

MINUTES of **REGULAR** Meeting #2019-09 of the council of the City of Whitehorse called for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 6, 2019, in Council Chambers, City Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Dan Curtis
Deputy Mayor Laura Cabott
Councillors Dan Boyd
Jocelyn Curteanu
Samson Hartland
Stephen Roddick
Jan Stick

ALSO PRESENT: Acting City Manager Jeff O'Farrell
Acting Director of Community and Recreation Services Lindsay Schneider
Director of Corporate Services Valerie Braga
Director of Development Services Mike Gau
Director of Infrastructure and Operations Peter O'Blenes
Manager of Business and Technology Systems Michael Reyes
Manager of Strategic Communications Myles Dolphin
Manager of Legislative Services Catherine Constable

Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Curtis proclaimed May 2019 to be Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month in the City of Whitehorse.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Curtis proclaimed May 6 to 10, 2019 to be Mining and Geology Week in the City of Whitehorse.

2019-09-01

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the agenda be adopted as amended with the change being the addition of two items under New and Unfinished Business:

AGENDA

Yukon Government Lottery for Infill Lots
Waterfront Trolley

Carried Unanimously

2019-09-02

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the minutes of the regular council meeting dated April 23, 2019 be adopted as presented.

MINUTES
April 23, 2019

Carried Unanimously

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Curtis called three times for anyone to appear to address Bylaw 2019-09, a bylaw to authorize a work of local improvement for the reconstruction of Cook Street from Fourth Avenue to the escarpment.

BYLAW 2019-09
LOCAL IMPROVEMENT
Cook Street Reconstruction

The proposed work includes new water and sewer mains, improved fire protection flows and storm drainage, new sidewalk, curb and gutter, and landscaping. Water services to buildings will be replaced where possible to eliminate the need for bleeder devices.

Elizabeth Ryan questioned the cost of the recirculating pump that residents will be required to purchase as part of this project.

ELIZABETH RYAN

Heather Kennedy stated that residents need more time and information before submitting their responses to the proposed local improvement. She asked if costs will increase once the final design is done. She also expressed a concern regarding groundwater in the area.

HEATHER KENNEDY

Administration confirmed that the predesign work provides enough information to prepare the cost estimate, and the assessment per property will not increase and may even go down if the City secures a better interest rate at the time of borrowing.

Mayor Curtis declared the public hearing closed and advised that no further submissions on the issue will be considered by council except the report provided by administration.

Public Hearing Closed

Mayor Curtis thanked Councillor Boyd for his service as Deputy Mayor over the past two months and welcomed Councillor Cabott as Deputy Mayor for May and June.

Service of Deputy Mayor
Acknowledged

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Services Committee

2019-09-03

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the allocation of Category 1 Recreation grants in the amount of \$69,465.90, Category 2 Recreation Facility–Parks grants in the amount of \$31,600.00 and Category 3 Arts–Cultural Facilities grants in the amount of \$34,352.80 be approved as recommended by the Recreation Grant Task Force, subject to any conditions as outlined on the summary sheets.

SPRING RECREATION
GRANT ALLOCATIONS

.../continued

2019-09-03 (Continued)

Category 1 – Recreation Grants

Boreal Adventure Running Association	
• Signage and materials	\$750.00
Boys and Girls Club	
• Pilot annual dodgeball tournament	\$3,500.00
Community Choir of Whitehorse Society	
• Program assistance, professional development	\$6,300.00
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society of Yukon	
• Programming	\$5,000.00
Flatwater North	
• Safety boat and paddleboards	\$2,128.00
Freedom Trails Therapeutic Riding	
• Partial contract fees and wage expenses	\$2,800.00
Gwaandak Theatre Society	
• Indigenous and female play readings	\$3,000.00
Heart of Riverdale	
• Arts camp and youth internship	\$7,000.00
Inclusion Yukon	
• Summer recreation program	\$2,800.00
Jazz Yukon	
• Jazz in the Hall	\$1,680.00
Larrikin Entertainment Ensemble	
• Theatrical production	\$4,200.00
Music Yukon	
• Arts in the Park	\$4,900.00
Nakai Theatre	
• 24 hour challenge	\$3,150.00
Special Olympics	
• Golf program	\$1,100.00
Victoria Faulkner Women’s Centre	
• Mom and kids recreation program	\$5,110.00
Whitehorse Concerts	
• Classical music series	\$2,100.00
Yukon Conservation Society	
• Nature interpretation program	\$2,100.00

SPRING RECREATION
GRANT ALLOCATIONS
(Continued)

.../continued

2019-09-03 (Continued)

Yukon Medieval Combat Group	
• Training gear, list field, fuel	\$1,347.50
Yukon Summer Music Camp	
• Summer music camp	\$6,300.00
Yukon Theatre for Young People Society	
• Newsies, the Broadway Musical	\$4,200.00
Category 1 Total	<u>\$69,465.50</u>

Category 2 – Recreation Facilities and Parks Grants

Copper Ridge Neighbourhood Association	
• Basketball net purchase	\$5,000.00
Friends of Mount Sima Society	
• Snowmaking and chairlift	\$9,000.00
Mountainview Golf Club	
• Electrical	\$6,000.00
Special Olympics Yukon	
• Electrical	\$600.00
Whitehorse Cross-Country Ski Club	
• Operational expenses	\$11,000.00
Category 2 Total	<u>\$31,600.00</u>

SPRING RECREATION
GRANT ALLOCATIONS
(Continued)

Category 3 – Arts and Cultural Facility Grants

Guild Society	
• Utilities Support	\$7,950.00
Yukon Arts Centre	
• Youth arts education and transportation program	\$7,802.80
Yukon Church Heritage Society	
• Operations and maintenance	\$3,600.00
Yukon Transportation Museum Society	
• Operational expenses	\$15,000.00
Category 3 Total	<u>\$34,352.80</u>

Spring Recreation Grant Total \$135,418.70

Carried Unanimously

The Committee was advised that Sierra Van der Meer received the Sovereign's Award for Volunteering in a ceremony that took place in Ottawa. The Committee congratulated Ms. Van der Meer and thanked her for her work on behalf of the mountain biking community.

SOVERIGN'S AWARD
FOR VOLUNTEERING
Sierra Van der Meer

On behalf of Active Trails Whitehorse Association, Keith Lay asked the Community Services Committee to review the information that they have provided with respect to the Pine Street Extension Paved Trail. Mr. Lay stated that there have been ongoing issues with signage and trail uses since the trail paving project was completed and they have not been able to get the issues resolved through dealing with administration. He requested that council direct administration to bring forward a non-motorized designation for the trail.

PINE STREET
EXTENSION PAVED
TRAIL
For Information Only

Public Health and Safety Committee

Committee members noted that forest conditions in and around the City are very dry and the potential for wildfire incidents is high. In response to questions raised with respect to the maintenance of parks and green spaces, administration advised that community associations apply to the Yukon Government for fire smart programs and administration has assisted many of these associations in preparing their applications.

FIRE SMART ISSUES
For Information Only

Administration will look at available resources and approaches for supplementing the work of community associations, and will bring the information back to Council.

Development Services Committee

There was no report from the Development Services Committee.

No Report

Corporate Services Committee

2019-09-04

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the 2019 to 2021 operating and maintenance budget be amended by increasing the 2019 budget in the amount of \$31,100, the 2020 budget in the amount of \$62,500, and the 2021 budget in the amount of \$31,400 to reflect the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Climate Innovation Program grant for a new staff position.

BUDGET AMENDMENT –
STAFF GRANT FROM
FCM

Carried (6 – 1)

Some council members expressed concern with the process used to bring this new position forward for approval. Discussions centred around the fact that this position was previously identified as needed but was not given priority due to limited resources. It was noted that the Sustainability Plan commits the City to improving climate performance and building efficiency, and this staff position is needed to achieve these goals.

Discussion

IN FAVOUR Mayor Curtis, Councillors Boyd, Cabott, Curteanu,
Roddick and Stick
OPPOSED Councillor Hartland

Recorded Vote

2019-09-05

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the 2019 to 2022 capital expenditure program be amended by increasing the 2019 Water Licence Renewal project in the amount of \$150,000, funded by the Water and Sewer Reserve.

BUDGET AMENDMENT
FOR WATER LICENSE
RENEWAL

Carried Unanimously

A member of council noted that preparations for the license began only ten months before expiry and asked what steps administration is taking to ensure proper planning with future projects.

Discussion

2019-09-06

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the 2019 to 2022 capital budget be amended by creating a new capital project for a replacement Bylaw Services vehicle in the amount of \$66,000, funded by the Equipment Replacement Reserve (\$51,000) and proceeds from insurance (\$15,000); and

BUDGET AMENDMENT
AND CONTRACT AWARD
BYLAW SERVICES
REPLACEMENT VEHICLE

THAT administration be authorized to waive the public bidding process for the supply of a replacement Bylaw Services vehicle; and

THAT administration be authorized to award a sole source contract for the supply of one replacement Bylaw Services vehicle to Metro Chrysler for a net cost to the City of \$53,110.00, plus GST.

Carried (5 – 2)

Council members discussed the specifications for the proposed vehicle and suggested that council did not have enough information to make a sound decision on this purchase. However, the recent Bylaw Services Review indicated a strong trail function for the department and this vehicle is required to allow staff to continue providing the established level of service.

Discussion

It was noted that this is the second vehicle that insurance has written off this year, and the suggestion was made that the City review the insurance policies in place and explore the possibility of increasing the coverage to include replacement value for vehicles.

Discussion
(Continued)

IN FAVOUR Mayor Curtis, Councillors Curteanu, Hartland, Roddick
and Stick

Recorded Vote

OPPOSED Councillors Boyd and Cabott

2019-09-07

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the 2019 to 2022 capital expenditure program be amended by increasing the 2019 Fire Hall #1 construction project in the amount of \$400,000, funded by decreasing the Operations Building project; and
That administration be authorized to award the contract for the Fire Hall #1 construction project to Ketz Construction for a cost to the City of \$3,199,955.28 plus GST.

BUDGET AMENDMENT
AND CONTRACT AWARD
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
NEW FIRE HALL

Carried Unanimously

Some members of council expressed concern about the price increase for this project and suggested that negotiations be conducted with the contractor to explore options to reduce the costs. Administration noted that there are procurement law considerations involved, and legal advice would be required if council wants administration to negotiate with the contractor.

Discussion

Council members noted that delaying this project could impact external funding available for a limited time for a services building project that is contingent upon the current downtown fire hall being replaced in order to make room for new construction on the existing site.

2019-09-08

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT administration be authorized to award the contract for the supply of servers for the server replenishment project to Klondike Business Solutions for a net cost to the City of \$101,517.40 plus GST.

CONTRACT AWARD
FOR SUPPLY OF
SERVERS

Carried Unanimously

2019-09-09

It was duly moved and seconded
THAT the quarterly progress reports for January, February and March of 2019 be accepted as presented.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Carried Unanimously

City Planning Committee

A Committee member congratulated administration on a well-planned and conducted meeting regarding aviation land uses at Schwatka Lake, but noted that a number of issues were raised by current and potential lease holders. Operators have expressed the view that these issues are affecting tourism and the economy.

In response to concerns raised, administration advised that the City has been working with the Government of Yukon to obtain the land transfers necessary in order to make more parcels available to operators. Efforts are currently under way to complete a multi-government land transfer that will allow for the construction of new docks as well as storage and parking spaces. However, Schwatka Lake sees many users in addition to the float planes, and both safety and environmental issues have to be considered as part of any long-term planning.

SCHWAKA LAKE
AVIATION LAND USES
For Information Only

A Committee member advised that a recent letter to council alleges that tenants are being evicted in order to make room for Airbnb rentals. Administration advised that issues regarding short-term rentals have been recognized and available data is being scrutinized to determine the impacts.

SHORT TERM RENTALS
For Information Only

City Operations Committee

Yolande Vachon addressed the Committee to suggest that the City look at purchasing electric buses and hybrid vehicles. She stated that electric buses pay for themselves through cost savings, and the funds saved could be used to hire additional drivers for new routes or expanded hours. Ms. Vachon also noted that owners of hybrid vehicles in Whitehorse have experienced no issues with cold weather operation, and suggested that such vehicles would be a good option for the City's fleet.

ELECTRIC BUSES AND
HYBRID VEHICLES
For Information Only

NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Government of Yukon has released a tender with respect to Yukon-owned infill lots within the City. The tender is for un-serviced lots and is a pilot project intended to test the willingness of contractors to install services in addition to constructing new homes. The majority of the parcels available in this tender would be suitable for subdivision, which could ultimately bring the purchase price for home-ownership down to a more affordable level. However, the default price set for these parcels is causing concern about rising housing costs.

YUKON TENDER FOR
INFILL LOTS
For Information Only

Concerns were raised with respect to the recent announcement that the Yukon Government will not continue to assist with the funding of the Waterfront Trolley. It was noted that existing buildings along the riverfront were constructed to take the trolley line into consideration, and that all levels of government have invested a considerable amount of time and money in waterfront planning over the past 20 years. The right-of-way for the trolley has been protected by various easements that, if lifted, could allow development along the rail corridor.

WATERFRONT TROLLEY
For Information Only

It was recognized that the historical significance of the rail line relates to the White Pass and Yukon Route train service and not to the trolley itself. However, the rail line represents an important aspect of the history of the City and the waterfront.

The suggestion was made that the City should encourage the Yukon Government to think long-term and consider the importance of maintaining a rail corridor along the waterfront.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

ORIGINAL MINUTES SIGNED BY:

"Dan Curtis"

Dan Curtis, Mayor

"C. Constable"

Catherine Constable
Manager, Legislative Services

ADOPTED by resolution at Meeting #2019-10 dated May 21, 2019