

MINUTES of **REGULAR** Meeting #2019-15 of the council of the City of Whitehorse called for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 5, 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 Valerie Braga  
Acting Director of Community and Recreation Services Krista Mroz  
Acting Director of Corporate Services Lindsay Schneider  
Director of Development Services Mike Gau  
Director of Infrastructure and Operations Peter O'Blenes  
Manager of Legislative Services Catherine Constable  
Manager of Strategic Communications Myles Dolphin

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

**2019-15-01**

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the agenda be adopted as amended with the change being the addition of Melodie Mcfadyen, Mike Travill, Regent Therrien, Joyce Mickey, James Tucker, Chad Harwood, David Meszaros and Sonja Hadvick as delegates, all speaking to the contract award for the Alexander Street landscaping project.

**AGENDA**

Carried Unanimously

**2019-15-02**

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the minutes of the regular council meeting dated July 22, 2019 be adopted as presented.

**MINUTES**

July 22, 2019

Carried Unanimously

**DELEGATIONS**

Eight members of the public who live and/or work in the vicinity of Alexander Street and Fourth Avenue addressed council to request that the proposed contract for landscaping on Alexander Street not be awarded. They all stressed that there are too many problems associated with people congregating around the emergency shelter to make it reasonable to proceed with beautification efforts at this time.

DELEGATION  
Alexander Street  
Landscaping Project

.../continued

The delegates cited instances of alcohol and drug abuse, lewd behaviour, loitering, public disturbances, vagrancy and vandalism caused by people who are gathering near the shelter at all hours of the day and night. In addition to the discomfort and inconvenience, these behaviours are creating a neighbourhood where businesses are adversely impacted and residents and visitors no longer feel safe.

Concerns were expressed that the addition of benches, planter boxes, trees, shrubs and flowers would contribute to the problem by making the area more attractive to street people. Additionally, concerns were raised about the new amenities being vandalized or destroyed.

The consensus of opinions expressed was that it would be a waste of taxpayers' money to proceed with landscaping until the social issues driving the problems in the area have been adequately dealt with.

James Tucker did not appear as scheduled to speak to this issue.

DELEGATION  
Alexander Street  
Landscaping Project  
(Continued)

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Community Services Committee**

There was no report from the Community Services Committee.

No Report

### **Public Health and Safety Committee**

Michelle Stimson addressed the Committee regarding the area around the emergency shelter on Alexander Street. She stated that, as a resident of the neighbourhood, she is a daily witness to an ongoing social tragedy related to the shelter. Ms. Stimson advised that when she registered as a delegate her original plan was to ask council to consider improvements to the lane behind the shelter. She was hoping for new gravel on the road surface and the installation of some benches and porta-potties to accommodate the constant pedestrian traffic. However, she now realizes that the issues in the area are much larger than can be satisfied by a primarily cosmetic approach. She stated that a community is only as strong as its weakest link, and added the opinion that this neighbourhood is severely in trouble.

MICHELLE STIMSON  
Lane Behind the  
Emergency Shelter  
For Information Only

In response to a query from a Committee member, administration advised that the current fuel abatement project involves brushing along the Copper Haul Road right-of-way and marketable timber will not be generated. The Government of Yukon is proposing the development of a fire break along the Copper Haul Road. This is a larger project involving the removal of significantly more fuel, and could potentially generate marketable timber.

SALE OF WOOD  
PRODUCTS FROM FIRE  
SMART PROJECTS  
For Information Only

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The Yukon government has applied to the federal government for \$1.65 million for the proposed fire break project through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Fund. However, funding approval is not expected to be received in time to allow the fire break project to proceed this year.

SALE OF WOOD  
PRODUCTS FROM FIRE  
SMART PROJECTS

For Information Only  
(Continued)

In addition, before any harvested timber can be sold commercially, the project proponent would first have to prepare a timber harvest plan that would require a permit from the forestry branch.

**Development Services Committee**

There was no report from the Development Services Committee.

No Report

**Corporate Services Committee**

Eri Boye addressed the Committee on behalf of Core Geoscience Services Inc. to state that his company has serious concerns regarding fair process with respect to the contract awarded for the water use licence water monitoring program. The company is bringing their concerns to council's attention and wants to see how council responds.

Mr. Boye alleged that the bid submitted by the successful bidder did not meet the City's specifications because an uncertified laboratory will be used for analytical testing. Mr. Boye stated that the analytical testing required by the City is a major cost driver for the total value of the contract. He alleged that the successful bidder benefitted from an unfair competitive advantage by utilizing inexpensive but inadequate analytical methods in their proposal.

ISSUES AROUND THE  
CONTRACT AWARD  
FOR THE WATER  
MONITORING PROGRAM

For Information Only

Mr. Boye also alleged that the successful bidder did not provide the certification required to demonstrate that the laboratory they would be using is certified for the required testing.

Administration confirmed that all bidders submitted the laboratory certification required. However, if the successful bidder subsequently needs to contract with an additional laboratory for one of the tests required under their contract, that expense will be their responsibility.

The Senior Procurement Officer will contract Core Geoscience Services Inc. to arrange a debrief meeting regarding this tender.

A member of council suggested that the upcoming Procurement Policy should incorporate an appeal process.

Discussion

Councillor Cabott declared a conflict with the business of the contract award for the Water Licence Renewal project and left Council Chambers during discussion of the matter.

Conflict Declared

**2019-15-03**

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the 2019 to 2022 capital expenditure program be amended by increasing the 2019 Water License Renewal project #240c00117 in the amount of \$62,717.00, funded by the Water and Sewer Reserve to cover the additional costs; and

BUDGET AMENDMENT  
AND CONTRACT  
CHANGE ORDER  
  
WATER LICENSE  
RENEWAL PROJECT

THAT the engineering services contract with Hemmera Envirochem Inc. for the water license renewal project be increased from \$149,315.30 to \$212,032.30.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Cabott returned to Council Chambers.

Conflict Over

**2019-15-04**

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the 2019 to 2022 capital expenditure program be amended by increasing the 2019 Water Main Improvements Lambert Street to Sixth Avenue Project #240c00211 in the amount of \$125,000, funded by the Build Canada Clean Water and Waste Water Fund to cover the additional costs; and

BUDGET AMENDMENT  
AND CONTRACT AWARD  
  
WATER MAIN  
IMPROVEMENTS  
(Lambert Street to 6<sup>th</sup>  
Avenue)

THAT Council authorize administration to award the contract for the 2019 Water Main Improvements Lambert Street to Sixth Avenue Project to Castle Rock Enterprises for a net cost to the City of \$660,285.00 plus GST.

Carried Unanimously

**2019-15-05**

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the 2019 to 2022 capital expenditure program be amended by increasing the 2019 Marwell East Tlingit Street project #240c00513 in the amount of \$230,045.00, funded from the capital reserve to cover the additional costs until an amended Gas Tax Transfer Payment Agreement is received; and

BUDGET AMENDMENT  
AND CONTRACT AWARD  
  
CONSULTING SERVICES  
FOR TLINGLIT STREET  
RECONSTRUCTION  
PROJECT

THAT Council authorize administration to award the contract for consulting services for the Tlingit Street Reconstruction project to Associated Engineering for a net cost to the City of \$460,045.00 plus GST.

Carried Unanimously

**City Planning Committee**

A member of council raised concerns regarding float plane uses on Schwatka Lake. In light of a recent Transport Canada announcement regarding a new initiative that will require float plane bases in populated areas to be certified and have a designated operator, it was suggested that it is in the best interests of the City to discuss the transfer of the Schwatka Lake aerodrome management to the Government of Yukon.

Administration advised that the City's management of the Schwatka Lake area is limited to land uses such as parking, the boat launch and the Miles Canyon Road as well as the permitting of docks. It was noted that the Schwatka Lake area is a major centre for all kinds of land-based and water-based activities in addition to being an aerodrome. Air traffic control issues and flight safety perspectives are aspects of many issues that form part of daily operations in the area.

Administration confirmed that some discussions have been held with the Yukon government about management issues in the Schwatka Lake area, but direction from council will be required if there is to be a formal request to have the Government of Yukon take over management responsibilities.

SCHWATKA LAKE  
For Information Only

The 2015 Schwatka Lake Area Plan does not suggest that the Government of Yukon be requested to take over the aerodrome.

Darryl Laliberté spoke on behalf of local members of the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association to emphasise that aircraft activity on the lake has economic impacts for the whole territory. He advised that private aircraft are being used for a variety of tourism-oriented businesses as well as providing transportation for work crews and supplies to work camps. Mr. Laliberté stated that it makes sense for the Yukon government to become the official operator on Schwatka Lake as it already operates all other aerodromes in the territory.

Council members agreed that more research into the issue is needed and requested administration to provide additional briefing materials in order that they have the information needed to make a decision on making a request to the Government of Yukon.

A member of council advised that follow-up discussions with a major commercial operator have indicated that the proposed Transport Canada initiative will not impact Schwatka Lake.

Discussion

**City Operations Committee**

**2019-15-06**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council authorize administration to award the contract for the Alexander Street Landscaping project #240c00317 to Lane's Yukon Yardworks for a net cost to the City of \$152,359.00 plus GST.

CONTRACT AWARD  
ALEXANDER STREET  
LANDSCAPING

Council members discussed the issues and concerns raised by the delegates at this meeting and agreed that, while beautification efforts are desired and supported by this council, the issues raised need to be addressed before proceeding with this landscaping project.

Discussion

**2019-15-07**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT the contract award for the Alexander Street Landscaping project be postponed to the first regular council meeting in September 2019.

Postpone Contract Award  
to Next Regular Meeting

Carried Unanimously

**2019-15-08**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council authorize administration to award the contract for the Waste Management Facility Water Monitoring Program project #5003010 to Hemmera Envirochem Inc. for a net cost to the City of \$167,045.72 plus GST.

CONTRACT AWARD  
WASTE MANAGEMENT  
FACILITY WATER  
MONITORING PROGRAM

Carried Unanimously

The mayor reminded everyone that there will be no meetings of Council for the remainder of August. The next meeting will be the Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

REMINDER OF REVISED  
MEETING SCHEDULE

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

ORIGINAL MINUTES SIGNED BY:

"Dan Curtis"

Dan Curtis, Mayor

"C. J. Constable"

Catherine J. Constable  
Manager, Legislative Services

ADOPTED by resolution at Meeting #2019-16 dated September 9, 2019