

TOWN OF SMITHERS

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Council held in Council Chambers, 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C., on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.

Council Elect Present:

Taylor Bachrach, Mayor
Mark Bandstra, Councillor
Phil Brienesse, Councillor
Bill Goodacre, Councillor
Charlie Northrup, Councillor
Frank Wray, Councillor

Council Elect Excused:

Norm Adomeit, 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
Wilf Taekema, Director of Works and Operations
Janice McKay, Recording Secretary.

Judge

Judge John R. Milne

RCMP

Cst. Stryde and Cst. Vanleeuwen

Wet'suwet'en:

Chief Namoks (John Ridsdale) of the Tsayu Clan, and Mike Ridsdale of the Office of the Wet'suwet'en

Media:

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

CALL TO ORDER

1. Mayor Bachrach called the meeting to order (6:30 p.m.) and welcomed everyone.

WELCOME TO TERRITORY

2. Mayor Bachrach welcomed Chief Namoks (John Ridsdale) of the Tsayu Clan to say a few words on behalf of the Hereditary Chiefs.

Chief Namoks welcomed everyone to the Gitdumden Territory of the Wet'suwet'en people. On behalf of the 13 Chiefs of the Wet'suwet'en Nation, he congratulated Mayor Bachrach on being elected to this honoured seat. He reminded Council of the Protocol Agreement between the Wet'suwet'en and the Town of Smithers which is renewed each year. He acknowledged past relationships with previous Councils under Mayors Davidson and Farrow. He stated the importance of working together, respecting each other, and understanding each other's beliefs. He asked Council to assist the Wet'suwet'en in looking after the people, the water, the land and the air, and in keeping the Enbridge Pipeline threat away from the Territory.

Mike Ridsdale, on behalf of the Office of the Wet'suwet'en, congratulated all of Council on being elected. He expressed his hope for a continued working relationship with the Town of Smithers. He thanked Mayor Bachrach for his friendship through the years and expressed his hope that the bond will remain strong.

Mayor Bachrach stated that it is an honour to meet on Wet'suwet'en Territory tonight.

APPRECIATION

3. Mayor Bachrach stated that the new Council inherits a legacy of leadership. He acknowledged the outgoing members of Council and the former Mayor for their hard work and commitment to the community, adding that part of Mayor Farrow's legacy is the Protocol Agreement with the Office of the Wet'suwet'en which this Council will hopefully be reaffirming in the near future.

Mayor Bachrach acknowledged outgoing Councillor Jo Ann Groves and Councillor Lorne Benson who did not seek re-election, but who served our community very well as Councillors and who will continue to contribute to our community in new ways.

OATHS OF OFFICE AND OATHS OF ALLEGIANCE

4. D. Sargent introduced Judge Milne. Judge Milne administered the Oaths of Office and Oaths of Allegiance to:

Mayor – Elect – TAYLOR BACHRACH.

Councillors - Elect

CHARLES PETER NORTHRUP

MARK JACOB BANDSTRA

FRANK WRAY

PHILIP BRIENESSE

WILLIAM JAMES GOODACRE.

Councillor Norm Adomeit will take the Oath of Office and Oath of Allegiance at the Regular Meeting of Council being held January 10, 2012.

TRANSFER OF CHAIN OF OFFICE

5. Judge Milne presented the Chain of Office to His Worship Mayor Taylor Bachrach.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

6. Mayor Bachrach gave the following speech:

"We just finished an exciting election and the people of Smithers, in their wisdom, have chosen a balanced mix of experience and new ideas, and, as leaders, we come from different backgrounds, we grew up in different places, and we travel in different social circles. What we share is a love for this community and a commitment to making it a better place for our kids and for our grandkids.

A friend of mine told me a long time ago that people often misunderstand the meaning of community and that community isn't a group of people who all think the same way. A community is a group of people who see the world differently and who choose to live together in the same place. Smithers is a diverse community and we have a diverse Council, and, in my mind, that is a very strong place to find ourselves.

It was fantastic last month to see so many people make the effort to vote and to see so many new voters in our municipal election. At forty-four percent, this election turnout was higher than in many years, certainly higher than all of the years I have been in Smithers! This is something I think we should all be really proud of and it comes with a responsibility and an opportunity. That opportunity is to keep those people who took the time to participate in the election involved in our local government and in our decision-making process. It is not enough simply to ask people to come out and vote every three years. I think that engaging those people in our community, and in what happens in this room, is of utmost importance, but we need to find new ways to do that. It is not going to be enough to do things the way that we have always done them and we need to recognize the diversity of our community and ensure that everyone's voice is included. If we do this, we will not only have a more vital democracy, but we will have a healthier community and that is a legacy I think we would all be very proud to leave.

We have an incredible opportunity here in Smithers. In just two years we will celebrate this Town's one hundredth anniversary – a full century since the railroad first surveyed the Smithers' town site. They had a big challenge founding a community on what was essentially a swamp at the time, and, in many ways, we have no smaller challenges today - the challenge of maintaining and expanding our infrastructure, strengthening our relationship with First Nations, and diversifying our local economy. The challenges may be different now, but the need for a long-term vision remains. If you look at the 1913 map of Smithers, it is actually remarkable how much of today's Smithers is reflected in that original vision from one hundred years ago.

As a Council and as a community, we have an opportunity to think about what we want our Town to look like on its two hundredth birthday.

At the beginning, I talked a little bit about the diversity of our Council and I will end there as well, because, while we can hold the long-term vision, we also have work to do right now, starting tonight actually with the Truck Route Bylaw. We are going to have vigorous debate and contrasting views, and, in my mind, that is essential, but we can only harvest the strength of our diversity, if we maintain our respect for each other. In talking to each of the Councillors, I've heard that is something that all of us are committed to. It is certainly something that, as your Mayor, I am personally committed to bringing to this next Council.

Thank you again for taking the time to come this evening. It is great to see so many people. Please do stick around. I hear there are cookies and a Regular Meeting to follow.

Thank you so much."

APPOINTMENTS

7. Northrup/Wray
THAT Report ADM 11-087 dated November 30, 2011, from Mayor Bachrach, regarding Committee appointments, be received;
AND THAT Council ratifies the following appointments, as listed in Report ADM 11-087:

<i>Deputy Mayor</i>	<i>Councillor Wray</i>
<i>Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako</i>	<i>Mayor Bachrach</i>
<i>Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Alternate</i>	<i>Councillor Northrup</i>
<i>Finance Chair</i>	<i>Councillor Bandstra</i>
<i>Fall Fair Management Committee</i>	<i>Councillors Northrup and Bandstra</i>
<i>Advisory Planning Commission</i>	<i>Councillor Brienesse</i>
<i>Smithers and District Transit Service Committee</i>	<i>Councillor Brienesse</i>
<i>Emergency Measures Committee</i>	<i>Mayor Bachrach</i>
<i>Smithers Public Library Board</i>	<i>Councillor Brienesse</i>
<i>Measuring Up the North Working Group</i>	<i>Councillor Goodacre</i>
<i>2013 Celebration Committee</i>	<i>Councillor Goodacre</i>
<i>North West Regional Hospital Board</i>	<i>Councillor Goodacre</i>
<i>Smithers and District Chamber of Commerce</i>	<i>Councillor Northrup</i>
<i>Omineca Beetle Action Coalition</i>	<i>Mayor Bachrach</i>
<i>North West Regional Advisory Committee (Northern Development Initiative Trust)</i>	<i>Mayor Bachrach</i>
<i>Bulkley Valley Regional Pool</i>	<i>Councillor Adomeit</i>
<i>Bulkley Valley Museum</i>	<i>Councillor Adomeit</i>
<i>Bulkley Valley/Lakes District Airshed Management Society.</i>	<i>Councillor Wray.</i>

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

See Items 9.1 and 9.2 of the minutes of the Special (Open) Meeting of Council held December 6, 2011, for additional appointments. The Alternate for the Advisory Planning Commission has yet to be named.

INTRODUCTION OF SENIOR STAFF

8. D. Sargent, Chief Administrative Officer, introduced herself and stated her role, followed by all members of the Senior Management Team.

SIGNING AUTHORITIES RESOLUTION

9. Brienesse/Bandstra
THAT Council approve the following resolution for signing authorities;
AND THAT the new resolution be sent to the Bulkley Valley Credit Union, Royal Bank of Canada, and the Municipal Finance Authority:
- 1) THAT DEBORAH SARGENT, Chief Administrative Officer, of the Corporation of the Town of Smithers (the "Corporation"), SUSAN BASSETT, Director of Corporate Services, and LESLIE FORD, Director of Finance, be and are hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Corporation to negotiate with, deposit with, or transfer to BULKLEY VALLEY CREDIT UNION (the "Credit Union")/ROYAL BANK OF CANADA ("Royal Bank")/MUNICIPAL FINANCE AUTHORITY ("MFA"), for credit to the Corporation's account only, all or any cheques and other orders for the payment of money, and for that purpose to endorse the same on behalf of the Corporation either in writing or by rubber stamp.
 - 2) THAT all cheques of the Corporation be drawn in the name of the Corporation and be signed on its behalf by TAYLOR BACHRACH, Mayor, or NORMAN PAUL ADOMEIT, Councillor, or MARK JACOB BANDSTRA, Councillor, or PHILIP BRIENESSE, Councillor, or WILLIAM JAMES GOODACRE, Councillor, or CHARLES PETER NORTHRUP, Councillor, or FRANK WRAY, Councillor and signed/countersigned by DEBORAH SARGENT, Chief Administrative Officer, SUSAN BASSETT, Director of Corporate Services, or LESLIE FORD, Director of Finance.
 - 3) THAT DEBORAH SARGENT, SUSAN BASSETT and LESLIE FORD be and are hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Corporation from time to time to receive from the said Credit Union/Royal Bank/MFA a statement of the account of the Corporation together with all relative vouchers and all unpaid bills lodged for collection by the Corporation, and all items returned unpaid and charged to the account of the Corporation, and to sign and deliver to the Credit Union/Royal Bank/MFA, their form of verification, settlement of balance and release.
 - 4) THAT DEBORAH SARGENT, SUSAN BASSETT, and LESLIE FORD be and are hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Corporation to obtain delivery from the Credit Union/MFA of securities held by the Credit Union/MFA on safekeeping or otherwise for the account of the Corporation and to give valid and binding receipts thereof.
 - 5) THAT this resolution be communicated to the Credit Union/Royal Bank/MFA and remain in force until written notice to the contrary shall have been given to the Manager for the time being of the branch of the Credit Union/Royal Bank/MFA at which the account of the Corporation is kept, and receipt of such notice duly acknowledged in writing;

as recommended in Report FIN 11-41 dated November 23, 2011, from L. Ford, Director of Finance.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

10. Bandstra/Wray
THAT the Inaugural Meeting be adjourned (7:03 p.m.).

Certified Correct:

Taylor Bachrach
Mayor

Deborah Sargent
Corporate Administrator (CAO)

Certified a True and Correct Copy of the minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 1027 Aldous Street, Smithers, B.C.

Deborah Sargent
Corporate Administrator (CAO)

DS/jm

\\server\pccommon\wordpro\min\min 2011 council\min #22 inaugural dec 6.word.docx