

# **TOWN OF SMITHERS**

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council held in Council Chambers, 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C., on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

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## Council Present:

Jo Ann Groves, Acting Mayor  
Norm Adomeit, Councillor  
Mark Bandstra, Councillor  
Lorne Benson, Councillor  
Charlie Northrup, Councillor  
Frank Wray, Councillor.

## Staff Present:

Deborah Sargent, Chief Administrative Officer  
Susan Bassett, Director of Corporate Services  
Mark Allen, Director of Development Services  
Wilf Taekema, Director of Works and Operations  
Jan McKay, Recording Secretary.

## Council Excused:

Cress Farrow, Mayor.

## Staff Excused:

Leslie Ford, Director of Finance  
Andrew Hillaby, Director of Recreation, Parks and Culture  
Keith Stecko, Fire Chief.

## Fourth Avenue Water User Group

D. Mayer  
C. McEwen  
A. McEwen  
G. Williams Jr.

## 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Mayor Groves called the meeting to order (7:00 p.m).

## 2. **CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS**

Northrup/

THAT the following be received:

- 2.1 Excerpt from the draft minutes of the Special (Open) Meeting of Council held October 26, 2010, regarding delegation by the Fourth Avenue Water User Group.
- 2.2 Memo to Council from M. Allen, Director of Development Services, dated November 3, 2010, provided in advance of the November 9 Committee of the Whole Meeting.
- 2.3 Letter dated November 9, 2010, from S. Field regarding water issues brought forward by the Fourth Avenue Water Users (Supplemental).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Acting Mayor Groves advised that the Town's position is laid out in the Summary Section of the memo from M. Allen, Director of Development Services (Item 2.2), and confirmed that this is a public meeting.

Discussion points included: a) whether the Town was in compliance with Subdivision Servicing Bylaw No. 747 at the time of the application; b) the Town is under no obligation to provide water to all residents; c) if this same application were made today, it would be approved, as the current well provides sufficient

water (6.6 gallons per minute should service up to 19 dwellings for domestic use); d) the provincial standard is 18 litres per minute for two hours, which is equal to 3.96 gallons per minute, or 2500 litres per day per lot; e) the Watson's Landing water system is a public system, unlike the Fourth Avenue private system; f) the Watson's Landing developer is paying for a portion of the Airport water cistern expansion project, to enhance fire flows for the Airport; g) in 1995 the Fourth Avenue Water Group turned down the option for Town water service and opted for sewer service only; h) the Health Department is concerned about water potability, not quantity; i) whether the subdivision plan was approved without the Town knowing the water source; j) the current well is meeting 3 to 4 times what the bylaw requires; k) the 0.3 gallons per minute calculation only applies if you keep the water running 24 hours per day and not allow the aquifer to recharge; and l) it may be time for the Fourth Avenue neighbourhood to look at alternatives and for the Town to review the bylaw.

3. **OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

None.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Benson/  
THAT the meeting be adjourned (7:20 p.m.).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Certified Correct:

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Cress Farrow  
Mayor

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Deborah Sargent  
Corporate Administrator/CAO

SB/jm

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**Certified a True and Correct Copy** of the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C.

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Deborah Sargent  
Corporate Administrator/CAO