












Town of Fort Smith
Town Council Meeting
Agenda

June 18, 2019, 7:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

A. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum	
B. Approval of Agenda	
C. Presentations a. RCMP Police Report – May 2019	 RCMP Police Report May 2019
D. Approval of Council Minutes a. Council Minutes 05-19 b. Special Meeting Minutes SP-02-19	  Council Minutes Special Meeting May 21, 2019 Minutes June 10, 20
E. Business Arising from the Minutes	
F. Declaration of Financial Interest a. Statement of Disclosure of Interest	 Statement of Disclosure of Intere:
G. Council Business	
a. Introduction and Consideration of Committee Reports i. Corporate Services ii. Community Services iii. Municipal Services	   Corporate Services Community Services Municipal Services Minutes June 4, 201 Minutes June 11, 20 Minutes June 11, 20
b. Enactment of Bylaws and Policies	
c. Appointments	
d. Mayor and Council/Board Representative Updates	
e. Administration i. DPA-012-19 Matt Bourke ii. DPA-013-19 Katherine Lepine	  DPA-012-19 Matt DPA-013-19 Bourke Katherine Lepine
H. Proclamations	
I. Absence of Council Members	
J. Date of Next Council Meeting	
K. Adjournment	
L. Question Period	



Sgt. Gilbert advised of staffing changes as the member to replace Cst. Jonah Candy was promoted and would not be transferring to Fort Smith. He noted that the position in Fort Smith was offered and accepted by a member in Nova Scotia and that he is anticipating his arrival before the start of the school year.

Sgt. Gilbert has spoken to the Mayor about implementing a positive ticketing program. He indicated that he found a letter from the Town of Fort Smith to former Fort Smith Sgt. Richard Brown to implement the positive rewards system where a donation of five-hundred free swim passes was provided. Sgt. Gilbert is discussing doing a community project in which members can issue positive ticketing to youth with good behavior.

Cr. Cox noted that it was mentioned at the May meeting that efforts would be made to get the Interagency Group operational and requested an update. Sgt. Gilbert replied that he is compiling a list of partner agencies and using a semi-established group consisting of Probation, Victim Services, JBT and PWK. He also advised that Erika Bell would be reaching out to Cr. Beaulieu to meet regarding the Community on Patrol program. Cr. Cox advised that it was mentioned at the last meeting that the Department of Infrastructure had issues securing their compound and asked if progress was made. Sgt. Gilbert is unsure if they've made progress in securing their compound and hasn't received any updates on the matter. Cr. Cox noted that it was mentioned at the last meeting there would be a community barbeque to introduce new members and requested an update. Sgt. Gilbert replied that the barbeque is delayed as there are new members expected to arrive soon. He is anticipating the barbeque will be held later in July and noted that hospitality funding has been approved for the initiative.

D/M Smith appreciated the dialogue and supports the positive ticketing program. He welcomed Cst. Hazleton to the community. Sgt. Gilbert replied that Cst. Hazleton was in the community during the notable incident in May and was able to pick up the swat team from the airport and assisted as a guard at the hospital.

Cr. Beaulieu entered the meeting at 7:14pm.

Mayor Napier-Buckley asked if the RCMP would like to assist at the Canada Day fish fry. Sgt. Gilbert will touch base with the Mayor to discuss the details. Mayor Napier-Buckley asked if the RCMP plans to send members on the Sweetgrass trip in the fall. Sgt. Gilbert replied that Cst. Forbes and Cst. Hazleton have expressed interest in attending. Mayor Napier-Buckley looks forward to seeing the results of the positive ticketing program and to having RCMP members volunteer at the Canada Day fish fry. She also was pleased that the RCMP would be present at the Sweetgrass retreat and thinks it would be a wonderful experience for youth. Sgt. Gilbert advised that Cst. Derick Levesque attended Sweetgrass last year and built positive relationships with the youth that attended. Mayor Napier-Buckley welcomed new member Cst. Hazleton and thanked Sgt. Gilbert for the delegation.

Sgt. Gilbert advised that there would be presentations for Crime Stoppers and RCMP Recruitment on July 2nd at the Recreation and Community Centre.

Mayor Napier-Buckley asked if Sgt. Gilbert is looking for a Council or Administrative representative on the interagency group. Sgt. Gilbert advised that a staff member is usually selected due to the election turnover. He added that the group is informal and deals specifically with Health Centre or youth/child welfare issues.



D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cr. Cox advised that a motion was passed at the May 21st Council Meeting for the Mayor to write a letter inviting the Premier, Minister of ITI and MLA to discuss the location of the Regional Center of ITI. Mayor Napier-Buckley replied that the invitation was sent and that another letter was sent from the Fort Smith Metis Council, Salt River First Nation, Smith Landing First Nation and the Town of Fort Smith opposing the narrowing of the Fort Smith airport runway. Cr. Couvrette made reference to the proclamation from Mayor and Council denouncing the infringement of fundamental rights and freedoms and advised that law was passed in Quebec banning the wearing of religious symbols in the workplace.

19-111 Moved by: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded by: Cr. Pischinger

That the minutes of Regular Meeting 05-19 of May 21st, 2019 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Napier-Buckley advised that the Special Meeting minutes were from the Infrastructure Tour on June 10th. She appreciated the opportunity to observe Town operations and was impressed with the level of service provided with limited employees. D/M Smith requested the minutes state that the meeting was for an Infrastructure Tour.

19-112 Moved by: Cr. Cox
Seconded by: Cr. Couvrette

That the minutes of Special Meeting SP-02-19 of June 10th, 2019 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

- a. Statement of Disclosure of Financial Interest – There were disclosures of financial interest.

F. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- a. Introduction and Consideration of Committee Reports

Corporate Services Standing Committee – Cr. McArthur asked if anymore residents have paid their property taxes. Cr. Couvrette noted that minutes stated that D/M Smith advised that the one-third tax free expense also applies to Councillors which will be taxable based on the tax rate with regard to Council honourarium. He suggested specifying that one-third of Councillor honourarium is not tax free and that it is fully taxable under new tax laws.

19-113 Moved By: D/M Smith
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That the Corporate Services Standing Committee minutes from June 4th, 2019, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CP 317 Employee Assistance Program Policy – Mayor Napier-Buckley thinks the Employee Assistance Program is a great program for staff and hopes they utilize it.

19-114 Moved By: Cr. McArthur
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That CP 317 Employee Assistance Program Policy be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Council Honourarium Bylaw Review Committee

19-115 Moved By: D/M Smith
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That Council ask the Council Honourarium Bylaw Review Committee to review the Terms of Reference and consider meeting the targets within; and

That the Committee provide a complete recommendation to Council of all the matters within the Terms of Reference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Appointment of Acting SAO Cynthia White

19-116 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That Cynthia White be appointed Acting Senior Administrative Officer for the period of Wednesday, June 12th, 2019 at 5:00pm to Monday, June 24th, 2019 at 8:30am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Collective Bargaining – Administration asked when Collective Bargaining is to occur. Mayor Lynn Napier-Buckley replied that it would occur July 15th to 17th.

19-117 Moved By: Cr. McArthur
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That Mayor Napier-Buckley be appointed as the Council Representative for the Collective Bargaining.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Services Standing Committee

19-118 Moved By: Cr. Pischinger
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That the Community Services Standing Committee minutes from June 11th, 2019, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MACA Youth Center Funding

19-119 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That the Mayor work with the Fort Smith Metis Council, Salt River First Nation and Smith Landing First Nation to problem solve the issue in regard to MACA Youth Center Funding; and

That the Mayor work with Uncle Gabe's Friendship Centre to liaise with MACA ad ECE to get funding reinstated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Communications Committee

19-120 Moved By: D/M Smith
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That Mayor and Council establish a Communications Committee; and

That the Communications Committee consist of Cr. Cox and Cr. Westwell.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Metis Council Donation Request

19-121 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That Council donate \$500 to the Fort Smith Metis Council to support National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebrations; and

That pool passes be donated at a reduced cost of \$1.00 per pass as in previous years.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Municipal Services Standing Committee

19-122 Moved By: D/M Smith
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That the Municipal Services Standing Committee minutes from June 11th, 2019 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Mayor and Council/Board Representative Updates

- i. Cr. Couvrette – Cr. Couvrette wished everyone participating in National Indigenous Peoples Day a cheerful and exciting day of celebration. He also reminded everyone to be diligent with wildfire risk as weather conditions are extreme and new evacuation orders are being made in Alberta. He noted that even with some rain, conditions are still extremely dry.
- ii. Cr. McArthur – Cr. McArthur noted from the minutes that new WSCC requirements do not allow garbage pickers to ride on the garbage truck. He suggested having two crews walk around Town. Cr. McArthur thanked Jenny Cumming and Pat Bourke for fundraising for Paddle Prairie residents that lost their homes. He noted that the residents who lost their homes were unable to acquire home insurance due to there being no local fire department. Cr. McArthur has had residents ask him about fire abatement and suggested that the Town, Government and Indigenous Governments open their parcels of land for people to harvest trees. Cr. McArthur made reference to the briefing note before Council to procure a new Bylaw SUV. He suggested that an auction be held as 7-Bay Garage is looking unsightly.
- iii. Cr. Cox – Cr. Cox advised that there was an interview at the Aurora College this morning with Dr. Tom Weegar, President of the Aurora College and Associate Deputy Minister responsible for post-secondary education in which he avoided directly answering the question regarding where Aurora College Headquarters would be located. Cr. Cox thinks its incumbent for Council to reengage in lobbying and reconsider the need to advocate for programs in Fort Smith. Cr. Cox advised that there was an incident that occurred yesterday where a child riding a bike was hit crossing the four-way at McDougal Road and Breynat Street. She noted that everyone involved was okay but shaken-up. She felt that the Town needs to determine ways to make biking and walking safer and consider becoming an active transport community. Cr. Cox advised that a video was released by SLFN regarding the low water levels of the Slave River, Dog River and Salt River this summer due to the impact of climate change. She expects the water to continue to decrease as the summer proceeds. She felt that this is a big concern for Council as the Town's drinking water comes from the Slave River and is unsure how the low water level affects the water intake. She noted that there are many factors causing the low water levels including dams and oil sand developments, and that the Federal Government needs to protect WBNP from dams as it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



- iv. D/M Smith – D/M Smith commended the organizers of the Paddle Prairie fundraiser. He congratulated the new Chief and Council of SLFN. He thanked the Town Administration and Staff for the Infrastructure Tour and was pleased with the frank and open discussions that occurred. Additionally, he thanked the Executive Secretary for organizing the Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Barbeque. D/M Smith hoped that through the Downtown Development initiative, a coordinated approach to safely navigate by active transport through the community could be determined. D/M Smith advised in regard to climate change and fire abatement that there is no operational funding available through the GNWT and that private landowners should be encouraged to fire abate their properties and that the GNWT should make land accessible for harvesting trees. D/M Smith advised that there are low water conditions everywhere and that British Columbia is in a drought. He added that permafrost is melting seventy-years earlier than expected and is releasing carbon and greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere affecting global warming. He would like to bring forth to Council for their consideration the declaration passed in Edmonton regarding this. He noted that the intent is to put pressure on the Federal Government as Environment Canada and other agencies have the tools to deal with these issues. D/M Smith was pleased with the community events over the past weekend.
- v. Cr. Beaulieu – Cr. Beaulieu advised that there is another fundraiser being organized by Jenny Schaefer for the wellbeing and recovery of Jerry Oliver who was medivacked recently. Cr. Beaulieu advised that remediation options for the landslide area are being discussed with community members and they asked if the work could be staffed locally rather than hiring from the south.
- vi. Cr. Pischinger – Cr. Pischinger congratulated the new Chief and Council of SLFN and thanked the organizers of the Paddle Prairie fundraiser. She thanked Town Staff and the Executive Secretary for the Infrastructure Tour and Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Barbeque. Cr. Pischinger asked if a contractor is being hired to perform an assessment of the landslide area and requested a progress update. Cr. Pischinger didn't realize that there was a sidewalk beside the new McDougal Centre/CAB building where the angled parking is located. She noted that vehicles are parking onto the sidewalk and still extending onto the road. Cr. Pischinger wished everyone a happy National Indigenous Peoples Day and encouraged everyone to participate in the celebrations.
- vii. Mayor Napier-Buckley – Mayor Napier-Buckley advised that the Infrastructure Tour was a great opportunity for council and was pleased to see staff initiatives and be educated about the buildings. She was thankful to the staff who took time to host the facility visits. Mayor Napier-Buckley suggested in regard to Cr. McArthur's comments that the Town can look into fire abatement programs to see what is available as well as the possibility of auctioning surplus items. She thanked Cr. Cox for her comments regarding the Aurora College and agreed that there is the need to continue to address college programming. She noted that there is one year left for the Teacher Education Program. Mayor Napier-Buckley congratulated the new Chief and Council of SLFN and looks forward to partnering with them and other Indigenous governments in Fort Smith to benefit the community as a whole. Mayor Napier-Buckley advised that the Paddle Prairie music festival fundraiser has received a lot of positive feedback. She noted that there were many vehicles parked at Conibear Park for the event that were in areas that made ongoing traffic difficult to see and felt that this is dangerous for residents. She recommended that road closures be enforced or that parking on the main streets be prohibited for future large events at Conibear Park. Mayor Napier Buckley suggested that the Edmonton Proclamation that D/M Smith plans to bring forth be brought forward for the July meetings. Mayor Napier-Buckley replied to Cr.



Beaulieu's comments regarding the landslide and that the issue is funding and knowing the scope of work to be addressed. Mayor Napier-Buckley advised that there was a tornado in the community at the end of May and that many community members and staff came together to assist. She noted that occurrence was unusual and is unsure if the emergency notification system would have helped. Mayor Napier-Buckley advised that upcoming events include National Indigenous Peoples Day and Canada Day. She is looking for Councillors to confirm their availability to assist with the fish fry on Canada Day. Mayor Napier-Buckley noted issues brought up by Councillors regarding climate change, fire abatement and the Aurora College, and indicated that she would not be running for MLA but that Federal and Territorial Elections are upcoming this year. She felt there is great opportunity to compile issues and in knowing the Town has representation at NWTAC and FCM. Additionally, she suggested the Town can partner with other governments on issues that effect the community over the next couple months to push items as priorities and partner in hosting candidate forums. Cr. Pischinger advised that the FSDEA has an upcoming regular meeting and is presuming the Town wants to move to an election process for representatives. Mayor Napier-Buckley confirmed this. Cr. Pischinger replied that the FSDEA is in the process of trying to achieve this. Cr. McArthur advised that he can only assist with the fish fry until 4:00pm on Canada Day and that he would be away from the community from July 8th to 11th. Mayor Napier-Buckley advised that she had received Cr. Cox's FCM report and recommended that Council review the report. She added that the FCM meetings are informative and helpful, and that there is opportunity to learn of different funding pots, challenges as a community and ways to address them. Cr. Cox noted that Fort Smith had a shout out from the International Space Station this past Friday as there was the first health in space exhibit in Canada launched at the NLMCC.

c. Administration

Briefing Note DPA-012-19 Matt Bourke – The briefing note was reviewed.

19-123 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That DPA-012-19, submitted by Matt Bourke to operate a home occupation lock smith business from Lot 949, Plan 1260, 78 Field Street in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DPA-013-19 Katherine Lepine – D/M Smith was pleased with the business license for a real estate business in Fort Smith. Cr. Cox noted that it has been a discussion of SDAB that the community is in need of a real estate agent. Cr. Couvrette asked if the Town, as a corporate entity that endorses legitimate operations, ensures the business owner holds appropriate certification before bringing forward for approval and suggests that there may be liability. He added that he is support of the business but would request background information. D/M Smith replied that this was addressed in the past that it is difficult to regulate certification and that it's not the Town's mandate. He advised that the NWT does have a Real Estate Licensing Act which regulates agents and is great for consumers.

19-124 Moved By: Cr. McArthur
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That DPA-013-19, submitted by Katherine Lepine to operate a home occupation real estate sales business from Lot 178, Plan 8, 12 Dickens Street in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Briefing Note Bylaw SUV – The briefing note was reviewed. Administration advised that the Bylaw Enforcement vehicle is due for replacement and that a tender was issued on May 31st, closing June 13th, in which there was one successful respondent. She advised that the current Bylaw Enforcement vehicle is over ten-years old and has over 185,000kms. The vehicle requires regular repairs to maintain operational condition. Due to the configuration of the vehicle there are work safe concerns regarding loading and unloading animals. Administration requested \$55,000 in capital expenditures to replace the aging vehicle with a more appropriate enforcement vehicle. The one bidder that responded, met the requirement of the bid and provided a bid price of \$54,943 to complete the tender. D/M Smith thinks the contractor may have reviewed the Capital Plan prior to submitting their quote.

19-125 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That Council approves the capital expenditure of \$54,943 to purchase the new Bylaw Enforcement vehicle from Aurora Ford.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

19-126 Moved By: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded By: Cr. Cox

That Mayor Napier-Buckley and Cr. McArthur be excused from the Community and Municipal Services Standing Committee Meetings on June 11th, 2019.

IN FAVOUR – CR. COUVRETTE, CR. COX, D/M SMITH, CR. BEAULIEU,
CR. PISCHINGER
ABSTAINED – CR. MCARTHUR
CARRIED

19-127 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. McArthur

That Cr. Campbell and Cr. Westwell be excused from the Regular Meeting of Council on June 18th, 2019.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Corporate Services Standing Committee Meeting – July 2nd, 2019
Community and Municipal Services Standing Committee Meetings – July 9th, 2019
Council Meeting 07-19 – July 16th, 2019

Cr. McArthur advised that he would be away for the Community Services and Municipal Services Standing Committee meetings on July 9th for medical travel.

Cr. Beaulieu advised that she would be away for the Community Services and Municipal Services Standing Committee meetings on July 9th for work requirements.



I. **ADJOURNMENT**

19-128 Moved By: Cr. Cox
Seconded By: Cr. Couvrette

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes adopted this 23rd day of July, 2019.



Mayor Lynn Napier-Buckley


Chris Westwell (acting)

Certified Correct by the
Senior Administrative Officer Keith Morrison

J. **QUESTION PERIOD**

A question period was offered in accordance with policy.