

**DISTRICT OF WELLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 AT 7 PM
ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) – COVID-19**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Gabe Fouchalk, Councillors Mandy Kilsby, Ksenya Dorwart, Jordan Rohatynski, and Chris Cooley

STAFF: Chief Administrative Officer, Donna Forseille; Fire Chief, Carrie Chard; and District Clerk, Lala Cripps

PUBLIC GALLERY: 13

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM

1.1 Agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday September 14, 2021

21-138 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council approves the agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday September 14, 2021, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

2.0 MINUTES

2.1 Minutes for the Regular Council meeting of July 20, 2021

21-139 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council approves the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday July 20, 2021, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3.0 CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 Wells Community Facility Building Update

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart stated she was very disheartened funding was not approved, but hopeful that future grant applications will be successful. She stated that the business plan is being updated to bring it up to date for next funding application.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski questioned if the \$3 million is applied for will Osisko (BGM) be approached to help with the matching funds that will be

required. He summarized that he believes the District to be short of matching funds.

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart stated they have approached Osisko (BGM) and are in talks with Osisko (BGM).

CAO Donna Forseille stated the District has a letter from Osisko with matching funds up to \$500,000 which will leave the shortfall of an estimated \$100,000 for the matching 20% that is required by the grant.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski questioned why the funding stream was not approved and if more details were provided it would be helpful in the future applications.

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart responded that the funding stream had just been oversubscribed and that application was good.

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk stated he is on board for whatever is required to keep the kids and staff safe.

Councillor Rohatynski questioned if the full \$3 million should be applied for.

CAO Donna Forseille stated she believed the full \$3 million needed to be applied for as the project will require an architect, engineer, and potentially a hazmat team due to the age and condition of the building as well as rising costs of construction to get to the building up to code.

21-140 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council receives the staff report (with attachments) from the Chief Administrative Officer and draft committee meeting minutes from August 19, 2021, and September 2, 2021, meetings.

Carried Unanimously

21-141 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council directs staff to submit application for grant funding to the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program and directs staff to continue researching funding streams for the Wells Community Facility Building.

Carried Unanimously

3.2 Letter and email/s to Mayor and Council from Dave Jorgenson

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski stated that he would like to thank Cheryl and Dave for the incredible work they put into the letter. He expressed his opinion that everyone should read the letter.

21-142 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council receives the letter and email/s from Dave Jorgenson regarding the concerns he has related to the EAO process for the Cariboo Gold Project proposed by Osisko Development/Barkerville Gold Mines.

Carried Unanimously

3.3 Letter to Mayor and Council from Jenn Lewis

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart stated council and staff did receive an email from Osisko (BGM) addressing the concerns from Jenn Lewis and questioned if it was sent to the community email list.

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk responded that he did believe the community received the email from Osisko (BGM).

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski stated he believed that there has been a consistent breaking of the Noise and Nuisance Bylaw and he does think that as Osisko (BGM) sent out an official response if they continue to break this bylaw after the initial inspection for the environmental assessment is coming to a conclusion that the District will be forced to fine them as per Noise and Nuisance Bylaw No. 202-2021.

21-143 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council receives the letter from Jenn Lewis regarding noise impacts to residents caused by current drilling activities of the mine.

Carried Unanimously

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Staff Report- Proposed Wells Community Benefit Agreement Committee

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart stated that extending the deadline an additional month would be too long and proposed the deadline by next council meeting. Councillor Jordan Rohatynski agreed with Councillor Dorwart, but he felt that the Wells Community Foundation that is actively looking for new members right now and currently working with Osisko (BGM) to help improve the town with funding that has already been provided this would be a better avenue. He stated he believes hiring a professional to help with a CBA (Community Benefit Agreement) would be much more beneficial than a committee.

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk stated that he believes that hiring a professional consultant would be in the best interests of the town for now and the future.

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart stated that she appreciated the applicants that had applied so far and that the extension is just in the hopes of extending the knowledge base of the committee.

Councillor Mandy Kilsby stated that there had been a discussion with the Ministry of Mines and that they may be of assistance with the CBA and that is something that could be looked at.

CAO Donna Forseille stated she has already reached out to two different consultant companies, and she will have to wait to see how fast the companies get back to her in order to submit the quotes before the next council meeting.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski mentioned that Osisko (BGM) has a virtual open house on September 23, 2021, and if it would be profitable for us to have negotiations with another public meeting with them before the next council meeting keeping it open to the public.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski mentioned he felt that Council should be meeting consistently with Osisko (BGM) to get negotiations started and all be on the same page.

21-144 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, seconded Chris Cooley THAT Council receives the staff report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding the proposed Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) Committee and the expressions of interest received to date.

Carried Unanimously

21-145 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council directs staff to extend the deadline for receiving expressions of interest for the proposed Wells Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) Committee to noon on September 23, 2021.

Carried Unanimously

21-146 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council directs staff to check for experts who consult and assist on Community Benefit Agreements as mentioned and receive price quotes for their services.

Carried Unanimously

5.0 STAFF REPORTS

5.1 Staff Report- Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Board callouts for expression of Interest to be appointed to the board.

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart stated that there seems to be conflicting information on how many directors are required for the Board. She stated the Articles of Incorporation are not matching the current Resolutions that were passed. CAO Donna Forseille stated the original Articles of Incorporation were not updated prior to staff being employed with the District inclusive of herself. She said the first draft staff report that went out via email to the community forest members, Cam was able to shed some new light on current resolutions that were passed which was helpful. She thanked Cam Beck for the information to clear up the confusion of the missing resolution. She stated the article of incorporation will be updated now that the information has been brought forward. The 2016 resolution states that instead of having two council members and one staff member and two different directors from community members making five that they would be allowing up to seven and that they did not need to be staff but people of expertise especially if they would be a benefit to the board with more knowledge than someone such as herself who has very little knowledge of community forests. She stated in 2020 it was based on the old Articles of Incorporation which is why the appointment was for one year not two years as per the newer 2016 resolutions the recommendation is a two year appointment and stated that there is also a maximum appointment of four years in the 2016 resolution as opposed to one year at a time.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski asked to put his name forward to be on the Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Board.

21-147 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council receives the staff report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding the Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Board appointments to the board.

Carried Unanimously

21-148 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council agrees to reappoint the four (4) current board members who have expressed interest on remaining on the board and add Councillor Jordan Rohatynski to the board.

Carried Unanimously

21-149 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council appoints the following board members for the ensuing one (1) year period (2021-2022):

Councillor Dorwart
Councillor Rohatynski
Ian MacDonald
Rod Graham
Tony Bensted

Carried Unanimously

5.2 EFT TD Canada Trust Bank cheque report for the period of June 17, 2021, to August 9, 2021, in the amount of \$248,386.62.

21-150 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council receives the EFT TD Canada Trust Bank Cheque report for the period of June 17, 2021, to August 9, 2021 in the amount of \$248,386.62.

Carried Unanimously

6.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar may be considered either separately under another heading of the Regular Agenda or immediately after the adoption of the consent Calendar.

21-151 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council receives the consent Calendar, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

7.0 INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.1 Council

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk stated he would like to recognize the Community, local businesses, non-profits, BGM, Barkerville, Northern Health, first responders and the District staff working in collaboration together help

contain any possible outbreak of COVID19 in our community. The leadership and response are great and very much appreciated. He thanked Councillor Kilsby and Councillor Cooley, MLA Coralee Oakes, for joining him at the Union of BC Municipalities - UBCM meetings. He thanked CAO Donna Forseille for providing briefing notes for each meeting that they were able to work from and elaborate on and were fantastic to have. He looks forward to hearing from all the ministries and will be informing the public once all the information has been compiled via public announcements. He thanked elected officials, volunteers, committees, and district staff for all the hard work, guidance, and leadership and all the work hard being done in these hard times.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski thanked elected officials and Mayor Fouchalk for helping the community. He mentioned that there is an election upon us and it is important to get out and vote at the Community Hall on September 20th, 2021. He encourages people to attend the BGM virtual open house on September 23, 2021 and the Wells Community Foundation is looking for directors and the submission for that is until October 8, 2021. He mentioned the fire bans for categories 2 and 3 are still in effect until noon on October 9, 2021, or until the order is rescinded.

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart thanked everyone for coming out, staff, committees, and boards for all their continued hard work, and colleagues that put their names forward for the UBCM. She reminded people please go out and vote in the upcoming election and get vaccinated if you have not been. She asked that people please be patient and kind to all the staff that must follow the current public health order to ask for vaccine passports. She stated please be stay safe.

Councillor Chris Cooley said stay safe everyone.

Councillor Mandy Kilsby echoed thanks to everyone especially those that got the COVID19 testing all up and running very quickly and offered it to the community it was very appreciated and helped contain the outbreak in the community. She extended additional thanks to the Health Care workers that have been working all through COVID19, the hospital in Quesnel is overwhelmed at the moment. She extended condolences to MLA Coralee Oakes who has been going through a family crisis's but still has been available at the UBCM.

7.2 Staff

Fire Chief Carrie Chard stated that Categories 2 and 3 fire bans are still in effect please keep that in mind. She mentioned that now is a good time to get your fireplace chimneys cleaned and serviced to prepare for the winter season of

heating your homes with wood burning stoves. She wished everyone to be patient and kind to each other.

District Clerk Lala Cripps had no comments.

CAO Donna Forseille thanked everyone for the fast action of the community and BGM for the COVID testing. She expressed that it was greatly appreciated. She also thanked BGM for collaborating with Northern Health who brought out their mobile vaccination clinic and set up a covid testing clinic in the hall for the community.

7.3 Public Gallery

Julia Mackey thanked everyone for the COVID19 testing. She stated they had to cancel the concert that was scheduled for September 18, 2021, hoping to reschedule in October and that they are not requiring the vaccine passport at the Sunset theatre café but a person will need to show the passport for events per the current health order. She said thank you for the updates on the UBCM meetings. She inquired about possibly getting updates from the RCMP about things going on in the area. She recommended Firelight Group for the CBA as they are an indigenous owned company, and they have a very good knowledge of the Barkerville Gold project and a lot of experience in IBA's. She also inquired about if there had been discussions about when council meetings will be back in chambers. She stated that she knows of Jory Strackan that is interested in joining the Wells Community Forest Board and she will reach out to him to remind him of the upcoming closing date.

CAO Donna Forseille assured Julia Mackey that she has reached out to Firelight Group as the information was sent to her from Dave Jorgenson and that she is just waiting for a response from the group. She stated that while discussions had been to be back in Chambers in September with the new health order it does not look like that will be possible and a date is currently unknown.

Dorothea Funk thanked everyone for the quick action taken when testing people in Wells when there were a few cases of COVID19. She agreed that finding a consultant for the CBA who can help guide the process is needed but a little bit dismayed that there may have been discussion that a committee was not required. She stated that the sound complaint from Jennifer Lewis is a very real problem and she is glad the District is following up with the company about the noise bylaw and that the bylaw should be enforced and that their letter did not clarify that they will follow the bylaw. She inquired about when the traffic sign will be operational once again.

CAO Donna Forseille stated that they have been trying to put the sign back into operation, but the batteries are missing, and they are very expensive to replace. Julia Mackey said that was what she was told by Ginger Gibson.

Dawn Leroy inquired if she missed any motions at the beginning of the meeting as she was late attending the meeting.

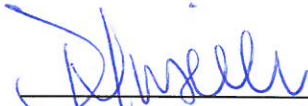
Elyssia from IMA stated they would be also be rescheduling their outreach for the current gallery exhibit which begins September 15, 2021, and runs until October 30, 2021, masks are necessary in the gallery, passports won't be necessary for visiting the gallery but organized outreach will likely require passports.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

8.1 Adjournment of the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday September 14, 2021.

21-152 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council adjourns the Regular Council meeting of September 14, 2021, at 8:21PM.

Carried Unanimously



Donna Forseille, CAO



Gabe Fourchalk, Mayor

