



**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FORT SMITH
MEETING 06-23
THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR
THE MONTH OF JUNE AND THE
SIXTH FOR THE YEAR 2023**

PRESENT: Mayor F. Daniels D/M J. MacDonald
 Cr. K. Campbell Cr. M. Couvrette
 Cr. L. Beaulieu Cr. A. Pischinger
 Cr. L. Tuckey Cr. D. Fergusson
 Cr. D. Korol

STAFF: J. Hood, Senior Administrative Officer
 A. Weber, Pay and Benefits Finance Clerk

GALLERY: Sgt. Cagri Yilmaz, RCMP

Meeting 06-23	7:00 PM
June 20 th , 2023	Town Hall Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER & CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Mayor Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and confirmed a quorum of Council was present.

Mayor Daniels read the acknowledgement of First Nations.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

23-154 Moved by: Cr. Korol
 Seconded by: Cr. Couvrette

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. PRESENTATIONS

- a. RCMP Police Report May 2023 – Sgt. Yilmaz advised that he would review the RCMP report and discuss policing priorities for 2023-2024 year.

Sgt. Yilmaz reviewed the RCMP report for May 2023. He advised that there were 182 calls for services in May 2023 compared to 210 in May 2022. He reviewed road safety initiatives for May and advised that there were five check-stops, one charge for impaired driving, and several tickets and warnings issued. He reviewed community engagement and advised Ms. Beaulieu’s JBT class toured the detachment and were educated on RCMP daily duties, and that Cst. Woodward, with the Bylaw Officer, did a presentation on how to cross the street safely. Further, members did a presentation to PWK High School students about the dangers of sexting and sextortion. He felt this was an important topic for prevention and explained the risks. Additionally, a member helped an elder stack wood in preparation for winter on their own time.

Sgt. Yilmaz reviewed notable files and advised that there was a 20-year-old male breaking into homes and vehicles, but with the assistance of the public, he was arrested and charged. Further, the individual has been released on conditions by the Justice of the Peace.



Sgt. Yilmaz advised that the RCMP are still investigating the disappearance of Frank Gruben and requested anyone with information to come forward. He noted that human remains were found at the boat launch and is under investigation. Sgt. Yilmaz advised that the number of prisoners lodged in May is comparable to 2022.

Sgt. Yilmaz reviewed suggested policing priorities form 2023-2024. He advised that the priorities for 2022-2023 were road safety, community relationships, and reconciliation and youth. He suggested for 2023-2024 the priorities be road safety, drug enforcement and bootlegging, and that community relations be merged with reconciliation. Cr. Campbell was supportive of the initiatives as presented. Sgt. Yilmaz replied that the RCMP would like to focus on drug enforcement and bootlegging, and that it is labour intensive. Cr. Couvrette agreed and felt that drug and alcohol issues in the NWT is concerning and noted that Fort Smith strives to be the healthiest community in the NWT. Sgt. Yilmaz advised that he would confirm the priorities with SRFN to move forward. D/M Macdonald supported this as a high priority and in consideration of tragedies in the community resulting from drug and alcohol abuse.

Mayor Daniels asked if Hay River has a K9 unit. Sgt. Yilmaz replied that there are two dogs in Yellowknife. He advised that they travel and that there is no issue securing this service, and that they also work with K9 units in Grande Prairie and Edmonton if unavailable from Yellowknife.

Mayor and Council thanked Sgt. Yilmaz for his report.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council 05-23

23-155 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Fergusson

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council 05-23 on May 16th, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Special Meeting of Council SP-07-23

23-156 Moved by: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded by: D/M Macdonald

That the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council SP-07-23 on May 23rd, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

F. DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

- a. Statement of Disclosure of Interest – There were no declarations of financial interest.



G. **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

a. Introduction and Consideration of Committee Reports

Corporate Services Standing Committee – Cr. Couvrette advised that the terms of reference for the NTPC Intervention Committee would be brought to the next Corporate Services Standing Committee meeting on July 4th, 2023.

23-157 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Tuckey

That the Corporate Services Standing Committee minutes from June 6th, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023 First Quarter Variance Report

23-158 Moved By: Cr. Korol
Seconded By: Cr. Fergusson

That the 2023 First Quarter Variance Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Development Appeal Board Appointments

23-159 Moved By: Cr. Korol
Seconded By: D/M Macdonald

That Chris Westwell, John Gray, and Karl Cox be appointed to the Development Appeal Board for three-year terms; and

That Councillor Kevin Campbell be appointed to the Development Appeal Board for the remainder of the Council term; and

That the Executive Secretary be appointed to the role of Secretary of the Development Appeal Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rescind Motion 23-135/27 Whooping Crane Crescent

23-160 Moved By: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded By: D/M Macdonald

That Council rescind Motion 23-135; and

That Administration enter into negotiations with Housing NWT for the transfer of a Town-owned lot of appropriate zoning in consideration for the acquisition of Lot 719A REM and Lot 720A, Plan 601, 69 & 71 St. Ann's Street in Fort Smith; and

That the Town remediate 27 Whooping Crane Crescent, determine the sale price of the property, and offer it for sale as required under the Land Administration Bylaw 862.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 23-116/55-57 McDougal Road

23-161 Moved By: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded By: D/M Macdonald

That the Town of Fort Smith cease unauthorized land use and identify a roadway allowance for 55/57 McDougal Road.

IN FAVOUR – CR. CAMPBELL, CR. KOROL, CR. TUCKEY, D/M
MACDONALD, CR. BEAULIEU, CR. COUVRETTE

OPPOSED – CR. FERGUSSON

MOTION CARRIED



SLFN Contribution Request

23-162 Moved By: D/M Macdonald
Seconded By: Cr. Tuckey

That Council contribute \$500 to Smith's Landing First Nation to assist with feast expenses for the Dene National Assembly and the 50th Anniversary of the Paulette Caveat Decision from July 18-20th, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Emergency Management Plan

23-163 Moved By: Cr. Korol
Seconded By: Cr. Fergusson

That the Emergency Management Plan be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PWK Cultural Area Development

23-164 Moved By: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded By: D/M Macdonald

That PWK High School submit a development permit for the permanent deck structure being constructed May 2023 on the street-facing property line to Conibear Crescent;

That the proposed development only be considered if it is entirely on the property being developed;

That Mayor and Council allow the reduction of the property line setback to zero to accommodate this development as accepted; and

That all developments and land uses of the Town's road allowance cease and that affected Town property be returned to its original state.

IN FAVOUR – CR. CAMPBELL, CR. FERGUSSON, CR. KOROL, CR. TUCKEY, D/M MACDONALD, CR. BEAULIEU, CR. COUVRETTE

OPPOSED – CR. PISCHINGER

MOTION CARRIED

Letter to the GNWT Minister of Justice

23-165 Moved By: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded By: Cr. Korol

That Mayor and Council in conjunction with Community Leadership write a letter of concern to the Minister of Justice in regard to the status and completion of legislation on the Missing Persons Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Invitation to Health and Social Services

23-166 Moved By: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded By: D/M Macdonald

That the Town of Fort Smith invite the Fort Smith COO and Minister of Health and Social Services to meet with Council to discuss the status of the Health Centre and the delivery of services to the community.

IN FAVOUR – CR. CAMPBELL, CR. FERGUSSON, CR. TUCKEY, D/M MACDONALD, CR. BEAULIEU, CR. COUVRETTE

ABSTAINED – CR. PISCHINGER, CR. KOROL

MOTION CARRIED



Community Services Standing Committee

23-167 Moved by: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded by: Cr. Korol

That the Community Services Standing Committee minutes from June 13th, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada Day Road Closures

23-168 Moved by: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded by: Cr. Korol

That Council approve the following road closures for the 2023 Canada Day Celebrations.

That Portage Avenue adjacent to Conibear Park, from McDougal Road to the Old Theatre Parking Lot, before Mercredi Avenue, be closed to traffic, and that McDougal Road, adjacent to Conibear Park, from the Post Office Crosswalk to the Anglican Church Parking Lot, be closed to traffic on July 1st, 2023, from 10:30am to 5:00pm for Canada Day Celebrations; and

Furthermore, that the following road closures occur for the Canada Day Parade from 11:30am to 1:00pm; Portage Avenue in front of the RCMP compound to the corner of McDougal Road, along McDougal Road from Portage Avenue to King Street, and from King Street to the Community and Recreation Centre.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Curling Rink Naming Consideration

23-169 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Tuckey

That the Curling Club be asked if they would be in favour of naming the Curling Rink after Bob McArthur Sr.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Municipal Services Standing Committee

23-170 Moved By: Cr. Korol
Seconded By: Cr. Fergusson

That the Municipal Services Standing Committee minutes from June 13th, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Crosswalk Signage for Calder Avenue/McDougal Road Walking Trail

23-171 Moved By: D/M Macdonald
Seconded By: Cr. Tuckey

That Administration investigate crosswalk signage and costs for the walking trail crossing at Calder Avenue and McDougal Road.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



b. Enactment of Bylaws and Policies

Bylaw 1048 Amend the Council Procedures Bylaw 902/Third Reading

23-172 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Couvrette

That Bylaw 1048, Amend the Council Procedures Bylaw 902, be given Third Reading by title only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw 1049 Emergency Management/Third Reading

23-173 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Korol

That Bylaw 1049, the Emergency Management Bylaw, be given Third Reading by title only.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Appointments

Protective Services Standing Committee Councillor Chair Appointment

23-174 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Korol

That Cr. Fergusson be appointed Chair of the Protective Services Standing Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Mayor and Council/Board Representative Updates

- i. Cr. Tuckey – Cr. Tuckey encouraged the community to enjoy the upcoming festivities and hopes the community has a good time.
- ii. Cr. Korol – Cr. Korol wished everyone a Happy National Indigenous People's Day and also gave thanks to fire fighting crews. Cr. Korol advised that there was a CSAB meeting last week that included a tour of the CRC facility. She gave congrats to JBT Kindergarten grads.
- iii. Cr. Fergusson – Cr. Fergusson gave congratulations for the CRC Grand Reopening and to CAB Construction for the completion of the project. She thanked the community and staff for their patience throughout the project.
- iv. Cr. Campbell – Cr. Campbell encouraged the community to enjoy the National Indigenous People's Day festivities tomorrow and wished everyone a Happy Canada Day.
- v. Cr. Couvrette – Cr. Couvrette encouraged everyone to recognize National Indigenous People's Day tomorrow. Cr. Couvrette noted that EDAB did not have quorum for their last meeting before breaking for the summer. He noted that the board is looking for members and suggested anyone interested contact the Town.
- vi. Cr. Pischinger – Cr. Pischinger wished everyone a Happy Indigenous People's Day and a Happy Canada Day. She congratulated graduates of the Head Start Program, JBT Elementary School, PWK High School, and Aurora College. Cr. Pischinger requested sending a follow-up letter to the GNWT Department of Infrastructure regarding repaving the damaged portion of the road by the airport.



- vii. Cr. Beaulieu – Cr. Beaulieu noted unsupervised children between 11-13 years old hanging out at the Slave River rocks and boat launch. Cr. Beaulieu congratulated graduates and wished everyone a Happy Indigenous People’s Day and Happy Canada Day.
- viii. D/M Macdonald – D/M Macdonald wished everyone a Happy Indigenous People’s Day and Happy Canada Day, and thanked participants and volunteers assisting with the events. D/M Macdonald advised that SDAB did not meet in May.
- ix. Mayor Daniels – Mayor Daniels congratulated graduates of JBT Elementary School, PWK High School and Aurora College. He wished the community a Happy National Indigenous People’s Day and reminded everyone to be safe. He noted that pavers are in town if residents want their driveways paved.

e. Administration

Briefing Note SRFN Contribution Request – The briefing note was reviewed. Cr. Fergusson asked if there were other contributions. Administration advised that the Town is working with SRFN on contributions for National Indigenous People’s Day and for TLE Celebrations with the use of the Arena parking lot and washrooms, and portable stage and setup. He advised that the Town would normally assist with logistics and advised that a staff member would be dedicated to the event for two days.

23-175 Moved by: Cr. Campbell
Seconded by: D/M Macdonald

That the Town of Fort Smith contribute \$3,000 to Salt River First Nation for the National Indigenous People’s Day community feast on June 21st, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Briefing Note DPA-028-23 Mabel Vogt – The briefing note was reviewed.

23-176 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Campbell

That DPA-028-23, submitted by Mabel Vogt, to operate a home occupation business, MV Suite, from Lot 1736, Plan 4310, 13 Pond Crescent in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Briefing Note DPA-029-23 Tony Vermillion – The briefing note was reviewed.

23-177 Moved by: Cr. Korol
Seconded by: Cr. Fergusson

That DPA-029-23, submitted by Tony Vermillion, to operate a home occupation business, Thebacha Investments Inc., from Lot 1000/1001, Plan 1260, 5/7 Winter Street in Fort Smith be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Briefing Note Staying Sea Can Orders – The briefing note was reviewed.

23-178 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Campbell

That Council allow Zoning Bylaw enforcement to continue as per the existing Zoning Bylaw 936 until the bylaw is reviewed and revised through due process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Briefing Note South Slave Tourism Development Workshops – The briefing note, report and financials were reviewed.

H. ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

23-179 Moved by: Cr. Korol
Seconded by: Cr. Fergusson

That D/M Macdonald and Cr. Beaulieu be excused from the Corporate Services Standing Committee Meeting on June 6th, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Corporate Services Standing Committee Meeting – July 4th, 2023
Protective Services Standing Committee Meeting – July 4th, 2023
Community Services Standing Committee Meeting – July 11th, 2023
Municipal Services Standing Committee Meetings – July 11th, 2023
Regular Meeting of Council 07-23 – July 18th, 2023

J. IN-CAMERA SESSION

In-Camera Session CTV Act S.23(3)(c) Personnel Issue

23-180 Moved by: Cr. Fergusson
Seconded by: Cr. Korol

That Council move in-camera in accordance with the Cities, Towns and Villages Act, Section 23(3)(c) to discuss a Personnel Issue.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Out of In-Camera Session

23-181 Moved by: Cr. Couvrette
Seconded by: D/M Macdonald

That Council move out of in-camera at 8:35 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Daniels declared a conflict and left the meeting.

Out of In-Camera Motion

23-182 Moved by: D/M Macdonald
Seconded by: Cr. Couvrette

That Council supports an additional 10 days leave in lieu of overtime for 2022 and an additional 10 days leave in lieu of overtime for 2023 for the Directors of Corporate Services, Community Services, Municipal Services and Protective Services.

**IN FAVOUR – Cr. CAMPBELL, CR. FERGUSSON, CR. KOROL, CR. TUCKEY, D/M MACDONALD, CR. BEAULIEU, CR. COUVRETTE
OPPOSED – CR. PISCHINGER
MOTION CARRIED**



K. **ADJOURNMENT**

23-183 Moved by: Cr. Korol
Seconded by: Cr. Fergusson

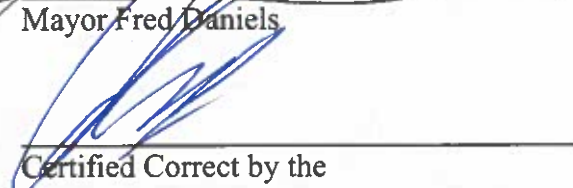
That the meeting be adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes adopted this 18th day of July, 2023.



Mayor Fred Daniels



Certified Correct by the
Senior Administrative Officer Obrian Kydd

L. **QUESTION PERIOD**

A question period was offered in accordance with policy.