50K for residential properties and up to \$100K for commercial properties over a 15-year amortization period.
- b. Lowering heating costs for home and business owners.
- c. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Yukon.
- d. Economic benefits; increased contract work in communities.

Council acknowledges that the Better Building program is a great initiative with many benefits, but voiced concerns with the urgency to have it passed in the Yukon Legislative Assembly in the upcoming sitting when there are still several details about the program implementation and deliverables that are unknown. Other concerns were brought forward from Council including, the administration burden being downloaded to municipalities, the current lien process and cost of recovering funds from defaulted LIC's, the limited number of energy assessors in Yukon and the time it may take to get an assessment done, and access barriers for low income households.

Minister Mostyn explained that if the Bill is defeated in the House, it cannot be brought back until the next election term.

Mayor Irvin thanked Minister Mostyn for taking the time to attending the Council meeting and answering questions from Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council was in receipt of a letter from NDP Leader, Kate White, regarding the proposed changes to the Municipal Act and Taxation and Assessment Act for the Better Buildings program. Council to draft a letter to Minister Mostyn with Council stance on the program and will include Kate White in the recipients.

NEW & UNFINISHED

**BETTER BUILDINGS
PROGRAM**

MOTION 021-18-155

Moved by Councillor Hanchar, seconded by Councillor Burdes
that:

Council sends a letter to Minister Mostyn, NDP Leader Kate White, and YP Leader Currie Dixon, stating that Council is in support of the Better Build program but would like to see YG table the motion until the spring sitting to allow more time to formulate the program implementation and administration processes. Council wishes to remain involved in the regulatory process and be a part of the working group.

-CARRIED-

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 021-18-156

Moved by Councillor Slager, seconded by Councillor Hanchar
that:

There being no further business the meeting be adjourned.

-CARRIED –

Christopher Irvin – Mayor

Tiffany Lund – Municipal Clerk