

TOWN OF SMITHERS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held in Council Chambers, 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C., on Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

Council Present:

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

Staff Present:

Deborah Sargent, Chief Administrative Officer
Susan Bassett, Director of Corporate Services
Leslie Ford, Director of Finance
Mark Allen, Director of Development Services
Andrew Hillaby, Director of Recreation, Parks and Culture
Wilf Taekema, Director of Works and Operations
Janice McKay, Recording Secretary.

Staff Excused:

Keith Stecko, Fire Chief
Patricia Berg, Airport Manager.

Media Present: K. Koppitz, CFTK-TV, and R. Schierer, The Interior News.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor Farrow called the meeting to order (7:31 p.m.).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (including Supplemental Items)

1A Adomeit/Benson
10.0063 THAT Council approves the agenda, and the following supplemental items for
AGENDA discussion later in the meeting (under Section 14):
APPROVAL

14-1 Verbal report from Mayor Farrow:

- Investigate opportunities in alternative energy and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, for the Town of Smithers, with the assistance of the Sustainable Smithers Ad Hoc Committee.

14-2 Letter dated January 22, 2010, from the Bulkley Valley Soccer Society, expressing concerns regarding the lease agreement for a Clubhouse at Chandler Park (Vault).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1 Groves/Adomeit
10.0064 THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held January 12, 2010, be
REG JAN. 12 adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3-2 Benson/Adomeit
10.0065 THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 12,
C.O.W. 2010 (OCP maps), be adopted as amended by replacing “the first two lots in”
JAN. 12 with “the first three lots in”, on Page 3-2-c, Item 3.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3-3 Councillor Northrup requested an amendment to the minutes of the Committee
ADOPTED of the Whole meeting held December 8, 2009. The minutes were adopted by
C.O.W. Council at the Regular Meeting held January 12, 2010. D. Sargent advised that
MINUTES the motion to adopt the minutes (Motion No. 10.0004) would need to be
DEC. 8 repealed at the February 9, 2010, Regular Meeting of Council, prior to making
any amendments.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4-1 Report ADM 10-008 dated January 20, 2010, from D. Sargent, Chief
ITEMS Administrative Officer, recommending no items be made public from the Special
MADE (In-Camera) Meeting of Council held December 8, 2009 (0640-01).
PUBLIC

PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

5-1 Heidi Westfall, Hiwest Designs Inc., appeared as a delegation to comment on
WESTFALL the letter that went out with the 2010 business licence invoices and experiences
with the Town of Smithers over the past ten years, as owner of the recently-sold
Alpenhorn Bistro and Bar.

Ms. Westfall's comments included the following: a) the aforementioned letter to businesses is a good start; b) Council's "open for business" declaration can go a long way further; c) Councillors should be out in the public eye more, supporting local organizations and events; d) Council needs to get in touch with the business community; e) most business owners in Smithers are under 45 years of age, work long hours, are highly educated and extremely motivated, and are professionals at promoting themselves; e) letters of accolade from Council to local businesses would be a positive step; f) Town staff are the power, while Council is the push behind it; g) the Town Gazette could be more citizen friendly; and h) in past dealings with staff, the word "no" was often the first response.

Ms. Westfall commented on the Olympic Torch events, as follows: a) Gladys Atrill, Tourism Coordinator, was instrumental in Smithers being selected as a host community and is an excellent liaison for businesses; b) this is a hallmark event and an opportunity to put Smithers on the map; c) the efforts of the merchants in planning the Main Street events, including the hiring of a photographer, should be acknowledged; d) Councillors Groves and Benson are enthusiastic, but all of Council needs to get involved to motivate the Town as a whole.

Mayor Farrow explained some of the initiatives Council has taken to improve relationships with businesses and encouraged Ms. Westfall to return as a delegation in a year's time to provide further input.

5-2
CHIPENIUK
PROJECT
SUPPORT

Dr. Ray Chipeniuk appeared as a delegation to seek support for the following projects: a) the proposed Planning for Crown-Settlement Interface Lands conference; and b) the Skeena Regional MapChat Co-op. Dr. Chipeniuk advised that the bulk of the concepts and work are his responsibility, while the administrator for the projects is the Bulkley Valley Research Centre.

Regarding the proposed conference, Dr. Chipeniuk gave examples of interface lands, such as forested lands or parks, where Crown Land planning can impact a municipality and present opportunities. The conference would attract between 60 and 120 professional planners, natural resource planners, and academic researchers from B.C. and perhaps Washington State, Oregon, and Scotland. First Nations planning would be addressed in the workshops. Dr. Chipeniuk advised that he requires partners in order to be eligible for an \$8,000 Real Estate Foundation grant. The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Electoral 'A' has agreed to contribute funding. Dr. Chipeniuk's request is for the Town of Smithers to provide a grant-in-aid of \$2,000 and a letter of support to accompany various grant applications.

Regarding the Map-Chat Co-op, Dr. Chipeniuk explained that through the use of a Personal Computer and the internet, a person is able to call up maps, aerial photos, and satellite images and make drawings and add verbal commentaries to share with others. The Town of Smithers and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako have been partners for one year in the development of the technology. He and Dr. Brent Hall, Dean of the School of Surveying in New Zealand, visited 20 local agencies within the Skeena watershed to determine the level of interest. The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako plans to contribute \$5,000 as a seed grant towards the project. Other agencies are interested in joining the Co-op, as the technology would save them money. An application for a \$70,000 federal Rural Secretariat grant is being submitted and it is hoped that the National Research Council will give funding. Free planning expertise would be offered to those within the Co-op. The membership cost is expected to be \$1,000 to \$2,000 annually. Dr. Chipeniuk's request is for the Town of Smithers to contribute \$5,000 to help launch the project and a letter of support.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

COUNCILLOR ADOMEIT

6-1 None.

COUNCILLOR BANDSTRA

6-2-1
ECONOMIC
DEVELOP-
MENT

Councillor Bandstra reported on the Economic Development Committee (EDC) meeting held January 25, 2010. The EDC members who attended the 2010 Mineral Exploration Roundup felt that it was a very positive event. It was agreed that pursuing economic development opportunities should not be held off until an Economic Development Officer is in place and that the Bulkley Valley Economic Development Initiative consultant should be contacted regarding hiring, timelines, etc., so that interim measures may be taken.

COUNCILLOR BENSON

6-3-1 Benson/Wray
10.0066 THAT the email dated January 15, 2010, from C. Dohler, Finance Supervisor,
POOL Bulkley Valley Pool and Recreation Centre, presenting the Bulkley Valley
REPORT Aquatic Centre Management Society November 2009 Comparative Income
Statement, be received (0230-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6-3-2 Councillor Benson reported that he enjoyed the New Business Reception held
BENSON January 15, 2010, at the Hudson Bay Lodge and made opening remarks, on
UPDATE behalf of Council, at the Library fundraiser held January 23, 2010.

COUNCILLOR GROVES

6-4-1 Councillor Groves thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the 2010
ROUNDUP Mineral Exploration Roundup. The conference was well attended, the mood
was positive, and a lot of interest was shown in Smithers. J. L'Orsa was
awarded for her work with the Northwest Community College's School of
Exploration and Mining and D. Flynn for his achievements in mine safety.

COUNCILLOR NORTHRUP

6-5-1 Northrup/Adomeit
10.0067 THAT the minutes of the Advisory Planning Commission meeting held
APC January 14, 2010, be received (0360-20).
JAN. 14

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6-5-2 Councillor Northrup reported that he attended the New Business Reception, the
NORTHRUP Business After Hours social, and the "2010 Outlook" Chamber Luncheon.
UPDATE

COUNCILLOR WRAY

6-6-1 Councillor Wray advised that he attended the Library wine and cheese
WRAY fundraiser held January 23, 2010.
UPDATE

MAYOR FARROW

6-7-1 Adomeit/Benson
10.0068 THAT the minutes of the following Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
RDBN meetings held December 10, 2009, be received: a) Meeting No. 19; and
DEC 10 b) Environmental Services Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6-7-2 Benson/Adomeit
10.0069 THAT a letter be sent to P. Bell, Minister of Forests and Range, requesting
COMFOR expansion of the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest.
EXPANSION

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6-7-3 Mayor Farrow reported that: a) he attended Mineral Exploration Roundup; b) he
FARROW was re-elected Chair of the North West Regional Hospital Board; and c) he
UPDATE made a presentation at the "2010 Outlook" Chamber Luncheon on January 26,
2010.

STAFF (A) REPORTS

7A-1 Benson/Adomeit
10.0070 THAT Report ADM 10-001 dated January 5, 2010, from D. Sargent, Chief
2010 FCM Administrative Officer, regarding 2010 conferences, tabled by Council at the
CONF. January 12, 2010, Regular Meeting of Council, be received;

AND THAT Councillors Adomeit and Northrup be authorized to attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference being held May 28 to 31, 2010, in Toronto.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7A-2 Benson/Bandstra
10.0071 THAT Report DEV 10-012 dated January 18, 2010, from M. Allen, Director of
SOUTH Development Services, recommending engineering consultants for the South
TRUNK Trunk Storm Sewer Project, be received;

AND THAT the Town hire Dayton and Knight Ltd. Consulting Engineers for the design, contract document preparation and construction management of the South Trunk Storm Sewer project at the estimated fee amount of \$164,635 plus taxes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7A-3 & 14-2 Adomeit/Bandstra
10.0072 THAT the following be received:
SOCCER a) Report ADM 10-007 dated January 4, 2010, from S. Bassett, Director of
SOCIETY Corporate Services, regarding a lease agreement with the Bulkley Valley
LEASE Soccer Society for a Clubhouse at Chandler Park (tabled at the January 12, 2010, Regular Meeting of Council); and
b) Letter dated January 22, 2010, from the Bulkley Valley Soccer Society expressing concerns regarding the lease agreement (Vault).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0073 Adomeit/Bandstra
THAT the lease agreement with the Bulkley Valley Soccer Society for a Clubhouse at Chandler Park be deferred until after a Committee of the Whole meeting with the Society is held in March.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7A-4 Northrup/Adomeit
10.0074 THAT Report PCS 10-02 dated January 8, 2010, from M. Davey, Prevention
PARKING and Community Safety Officer, recommending two-hour parking on downtown
LIMIT avenues, be received (4020-01).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0075 Northrup/Wray
THAT Council direct staff to amend the current parking regulation to permit two-hour parking on the downtown avenues.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7A-5 Groves/Benson
10.0076 THAT Report DEV 10-011 dated January 19, 2010, from A. Walker, Planner,
KWAN/ recommending that Council not proceed with Official Community Plan and
4TH AVE. Zoning amendments for properties located at 3940, 3960, 3980, and 3992
Fourth Avenue, be received and deferred to a Committee of the Whole meeting
in March, with the Advisory Planning Commission invited to attend (3360-01).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

STAFF (B) REPORTS

7B-1 Adomeit/Benson
10.0077 THAT the following monthly reports for December 2009, be received: a) Airport
DEC. Services; b) Development Services; c) Fire Department; d) Prevention and
REPORTS Community Safety; and e) Works and Operations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7B-2 Adomeit/Benson
10.0078 THAT Report PR 10-02 dated January 18, 2010, from A. Hillaby, Director of
MULTIPLEX Recreation, Parks and Culture, presenting Multiplex Feasibility Study focus
FOCUS group notes from November 30 and December 1, 2009, be received (6140-01).
GROUPS

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

~~Councillor Wray and Mayor Farrow declared a conflict of interest and left the Chambers (8:48 p.m.). Councillor Groves took over as Chair.~~

7B-3 Benson/Wray
10.0079 THAT Report DEV 10-010 dated January 18, 2010, from A. Walker, Planner,
INNOVATIO regarding the business license and zoning for Innovation Foods located at 3488
N FOODS Highway 16, be received (4320-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Wray and Mayor Farrow declared a conflict of interest and left the Chambers (8:48 p.m.). Councillor Groves took over as Chair.

10.0080 Northrup/Adomeit
THAT a Committee of the Whole meeting be scheduled in February for Council and Innovation Foods to resolve zoning issues and discuss potential expansion plans.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Wray and Mayor Farrow returned to the Chambers (8:58 p.m.).

7B-4 Benson/Bandstra
10.0081 THAT Report PCS 10-01 dated January 12, 2010, from M. Davey, Prevention
L.E.D./NEON and Community Safety Officer, regarding L.E.D. and Neon "open" signs, be
OPEN received (4000-01).
SIGNS

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0082 Benson/
THAT the Sign Bylaw be amended to disallow the use of L.E.D., fluorescent, and neon "open" signs.

MOTION LOST DUE TO LACK OF SECONDER.

BYLAWS

Mayor Farrow declared a conflict of interest and left the Chambers (9:05 p.m.).
Councillor Groves took over as Chair.

8-1
10.0083
BYLAW 1620 "Bylaw No. 1620 - Town of Smithers Zoning Bylaw No. 1403 Amendment No. 10-03" (3318 Highway 16 - text amendment)

Northrup/Adomeit

THAT Report DEV 10-009 dated January 18, 2010, by A. Walker, Planner, introducing Bylaw 1620 for readings, be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0084 Northrup/Bandstra
THAT Council direct staff to create a C-3A Service Commercial Zone that includes all uses in the C-3 Zone, plus the manufacturing and retail of jade;
AND THAT the manufacturing be totally contained in a building and the retail sales of those jade goods manufactured on-site;
AND THAT the manufacturing occupies more than sixty percent (60%) of the building space;
AND THAT the new zone be applied to this specific site (3318 Highway 16).

OPPOSED:

COUNCILLOR

**GROVES.
CARRIED**

Mayor Farrow returned to the Chambers (9:45 p.m.).

CORRESPONDENCE - (A) ITEMS

9-1
10.0085
MEMORIAL
PLAQUE
ARENA Northrup/Wray
THAT the letter dated January 12, 2010, from C. Hayhurst regarding a request to install a memorial plaque along the ledge in front of the arena concession, be received (0530-05).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9-2
10.0086
NATIONAL
ABORIGINAL
DAY Groves/Benson
THAT the letter dated January 13, 2010, from B. Deere, Alcohol and Drug Counselor, Moricetown Health Centre, requesting a letter of support to accompany a grant application for the 2010 National Aboriginal Day celebration, be received;

AND THAT a letter of support be provided (0400-60).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9-3
10.0087
SSS GRAD
ARENA Adomeit/Groves
THAT the letter dated January 8, 2010, from Smithers Secondary School, requesting set-up times, at the Civic Centre, for the graduation ceremonies

SET-UP being held June 26, 2010, be received and the request approved (0400-70).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9-4 Adomeit/Groves
10.0088 THAT the letter dated January 8, 2010, from J. Cameron, Principal, Smithers
MAYOR'S Secondary School, inviting Mayor Farrow to address the graduates at the
ADDRESS ceremonies being held June 26, 2010, be received;
SSS GRAD

AND THAT J. Cameron be advised that Mayor Farrow will address the graduates, and should Mayor Farrow be unavailable, Council will appoint an alternate (0400-70).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9-5 Adomeit/Groves
10.0089 THAT the letter dated January 11, 2010, from M. Polak, Minister of Children and
CHILD CARE Family Development and Minister Responsible for Child Care, seeking
AWARDS nominations for Child Care Awards of Excellence, be received;

AND THAT Jane McCord and Mike Richardson, Town of Smithers pre-school instructors, be nominated for Child Care Awards of Excellence in Categories 6 (Lifetime Achievement) and 4 (Promising New Early Childhood Educator) respectively (0400-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9-6 Benson/Bandstra
10.0090 THAT the email dated January 20, 2010, from N. Treiber, General Manager,
HBM GRANT Hudson Bay Mountain, requesting a letter of support to accompany a 2010 Job
SUPPORT Opportunities Program grant application, be received and a letter of support be sent (0230-20).

OPPOSED: COUNCILLORS ADOMEIT, NORTHROP, WRAY, and MAYOR FARROW. MOTION DEFEATED.

CORRESPONDENCE - (B) ITEMS- RECEIVE AND REPLY

10. None.

CORRESPONDENCE - (B) ITEMS - RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION

11-1 to 11-8 Adomeit/Groves
10.0091 THAT the following correspondence be received:
'B' ITEMS

11-1 Letter dated January 7, 2010, from Mayor A. Maitland, Village of Hazelton, to NAV Canada, opposing flight services reductions for the Smithers Regional Airport (8420-20).

11-2 Letter dated January 8, 2010, from Alpine Village Estates replying to the letter from the Director of Development Services regarding water connection in the Alpine Village Estates (5600-20).

11-3 Letter dated January 7, 2010, from the Alzheimer Society British Columbia advising that January is Alzheimer Awareness Month (0630-

01).

- 11-4 Member Notice dated January 11, 2010, from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities inviting comments regarding the Federal Government's *Species at Risk Act* (0230-30).
- 11-5 Letter dated January 6, 2010, from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of British Columbia and the Yukon advising that February is Heart Month in Canada (0630-01).
- 11-6 Letter dated January 11, 2010, from Heritage British Columbia advising that February 15 to 21, 2010, is Heritage Week (0630-01).
- 11-7 Memorandum dated January 18, 2010, from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities regarding membership renewal (0230-30).
- 11-8 Letter dated January 14, 2010, from C. Seychuk, Executive Director, Northern Society for Domestic Peace, presenting Victim Assistance statistics for October, November, and December 2009 (7400-02).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CORRESPONDENCE - (C) ITEMS

12. None.

CORRESPONDENCE - (D) ITEMS

- 13-1 to 13-2 Adomeit/Benson
10.0092 THAT the following correspondence, as routed, be received for information:
'D' ITEMS
- 13-1 *State of the Air British Columbia*, December 2009.
 - 13-2 *BC Forest Professional*, January-February 2010.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS APPROVED FOR DISCUSSION

- 14-1 Mayor Farrow gave a verbal report recommending that opportunities, for the
10.0093 Town of Smithers, in alternative energy and reduction of greenhouse gas
SSAHC emissions be researched by the Sustainable Smithers Ad Hoc Committee.

Bandstra/Adomeit
THAT an ad hoc Committee headed up by Greg Brown, with up to three additional members, be called upon to research opportunities for the Town of Smithers regarding alternative energy sources, as requested by Mayor Farrow;
AND THAT the findings be reported for Council's consideration within ninety (90) days.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 14-2 See Staff Report 7A-3.

OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

- 15-1 Northrup/Benson
10.0094 THAT staff secure three hotel rooms for the 2011 Mineral Exploration Roundup.
2011
ROUNDUP **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 15-2 Mayor Farrow displayed the Northern British Columbia Business and
AWARD Technology award for Technology and Industry News Maker of the Year,
HWY 37 sponsored by the Prince George Free Press, awarded to the Highway 37
COALITION Electrification Coalition at the Mineral Exploration Roundup on January 13,
2010.
- 15-3 Councillor Wray reminded everyone that the Iron Chef Showdown voting
IRON CHEF deadline is January 31, 2010.
- 15-4 Councillor Benson advised that he is looking forward to the Olympic Torch
TORCH celebration and thanked S. Bassett for her hard work.
RELAY
- 15-5 Councillor Northrup reported that he received a cheque from BC Hydro for
HYDRO reducing home hydro consumption and encouraged Council to do the same.
REDUCTION
- 15-6 Councillor Northrup thanked Council for altering meeting dates to accommodate
NORTHRUP his absence, while he is carrying out his duties as an Olympic host volunteer.
ABSENCE
- 15-7 Councillor Groves advised that she would not be attending the Committee of
GROVES the Whole meeting on January 27, 2010, as a new grandchild will be arriving.
ABSENCE
- 15-8 W. Taekema reported that there is a good pile of snow at Heritage Park for the
SNOW Rayz snowboard event.
- 15-9 S. Bassett advised Council that the Torch Relay advance team will arrive in
TORCH Smithers tomorrow.
RELAY
- 15-10 M. Allen advised that he attended the Green Heat Initiative seminar and will
GREEN provide a report at the next Council meeting. He confirmed that West Fraser
HEAT was not represented at the seminar.
INITIATIVE
- 15-11 L. Ford reported that she attended the RCMP Contract meeting in Richmond,
RCMP which she will discuss in more detail at February 2, 2010, budget meeting.
CONTRACT
MTG.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

16-1 P. Briennesse gave kudos to Council for its decision to call upon the Sustainable
BRIENESSE Smithers Ad Hoc Committee to research alternative energy options. He expressed concerns about allowing a Council member to represent an applicant at an Advisory Planning Commission (APC) meeting, emphasizing that the purpose of the APC is to allow input from the public at large, through its members.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL (IN-CAMERA) MEETING OF COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SECTION 92 OF THE COMMUNITY CHARTER

17. Groves/Adomeit
10.0095 THAT, pursuant to Section 92 of the *Community Charter*, Council gives notice
NOTICE OF and exercises its authority and excludes the media and the public, except for
IN-CAMERA municipal staff, from the Special (In-Camera) Meeting of Council being held on February 9, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. to deal with matters falling under Section 90, subsections 1 and/or 2 of the *Community Charter*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

18. Benson/Bandstra
10.0096 THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned (10:30 p.m.).
ADJOURN

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Certified Correct:

Cress Farrow
Mayor

Deborah Sargent
Corporate Administrator (CAO)

Certified a True and Correct Copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C.

Deborah Sargent
Corporate Administrator (CAO)