

# TOWN OF SMITHERS

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL (OPEN) COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN OFFICE, 1027 ALDOUS STREET, SMITHERS, B.C. ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2010, AT 6:00 P.M.

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Council Present:

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

Staff Present:

Deborah Sargent, Chief Administrative Officer  
Susan Bassett, Director of Corporate Services  
Mark Allen, Director of Development Services  
Wilf Taekema, Director of Work and Operations  
Penny Goodacre, Recording Secretary.

Staff Excused:

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

Council Excused:

Frank Wray, Councillor.

Media Present: None.

Public Present: David Mayer, Cody McEwen, Mike O'Neil.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Mayor Farrow called the meeting to order (6:01 p.m.).

**1.1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (including Supplemental Items)**

There were no supplemental items.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING**

1. None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. None.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

1. None.

## 5. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

### 5.1 Fourth Avenue Water User Group:

Members of the Fourth Avenue Water Group (FAWG) were in attendance including: D. Mayer, C. McEwen, and M. O'Neil. G. Williams Jr. sent his regrets. S. Field the fifth member of FAWG did not respond to the Council meeting invitation. FAWG stated they want to work with the Town in finding a solution to their water supply. The issue is not the water easement but the water supply for the subdivision.

FAWG believes the approval process for the subdivision was flawed. FAWG questioned if the Town verified the water well capacity "to ensure quantity and quality of water for the subdivision" prior to approving the subdivision, as per Bylaw No. 747 Subdivision Servicing. FAWG requested that all documentation on the subdivision approval be supplied to them.

FAWG as members of the Town of Smithers municipality believes it is their right as citizens to be provided with Town water. FAWG believes the Town is responsible for providing them with water, as they believe due diligence was not followed in confirming a water source prior to subdivision approval. FAWG suggested that the Town should either drill them a new water well or connect them to the Town water system.

The original water source for M. O'Neil and D. Mayer was a temporary agreement with a neighbour to use his well. FAWG water is supplied by a forty year old well located on S. Field's lot. The legal subdivision plan references a water easement for all five lots to this 40 year old well. The well cannot be drilled deeper because of the clay soil. It was suggested that the best location for a new well to be drilled would be in the back alley or on the vacant lot. The current water supply has good quality water; it is the quantity of the water that is the issue. The five lot subdivision well produces 6.6 imperial gallons of water per minute and the pump capacity is 12 gallons of water per minute. FAWG advised that the subdivision across the street has 35 gallons per minute flow for seven houses.

FAWG are concerned about running out of water and the pump sucking up silt into their water systems when all five houses are complete and using the water source.

Council thanked the FAWG for the discussion and stated that FAWG has a private, independent water system from the Town. Council will review the issue and respond back to FAWG as soon as possible.

6. **COUNCIL REPORTS**

None.

7. **STAFF (A) REPORTS**

None.

8. **STAFF (B) REPORTS**

None.

9. **BYLAWS**

None.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE (A) ITEMS**

None.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE (B) ITEMS - RECEIVE AND REPLY**

None.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE (B) ITEMS - RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION**

None.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE (C) ITEMS**

None.

14. **CORRESPONDENCE (D) ITEMS**

None.

15. **SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS APPROVED FOR DISCUSSION**

None.

**16. OTHER/NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**17. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

None.

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

Not applicable.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

10.0706 Groves/Bandstra  
ADJOURN THAT the meeting be adjourned (6:53 p.m.).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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Cress Farrow  
Mayor

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Deborah Sargent  
Corporate Administrator (CAO)

**Certified a True Copy and Correct Copy**  
of the minutes of the Special (Open)  
Council meeting held Tuesday,  
October 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town  
Office, 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C.

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Deborah Sargent  
Corporate Administrator