



**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT SMITH
MEETING 02-20
THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR
THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY AND THE
SECOND FOR THE YEAR 2020**

PRESENT: Cr. C. Westwell Cr. B. McArthur
 Cr. M. Couvrette Cr. J. Cox
 Cr. A. Pischinger Cr. K. Campbell

REGRETS: Mayor L. Napier, D/M K. Smith, Cr. L. Beaulieu

STAFF: K. Morrison, Senior Administrative Officer
 R. Nawaz, Executive Secretary

GALLERY: Cpl. MacDonald, Cst. Emmons, Y. Leguerrier

Meeting 02-20	8:00 PM
February 18 th , 2020	Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER & CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Cr. Westwell called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and confirmed a quorum of Council was present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Cr. Cox suggested moving the question period to the beginning of the meeting ahead of Presentations. Administration noted that there will be no minutes from Municipal Services meeting and highlighted the approved recommendations that will require Council approval.

20-026 Moved by: Cr. Couvrette
 Seconded by: Cr. McArthur

That the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. QUESTION PERIOD:

Mr. Leguerrier noted in relation to the Community Engagement Session of February 15th that he has been away from the community for a while, and noted that it would be helpful if Mayor and Council wore name tags.

Mr. Leguerrier stated that he believes the roads in Fort Smith to be the worst he has seen in his time in Fort Smith. He stated that he believes this to be due to experience and training. He referred to the need for snow to be cleared around fire hydrants. He noted that the roads in Fort Smith have always been better than Yellowknife and Hay River, and the Town should strive to have them remain such way. Mr. Leguerrier noted that has seen town vehicles breaking bylaws and he has noted one Town truck with a broken headlight. Mr. Leguerrier referred to the conversation regarding the Energy Audit at the Municipal Services Standing Committee Meeting and inquired why the Town had to pay double of what they were supposed to. Cr. Westwell clarified that there was coverage up to the first \$10,000, and the total cost was approximately \$30,000.

Cr. Westwell thanked Mr. Leguerrier and noted that Council doesn't always receive constructive criticism and appreciated this. He noted that they are they only community in the NWT with a question period during Council meetings. He thanked Mr. Leguerrier and invited him to stay for the remainder of the meeting.



D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

20-027 Moved by: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded by: Cr. Cox

That the minutes of Regular Meeting 01-20 of January 21, 2020 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr. Couvrette referred to an item under business arising and noted that he had suggested that the Town draft a letter to Senior RCMP officers in G Division. He wanted to verify and clarify the value that is placed in frank and open discussions had with representatives during delegations. He noted to reemphasize that it is important to continue as such.

20-028 Moved by: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded by: Cr. Cox

That Mayor and/or Administration draft a letter to the senior officer of the RCMP G Division to verify and clarify the Town's position on the value of having open and frank discussion during the RCMP delegations, and that letter should be drafted and sent as soon as possible

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. PRESENTATIONS

a. RCMP Delegation

- i. Police Report – The RCMP Police Report for January 2020 was reviewed. Cpl. MacDonald introduced Cst. Jason Emmons. Cst. Emmons introduced himself to Council. He noted that he is new to Fort Smith from the K division in Alberta.

Cpl. MacDonald reviewed the January Policing Report.

Cr. Couvrette noted that complaints regarding the Mental Health Act come up in reports regularly, and inquired if the 8 incidents reported in January are high or low numbers in relation to demographics for a community the size of Fort Smith. Cpl. MacDonald noted that in his experience he believes the numbers are average for a small town, but noted that he does not have the statistics with him currently. Cr. Cox inquired if the missing persons calls were related to Trail Cross. Cpl. MacDonald noted that one was from Trail Cross. Cr. Cox inquired weather dialogue between RCMP, Health and Social Services and Trail Cross has been positive. Cpl. Macdonald noted that it has been, and that problem solving has been happening at these meetings and numbers have gone down drastically. Cr. McArthur welcomed Cst. Emmons to Fort Smith. He commended them for the drug seizure that occurred in Hay River.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cr. Couvrette referred to the Municipal Services Meeting minutes from January 14th, and commended the staff for work regarding the Community Services Master Plan consultations process as he noticed community members engaging. Cr. Couvrette noted that the discussion between Council regarding the self-assessment went well, and noted that they should gather as a group and decide how to do follow up. He noted that Council has set some achievable goals and aspirations, and he does not wish for these to be ignored. Cr. Couvrette referred to the Corporate Services Minutes from February 4th, and referred to the subject of communications and press releases. He noted that they seem to be working, and the Town's pointed press release regarding the Aurora College immediately solicited a phone call to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He noted that Council should consider the value of a press release mechanism. He noted that it was



clearly heard that there will be financial issues with the GNWT and is hoping that this is not the answer for everything. He noted that press releases are being successful and achieving what Council needs and getting attention where they need it. Cr. Westwell suggested having a space to discuss business arising from committee minutes.

G. **DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST**

H. **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

a. Introduction and Consideration of Committee Reports

Cr. McArthur left Council Chambers.
Corporate Services Standing Committee

20-029 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That the Corporate Services Standing Committee minutes from February 4, 2020 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr. McArthur returned to Council Chambers.

DPA-002-20 Min Sun

20-030 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That DPA-002-20 submitted by Min Sun to operate a home business Day Home from Lot 1705, Plan 4090, 17 Wandering Spirit in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DPA-003-20 Leslie Wiltzen

20-031 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That DPA-003-20 submitted by Leslie Wiltzen to operate a home business Bed and Breakfast from Lot 0160, Plan 0010, 22 Camsell Street in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DPA-004-20 Darrin Gummesen

20-032 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That DPA-004-20 submitted by Darrin Gummesen to operate a home business Creating and Selling Woodwork and Metal Products from Lot 1069, Plan 1460, 343 McDougal Road in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Services Standing Committee – Cr. Couvrette noted that concerns were raised by the Senior’s Society regarding the consultation process for the RCC renovations and the TAG report. He inquired if Administration could provide an action plan outlining what the consultation process will look like in the near future, as he believes the time is winding down to be able to do adequate consultations. Cr. Westwell inquired if that is Council’s job and it is worth addressing from Council’s perspective to address the public. Administration noted that more information and discussion is needed regarding consultations are to happen. Administration referred to the delegation at the Community Services Standing Committee Meeting, and noted that he wishes to bring clarification to statements made. He referred to the Senior’s delegations statement regarding the lack of



response to the request for renovations to the Seniors room. He noted that the Town provided a verbal response immediately after the request was made, and were advised that no renovations would be completed pending confirmation of the overall RCC renovations. He noted that Administration only received the signed lease contract from the Senior's Society a week ago, as apparently they were not signing the contract pending confirmation of renovations. He referred to Mr. Bevington's statement regarding lack of consultation over the TAG report. Administration noted that there were multiple months of minuted discussion by Council over the topic, and added that the report was available on Facebook and the website and presented by Council at the Trade Show. Administration referred to the statement that this was a design development document and as such there should have been public consultation in its development. He clarified that this is not a design development document, but a space planning study which is an assessment of the Town's space needs. Administration referred to Council acknowledging an agreement with the Seniors. He noted that the only written agreement with the Senior's Society is the lease agreement. He noted that currently they do not have written information regarding the twenty-five year old statement. He noted that the Senior's acknowledged that there is nothing in writing regarding this agreement. Administration referred to the statement regarding the TAG report and Council having only looked at it without decisions being made, and noted that there was a motion with unanimous approval by Council of the TAG report. He noted that the document was also publicly unveiled through multiple communications. Administration noted that there are delegation policies in place that state that there is no open dialogue on the issue, but Council may ask questions for clarification. He noted that certain statements were made by individuals that could be construed as position of Council. Administration noted that the Bylaw Review Committee was recommended to review the delegation policy, but they have not done so as yet. He recommended that Council review the delegation policy.

20-033 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That the Community Services Standing Committee minutes from February 11, 2020, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RAB Recommendation – Cr. Cox noted that RAB was tasked with considering if all User Fee's should be increased, or if some such as youth fees should remain low. She noted that after discussion RAB agreed to the 10% User Fee across the board. Cr. Couvrette noted that there was a suggestion that RAB may address further increases to certain fees in the future. Administration noted that the intent of the motion from the RAB refers to recreation fees only.

20-034 Moved By: Cr. McArthur
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That there should be a 10% user fee increase for recreational services across the board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr. Couvrette declared conflict and left the meeting.

TTAB Recommendation

20-035 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That the Town of Fort Smith submit a grant application for a strategic marketing plan to ITI.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr. Couvrette returned to the meeting.



RCMP Donation Request – Cr. Cox noted that this is for a hockey game between our first responders and the RCMP. Proceeds of this will be going towards supporting forest fire fighting in Australia, and it is scheduled for February 29th.

20-036 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That the Town of Fort Smith donate the ice time for the First Responders Fundraiser.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada 55+ Games Fort Smith Team Donation Request

20-037 Moved By: Cr. McArthur
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That Council donate two family punch passes and a theater rental for two hours for the total amount of \$246.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fourth Quarter Variance and Report

20-038 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That the 2019 Fourth Quarter Variance and Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Appointment of Acting Mayor – Administration noted that Acting Mayor is typically appointed if the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are away for a long period of time, or if there is a meeting while the Mayor is away. He noted that an Acting Mayor may not be required while the Mayor and D/M are away for the NWTAC AGM.

20-039 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That Cr. Westwell be appointed Acting Mayor from February 18th to February 20th inclusive.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Municipal Services Standing Committee

20-040 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That SDAB review and update the existing Town of Fort Smith Energy Plan; and

That funding for this be incorporated in the 2020/2021 Capital Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20-041 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That the Town of Fort Smith Greenhouse Gas funding proposal for Energy Management Projects in Community Buildings be accepted as presented; and

Funding be incorporated in the 2020/2021 Capital Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



b. Enactment of Bylaws and Policies

Bylaw 1000 Annual Borrowing Bylaw – Third Reading

20-042 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That Bylaw 1000 Annual Borrowing Bylaw be given Third Reading by title only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw 1002 2020 Consolidated Rates and Fees Bylaw – First Reading

20-043 Moved By: Cr. McArthur
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That Bylaw 1002 2020 Consolidated Rates and Fees Bylaw be introduced and given first reading.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Town of Fort Smith, in the Northwest Territories, deems it to be expedient and wishes to both consolidate and update the various fees and charges collected by the Town of Fort Smith;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Town of Fort Smith, at a duly assembled meeting enacts as follows:

1. That this Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “**2020 Consolidated Rates and Fees Bylaw**”.
2. The Council of the Town of Fort Smith does now set the rates and fees for services described in the schedules attached to this by-law as Schedules A to K.
3. That Schedules “A” to “K” attached hereto form part of this bylaw.
4. Repeal:
That Bylaw 987 with Schedules “A” to “L” is hereby repealed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw 1002 2020 Consolidated Rates and Fees Bylaw – Second Reading. Administration noted that a special meeting may be required for a third reading of the Rates and Fees Bylaw and suggested next week for the meeting time. He noted that discussion will include the topic of consultations for the RCC renovations. He noted that we will be checking Council’s availability for this meeting.

20-044 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That Bylaw 1002 2020 Consolidated Rates and Fees Bylaw be given second reading by title only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



c. Appointments

RAB Appointment Sadele Paulette – Cr. Couvrette noted that with this appointment RAB will be full.

20-045 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That Sadele Paulette be appointed to the Recreation Advisory Board for a term ending December 31st, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TTAB Appointment Alyssa Etsell

20-046 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That Alyssa Etsell be appointed to the Tourism and Trade Advisory Board for a term ending December 31, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Mayor and Council/Board Representative Updates

i. Cr. Campbell

ii. Cr. Couvrette – Cr. Couvrette thanked the community members that attended the engagement session on the weekend, and noted that it was a successful endeavor and commended the Communications Committee for organizing and implementing it in an expedited manner. He noted that it was great to host the Premier and Cabinet at Town Hall, and added that there is some optimism coming from that meeting. He noted that the only negative take away was the closing statement from the Premier regarding a financial crisis within the NWT. He noted that there are other options for the territories to move forward, and other things that may be done to assist the economy in the short term. He noted that he looks forward to having discussions in the future with the Minister of ITI regarding this. He extended his condolences to the families of Emily Smith, Larry Poitras and Lawrence Nataray.

iii. Cr. McArthur – Cr. McArthur thanked the Premier and Cabinet for visiting Fort Smith to meet with Council, and hopes that he enjoyed their visit.

iv. Cr. Cox – Cr. Cox noted that she is looking forward to NWTAC meeting next week in Inuvik. She noted that she also wishes to follow up on Council's identified new priorities, especially regarding the Daycare, the RCC renovations and further advocating for the Aurora College. Cr. Cox stated that an engagement strategy for the community services master plan is in order, and that they should ensure that they engage all users. She noted that is unaware if a sub-committee is warranted for this.

v. D/M Smith

vi. Cr. Beaulieu

vii. Cr. Pischinger – Cr. Pischinger sent her condolences to the families of Emily Smith, Larry Poitras, and Lawrence Nataray.



viii. Cr. Westwell – Cr. Westwell noted that the community engagement event went very well. He noted that he tried to engage those individuals that were present at the CRC but don't often engage Council. He noted that in the feedback he received there were no complaints regarding a lack of communication from Council. He added that there were concerns raised regarding Territorial level concerns such as health care and education. Cr. Westwell noted that community members that he engaged with considered the move of the Library to the RCC to be a brilliant idea, and inquired why this had taken so long. He stated that it was highlighted that this would allow individuals to spend more time at the RCC using Town facilities, and the use of space makes sense. Cr. Westwell suggested changing the venue for the next session. Cr. Westwell noted that he enjoyed the meeting with the Premier and Cabinet. He noted that he believes all spoke frankly and noted that the new Minister's demeanor was refreshing. He noted that Council wished to put forward their intent to collaborate and work together with Cabinet, and noted that he believes this was well received.

ix. Mayor Napier

e. Administration – Administration noted that the intent is to bring minutes from the Bylaw Review Committee and the Communications Committee to the Corporate Services Meeting Council Priorities portion. He noted that the Town helped the Daycare society write their proposal for the MLA and it was well received by their President and the Executive Director, but was returned by the board and they are retaining a consultant to write this. Administration noted that Community Engagement Sessions are easily planned, and requested that Council provide direction regarding if and when they wish to have more meetings. Administration referred to the meeting with Premier and Cabinet, and noted that as per the meeting they may start charging for services they did not charge for previously, and charge for lands purchased by the Town which was previously sold for \$1. He noted that they may address the funding gap by including funds that are already received by the Town.

I. PROCLAMATIONS

J. ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

20-047 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That Cr. Beaulieu be excused from the Corporate Services Standing Committee meeting of February 4, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20-048 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That Cr. McArthur be excused from the Community Services Standing Committee Meeting on February 11, 2020

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20-049 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Pischinger

That Mayor Napier, D/M Smith, Cr. Campbell and Cr. Beaulieu be excused from the Municipal Services Standing Committee Meeting on February 18, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



20-050 Moved By:
 Seconded By:

That Mayor Napier, D/M Smith, Cr. Campbell and Cr. Beaulieu
 be excused from the Regular Meeting of Council on February 18th, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

K. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Corporate Services Standing Committee Meeting – March 3rd, 2020
 Community and Municipal Services Standing Committee Meetings – March 10th, 2020
 Council Meeting 03-20 – March 17th, 2020

L. ADJOURNMENT

20-051 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
 Seconded By: Cr. Cox

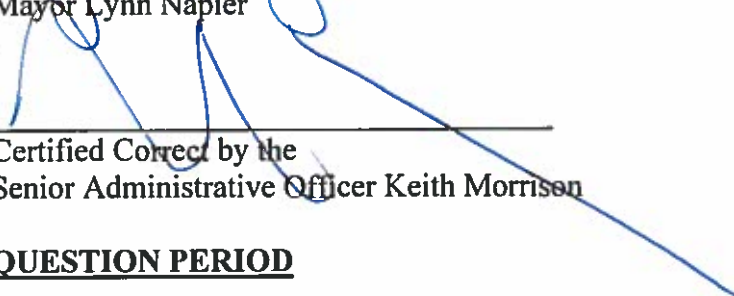
That the meeting be adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes adopted this 17th day of March, 2020.



 Mayor Lynn Napier



 Certified Correct by the
 Senior Administrative Officer Keith Morrison

L. QUESTION PERIOD

A question period was offered in accordance with policy.