

TOWN OF SMITHERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1027 ALDOUS STREET, SMITHERS, B.C. ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011, 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
Keith Stecko, Fire Chief
Rob Blackburn, Airport Manager
Janice McKay, Recording Secretary.

Staff Excused:

Wilf Taekema, Director of Works and Operations.

Media Present: M. Dekkema, The Peak; K. Koppitz, CFTK-TV; and J. Muldoon, The Interior News.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Farrow called the meeting to order (7:30 p.m.).

1.1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (including Supplemental Items)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

11.0765

Adomeit/Benson

THAT Council approves the agenda and the following Supplemental Items:

- 14.1 Report from the Council Remuneration Review Committee dated November 4, 2011, presenting nine recommendations regarding Mayor and Council remuneration, expenses, mileage, and cap for travel (0360-20).
- 14.2 Letter dated November 1, 2011, from the Ministry of Children and Family Development, advising that November is Adoption Awareness Month in British Columbia (0400-20).
- 14.3 Report ADM 11-082 dated November 7, 2011, from S. Bassett, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Certificate of Recognition in Safety - COR Certification (2640-01).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 REG OCT 25
11.0766 Benson/Groves
 THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held
 October 25, 2011, be adopted, as amended, by adding "be received"
 to the end of Motion 11.0753, Item 7.1.4.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3.2 C.O.W. OCT 12
11.0767 Bandstra/Benson
 THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held
 October 12, 2011 (Innovation Foods), be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3.3 C.O.W. OCT 13
11.0768 Groves/Benson
 THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held
 October 13, 2011 (N. Cullen, MP), be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.0769 Wray/Groves
 THAT Staff arrange twice-yearly meetings with N. Cullen, Member of
 Parliament, Skeena-Bulkley Valley.

**OPPOSED: COUNCILLORS BANDSTRA CARRIED.
AND NORTHRUP.**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 ITEMS MADE PUBLIC
11.0770 Benson/Groves
 THAT Report ADM 11-081 dated November 1, 2011, from
 D. Sargent, Chief Administrative Officer, recommending no items be
 made public from the Special (In-Camera) meeting of Council held
 October 11, 2011, be received;

AND THAT no items be brought forward at this time (0640-01).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.2 ITEM 5.2 REG OCT 25 - HIGHWAY OF TEARS

11.0771 Groves/Benson

THAT the requests from B. Wilson for: a) Council participation in the Highway of Tears Initiative and assistance from the Town of Smithers regarding awareness, planning and support; and b) commitment from one member of Council to attend the Ramona Wilson Walk, be received (0530-05).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.0772 Northrup/Benson

THAT a letter of thanks be sent to B. Wilson for being a delegation at the October 25, 2011, Regular Meeting of Council and for bringing awareness to important issues, and advising that Council requests six weeks' notice for events.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

5.1 NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

R. Saimoto, Campus Principal, Northwest Community College (NWCC), made a presentation regarding programming, future plans, and building relationships with community groups and stakeholders.

R. Saimoto acknowledged the valuable relationship between NWCC and the Town of Smithers, including the successful Carpentry Program partnership for renovations to the Ranger Park building. She thanked Council for: a) participating in the grand opening of the expanded, renovated Smithers' campus; b) for the Town of Smithers' Award of Excellence in the Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Category, presented at the Smithers District Chamber of Commerce Business Awards ceremony; and c) for participating in the priority planning forum. Ms. Saimoto reported on courses and programs being offered in 2012 and advised that NWCC will focus on connecting more with industry and community organizations and linking students with employment prospects. Council suggested that the Bulkley Valley Economic Development Association would be a good resource.

In response to Council's questions, R. Saimoto advised that: a) NWCC has not received additional funding for programs, but is stretching its funding by seeking partnerships to achieve the maximum benefit of dollars received; and b) some programs rotate between the eastern campus one year and the western campus the next, so as not to flood the market with graduates in one area, and that some programs would not be successful if offered year after year.

6. COUNCIL REPORTS

6.1. COUNCILLOR ADOMEIT

None.

6.2. COUNCILLOR BANDSTRA

6.2.1 BANDSTRA'S REPORTS

Councillor Bandstra reported that he has been busy attending election forums.

6.3. COUNCILLOR BENSON

6.3.1 VISITOR STATS

11.0773 Benson/Groves

THAT the Visitor Information Statistics from the Smithers and District Chamber of Commerce for the period ending October 31, 2011, be received (0230-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.4. COUNCILLOR GROVES

6.4.1 2013 CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

11.0774 Groves/Benson

THAT a Council liaison be appointed, from the next Council, to sit on the 2013 Celebration Committee, at least until a legacy project is selected.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.5. COUNCILLOR NORTHRUP

6.5.1 NORTHRUP'S REPORTS

Councillor Northrup reported on the Real Estate Foundation's Land Awards ceremony.

6.6. COUNCILLOR WRAY

None.

6.7. REPORT OF MAYOR FARROW

- 6.7.1 OBAC
11.0775 Adomeit/Benson
 THAT the *Members' Quick Notes* dated October 25, 2011, from the
 Omineca Beetle Action Coalition, be received (0230-40).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 6.7.2 THANKS TO COUNCILLORS BENSON AND GROVES
 Mayor Farrow thanked Councillors Benson and Groves for their
 contributions during their time as Councillors.

- 14.1 COUNCIL REMUNERATION
11.0776 Adomeit/Wray
 THAT the report from the Council Remuneration Review Committee
 dated November 4, 2011, presenting nine recommendations
 regarding Mayor and Council remuneration, expenses, mileage, and
 cap for travel (Supplemental Item 14.1), be moved to this point in the
 meeting for receipt (0360-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 11.0777 Northrup/Groves
 THAT Council continue with the existing remuneration rates of
 \$18,741.77 for Mayor, \$9,369.84 for Deputy Mayor, and \$8,785.14
 for Councillors (as per Council Remuneration Policy COU-004), to be
 increased each year according to the September core Consumer
 Price Index;

 AND THAT Council continue with the existing per diem rate of
 \$125.00 (as per Travel Expense – Mayor & Council Policy FIN-008);

 AND THAT the establishment of a travel cap be deferred to annual
 budget deliberations.

OPPOSED: COUNCILLOR WRAY.

CARRIED.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.1. STAFF (A) REPORTS

- 7.1.1 3439 FULTON - INNOVATION FOODS
11.0778 Northrup/Groves
 THAT Report DEV 11-94 dated October 3, 2011, from A. Walker,
 Planner, regarding zoning for 3439 Fulton Avenue (Innovation
 Foods), be received (3020-20/TU10-01).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. CORRESPONDENCE (A) ITEMS

Councillor Groves declared a conflict of interest and left the Chambers (9:20 p.m.).

9.1 COAST MOUNTAIN GM REFUND

11.0788 Benson/Wray

THAT the letter dated October 21, 2011, from D. Groves, President, Coast Mountain GM, requesting a refund of additional expenses incurred by Coast Mountain GM for work undertaken to upgrade Town services during the development permit process, be received (3020-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.0789 Northrup/Benson

THAT Staff report to Council at the January 10, 2012, Regular Meeting, addressing concerns raised in the letter dated October 21, 2011, from D. Groves, President, Coast Mountain GM regarding: a) additional expenses incurred by Coast Mountain GM; and b) the expectation that further developments would be held to the same standards.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Groves returned to Chambers (9:24 p.m.).

9.2 FRIENDSHIP CENTER - YOUTH NOW

11.0790 Northrup/Bandstra

THAT a letter of support be sent to the Dze L K'ant Friendship Center Society to accompany a grant application for funding to continue the Youth Now after-school program, as requested in the letter dated October 21, 2011, from D. Cutler, Youth Coordinator, Dze L K'ant Friendship Center Society (0400-60).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 BVEDA REQUEST FOR BUSINESS LICENSE INFORMATION

11.0791 Groves/Benson

THAT the letter received October 27, 2011, from A. Stroet, Economic Development Officer, Bulkley Valley Economic Development Association, requesting monthly, unedited updates of information regarding businesses that apply for a new business license or renewal, be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.4 AMEBC CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

11.0792 Groves/Benson

THAT the letter dated October 20, 2011, from the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia seeking nominations for the Board of Directors and advising of changes to voting procedures, be received (5280-18).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. CORRESPONDENCE (B) ITEMS - RECEIVE AND REPLY

11. CORRESPONDENCE (B) ITEMS - RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION

11.1 to 11.6 Groves/Benson

11.0793 THAT the following correspondence be received:

11.1 Letter dated October 19, 2011, from the New Car Dealers of British Columbia, regarding "The Social and Economic Impacts of the New Car Dealers of British Columbia" (6750-01).

11.2 Email dated October 25, 2011, from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities presenting a letter dated October 12, 2011, from T. Lake, Minister of Environment, to local governments regarding the Province's *Water Act* Modernization Project and proposed new *Water Sustainability Act* (0230-30).

11.3 Email dated October 25, 2011, from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, presenting a Member Release dated October 25, 2011, regarding RCMP Contract Negotiations (0230-30).

11.4 Email dated October 26, 2011, from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities presenting a Member Release dated October 26, 2011, regarding Natural Resource Roads (0230-30).

11.5 Letter dated October 20, 2011, from the Chairs of the MATI Community Planning Committee and Capilano University's Public Administration Department thanking D. Sargent for being part of the faculty team in October 2011.

11.6 Letter dated October 27, 2011, from Minister M. Polak, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, following up on the meeting held during the Union of British Columbia Municipalities conference (0230-30).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. CORRESPONDENCE (C) ITEMS

13. CORRESPONDENCE (D) ITEMS

13.1 to 13.8 Benson/Groves

11.0794 THAT the following correspondence, as routed, be received for information:

13.1 *This Green House Executive Summary: Building Fast Action for Climate Change and Green Jobs and Catch \$25: How mandatory carbon offsets are undermining real emissions reductions in BC school districts*, September 2011, Centre for Civic Governance, Columbia Institute.

13.2 *The Woodland Almanac*, Fall 2011, from the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations.

13.3 *Annual Report 2011*, B.C. Treaty Commission.

13.4 *Elevation - Come to the Mountains*, a presentation by the Smithers District Chamber of Commerce.

13.5 Social and Economic Impacts of the Members of the New Car Dealers Association of British Columbia, August 2011 (letter in 'B' Receive for Information) (6750-01).

13.6 *Annual Report 2010-2011*, Northern Health.

13.7 NWCC 2011 Priority Planning Together This Way Forward

13.8 BC Bioenergy Network - Smithers Hands-On Biomass District Energy Workshop

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS APPROVED FOR DISCUSSION

14.1 See Mayor's Reports.

14.2 ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

11.0795 Wray/Benson

THAT the letter dated November 1, 2011, from the Ministry of Children and Family Development advising that November is Adoption Awareness Month in British Columbia, be received (0400-20).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14.3 COR CERTIFICATION

11.0796 Benson/Groves

THAT Report ADM 11-082 dated November 7, 2011, from S. Bassett, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Certificate of Recognition in Safety - COR Certification, be received (2640-01).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

- 15.1 R. Blackburn thanked Council for their patience during his early days as Airport Manager.
- 15.2 K. Stecko advised Council that fire training will take at the Skeena Cellulose Mill building on Pacific Inland Resources property and that Ministry of Environment permits are in place.
- 15.3 A. Hillaby thanked Council for past support, especially funding for the Turner Way Playground.
- 15.4 Councillor Wray thanked Councillors Benson and Groves, and staff, for their patience during his first term as Councillor.
- 15.5 Councillor Benson stated that: a) it has been his pleasure to serve on Council for the past four years; b) the community is well served by staff; c) there have been great Council discussions and significant achievements over the past three years, with progress made through a number of bylaw amendments and housekeeping issues.
- 15.6 Councillor Northrup noted that Willowvale Phases 2 and 3 are at the top of Council's Strategic Priorities Chart. He confirmed, through the Director of Development Services, that the Town holds bonds for Second Avenue unfinished alley paving and Third Avenue parking lot.
- 15.7 D. Sargent reminded Council of the December 6th Inaugural Meeting, at which presentations will be made to outgoing Councillors. Councillor Adomeit advised that he will be unable to attend.
- 15.8 Mayor Farrow acknowledged P. Briennesse, candidate for Council, present in the gallery. Mayor Farrow stated that: a) communication goes two ways; b) every Council agenda contains a current list of Council's priorities; and c) Council revisited approximately 80 bylaws this term.
- 15.9 Councillor Bandstra thanked Council and staff for the past three years that he has been on Council.
- 15.10 Councillor Groves thanked Council and staff for the past term, noting that the current Council has been a hardworking Council, achieving more than the past two Councils combined.
- 15.11 M. Allen reported that the South Trunk Storm Sewer project should be completed within the next three weeks, barring extreme cold temperatures. He advised that the petition for the 4200 Block of Second Avenue Paving project has been reissued and that the petition for the 4100 Block of Second Avenue will be made available at the front counter, if a champion does not come forward.

- 15.12 L. Ford thanked Council and stated that budget deliberations will not be the same without Councillors Benson and Groves.

16. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

- 16.1 P. Briennesse advised that he agreed with Councillor Groves' comments regarding Council per diem rates as a means to compensate Councillors for time away from home and lost wages. P. Briennesse, D. Groves, and R. Saimoto thanked Council for their public service.

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

- 11.0797 NOTICE OF IN-CAMERA
Benson/Groves
THAT, pursuant to Section 92 of the *Community Charter*, Council gives notice and exercises its authority and excludes the media and the public, except for municipal staff, from the Special (In-Camera) meeting being held Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. to deal with matters falling under Section 90, Subsection 1 and/or 2 of the *Community Charter*.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. ADJOURNMENT

- 11.0798 ADJOURN
Groves/Benson
THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned (9:48 p.m.).
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Taylor Bachrach
Mayor

Deborah Sargent
Corporate Administrator (CAO)

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council
held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at 7:30 p.m.

Certified a True and Correct Copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C.

Deborah Sargent
Corporate Administrator (CAO)