

DISTRICT OF WELLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, March 9, 2021
ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) – COVID-19

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL: Mayor Gabe Fourchalk, Councillors Jordan Rohatynski, Ksenya Dorwart
Chris Cooley and Mandy Kilsby

ABSENT: NIL

STAFF: Donna Forseille, Chief Administrative Officer

PUBLIC GALLERY: 9

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00PM

1.1 Agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday March 9, 2021

21-27 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council approves the agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday March 9, 2021, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

2.0 MINUTES

2.1 Minutes for the Regular Council meeting of February 23, 2021

21-28 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council approves the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday February 23, 2021, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3.0 PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

3.1 Presentation from Cypress Land Services RE: BC105998-TELUS Telecommunications Facility proposed in Wells, BC.

Chad Marlatt of Cypress Land Services gave a brief presentation.

Mr. Marlatt noted that this project was initiated by the province about 1.5 years ago for bringing connectivity to rural communities for safety purposes.

The funding from the province pays for part of the Tower proposed and the rest is paid for by TELUS.

The TOWER will be located 250-350 meters directly west of the mine facilities. The tower will be 40-41 feet tall (as to allow for a clear line of sight that it must have), the trees in the area are 30-31 feet tall.

Cypress received 20 comments and presented them as 10 in favour of the tower, 7 neutral and 3 opposed.

The tower should be operational by October 2021 and will commence construction this summer.

Council and public gallery members asked several questions to Mr. Marlatt in clarification of information provided.

Councillor Rohatynski is opposed to the cell tower being installed.

Councillor Dorwart noted she was on the fence regarding the tower noting safety was a big plus however, she did not want to have any false security to backcountry users.

Councillor Kilsby noted that Council has been advocating for years to the province for improvements to rural connectivity.

Mayor Fouchalk noted that regardless of all the pros and cons of the tower coming to Wells at the end of the day if the service saves even one life it is then worth having.

21-29 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council receives the presentation from Chad Marlatt of Cypress Land Services regarding project No. BC105998 TELUS Telecommunications Facility proposal in Wells, BC.

Carried Unanimously

21-30 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council resolves the following:

WHEREAS TELUS proposes to erect a wireless communications facility at the location PID: 014-385-686, Address: No Civic Address, Barkerville Gold Mine, BC, Coordinates: 53.097722°, -121.570317°, TELUS Site: BC105998 – Wells – Barkerville Hwy/Pooley St;

AND WHEREAS proponents of telecommunication towers are regulated by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), formerly Industry Canada on behalf of the Government of Canada and as part of their approval, ISED requires proponents to consult with land use authorities as provided for in CPC-2-0-03;

AND WHEREAS TELUS has consulted with the DISTRICT OF WELLS following the CPC-2-0-03 and the DISTRICT OF WELLS planning staff have no objection to the proposed telecommunications tower.

AND WHEREAS TELUS has consulted with the public by notifying properties within three times the tower height and has provided a 30-day period for written public comment.

AND WHEREAS there are no significant land use issues identified by the consultation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. District Staff be instructed to advise TELUS that:

- a) TELUS has satisfactorily completed its consultation with the DISTRICT OF WELLS.
- b) The DISTRICT OF WELLS is satisfied with TELUS's public consultation process and does not require any further consultation with the public.

Carried Unanimously

21-31 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, seconded Chris Cooley THAT Council resolves that the DISTRICT OF WELLS concurs with TELUS's proposal to construct a wireless telecommunications facility provided it is constructed substantially in accordance with the plans submitted to the DISTRICT OF WELLS.

Carried, Councillor Rohatynski Opposed

3.2 Wells Community Facility Building Committee update

Prior to final vote being taken on resolution 21-34 Judy Campbell interrupted the Chair to ask if the committee was going to be permitted to speak. Mayor Fourchalk allowed it.

Judy Campbell stated she was delighted to hear that the outdoor ice rink funding was approved and explained what she felt the next steps were.

The CAO stated that the cost of lumber at this time is very high, so there will be an anticipated extra cost to the construction of the roof structure and boards around the rink. There may not be funding for a project manager.

Next Committee meeting is Wednesday March 17, 2021.

21-32 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council receives the staff report regarding the update on the Wells Community Facility Building.

Carried Unanimously

21-33 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council removes inactive committee members, Jillian Merrick and Rod Graham from the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee.

Carried Unanimously

21-34 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council

1. Directs staff to place call outs to fill the two (2) empty seats on the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee; and
2. Receives the meeting minutes from the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee.

Carried Unanimously

4.0 **BYLAWS**

4.1 Proposed “District of Wells Comprehensive Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 199, 2021”.

21-35 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council receives the staff report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding the proposed increases and additions to the District of Wells Comprehensive Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 161, 2018, repealing and replacing Bylaw No. 161, 2018 with Bylaw No. 199, 2021.

Carried Unanimously

21-36 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council gives First, Second, and Third Readings to the “District of Wells Comprehensive Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 199, 2021”, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

5.0 **INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

5.1 Council
Councillor Cooley hopes everyone is doing well.

Councillor Kilsby stated that it looks like spring is on its way, vaccines for COVID 19 are on their way which is good news. She thanked the committee members for all their hard work.

Councillor Rohatynski thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. He announced that the Vision and Planning committee has now received engagement materials from Urban Systems and will be reaching out soon to the public for input. Watch for the end of March, beginning of April for public engagement to commence.

Councillor Dorwart thanked everyone for coming and appreciates everyone showing up for the council meetings.

She stated that the vaccines are good news- hang in there everyone.

She thanked staff and committee members for their work.

She also thanked all of Council for all their hard work as well.

Mayor Fourchalk echoes his fellow colleagues as they have painted a picture quite well. He hopes everyone continues to stay safe and well.

Thank you to staff and committee members and Thank you to his colleagues for all their hard work too.

5.2 Staff

No Comments

5.3 Public Gallery

Carrie Johnston stated she is disappointed on there not being an update on the water situation. She also noted that she felt there was a correction needed in the February 23, 2021 meeting minutes as to reflect her remark on correcting herself, she meant the EAO and TAC meetings not Barkerville gold Mines meetings.

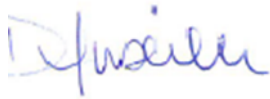
She hopes the District of Wells will utilize all residential tests privately done for investigations as well. She was happy to see Council speak up during tonight's presentation regarding the TELUS tower. She announced that the Legion is looking for volunteers to help with the snow removal, 10am tomorrow (March 10, 2021) at the Legion.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

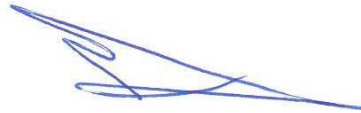
6.1 Adjournment of the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday March 9, 2021.

21-37 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council at 8:18 PM adjourns the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday March 9, 2021.

Carried Unanimously



Donna Forseille, CAO



Gabe Fourchalk, Mayor