

**Village of Haines Junction
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2024**

Present:

Mayor Tomlin
Councillor Strand
Councillor Nassiopoulos

Absent:

Councillor Charlebois

CAO Fairbank, Recorder Ogden

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm

Acknowledgement of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Traditional Territory

Mayor Tomlin acknowledged that we are on the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

Adoption of Agenda

#124-24

It was moved and seconded

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended with the following additions:

- Shannon Stelter (RCMP) be added as a delegation.

Motion #127-24 was **CARRIED.**

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Adoption of Minutes of Regular and Special Council Meetings

Council Meeting Minutes April 24, 2024

#128-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT the minutes of the regular Council meeting of April 24, 2024 be adopted as amended:

- Remove Vicky Maynes as being present as a Council member.
- KICBR -- mention Glacier View RV Park, KPI RV Park and FasGas RV Park

Motion #128-24 was **CARRIED.**

Proclamations

Delegations

RCMP

Delegation: Shannon Stelter

Presentation:

- The April monthly report was circulated to VoHJ, can answer any questions Council may have on this report.
- Annual performance plan sent by email. Working on April 2024-April 2025 plan. The plan sets up priorities based on consultation with the community and reflects Ministerial and National priorities. Seeking input on anything Council feels is important for the RCMP to focus on in the coming year, noting there are three components identified:
 - Liaising/meeting with partner agencies
 - Engaging with youth, and
 - Road safety.

Discussion:

- Council noted it hasn't received the April report yet.
- Council shared that residents often raise concerns about highway speeds coming into town.
 - RCMP has regular check stops are held targeting impaired driving.
 - RCMP has discussed speeding with HPW have had them out to monitor the intersection of the two highways. RCMP have requested a set of traffic lights on the highway as non-residents that are not familiar with the area do tend to travel too fast through town, lights would help to slow people down.
 - 5 members now in Haines Junction – up from 4. Had one free house so took on a member in a training phase -- Brooke Appleton, will introduce her at the next Council meeting.

Public Hearings and Public Input Sessions

Old Business

New Business

Accounts Payable to May 8, 2024

Materials provided: Municipal Accounts Payable to May 8, 2024

- Why are we paying WSP for a Zoning Bylaw public hearing?
 - Closing costs for contract, last few hours that they put in during the handover to Mark Wickham. Invoice was higher than expected but this will be the last invoice from WSP on this file.

#129-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT the Municipal Accounts Payable to May 8, 2024 be approved as presented.

Motion #129-24 was **CARRIED**.

RTC – Board of Variance, 101 Hume Street

Materials provided: RTC

CAO Report:

- Yukon government working with staff to find lots that are suitable for sale but for various reasons, haven't been put on the market. This lot is one of those lots. T
- This lot has not been put up for sale because it is under the minimum lot size in the Zoning Bylaw.
- Village put in a Development Permit, and then denied the Development Permit, which gave the Board of Variance the opportunity to assess the Application for a Variance.
- A public hearing was held and three written comments from neighbours were received.
- The Board determined that it didn't have the jurisdiction to make a decision; they felt this decision was Council's prerogative.
- The Board did recommend approving this lot for sale, with a few conditions based on feedback from neighbours.

Discussion:

- Council does not recall receiving this request from YG. Did YG pay the fee for a Variance application?
 - No, the Village put in the Variance request and waived the fee.
 - This was one of 7 lots that YG brought forward last August/September last year.
- Why did we not wait for the Zoning Bylaw to be completed? We are now out \$600 in honoraria for Board of Variance members and have not received the fee from YG.
 - There is no intention to change the minimum lot size in the new Zoning Bylaw.
 - The Zoning Bylaw does not have a mechanism to address this unless the minimum lot size is reduced across the board to allow this lot to be sold within the zoning. However, we haven't heard any complaints that the minimum lot size is too large.
- Council would like table this, unclear what the process is, how YG can make this request, and how this sort of request has been handled in the past or if this sort of request has come up in the past. Would like more information on what the initial conversation was with YG.
- Council expressed that it is struggling to understand how this process works and to recall what lots were brought forward last summer, and what were approved before, if any.

#130-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT this agenda item be tabled to the next Council meeting with an additional Report be provided addressing Council's questions.

Motion #130-24 was **CARRIED**.

RTC – Fire Smart Incentive Program

Materials provided: RTC

CAO Report:

- Council requested administration to investigate what other communities are doing to promote FireSmart.
- Administration has brought forward six options with varying degrees of effort/ efficacy/ cost.
 - Option 1: Educational Campaign
 - Option 2: Home FireSmart Assessments
 - Option 3: Neighbourhood Chipping Events
 - Option 4: Debris Removal Program
 - Option 5: Financial Support Program
 - Option 6: Tax Incentive Program
- A FireSmart public awareness meeting was held last fall that was poorly attended by the community.
- Council recommended to identify preferred option(s) and direct staff to develop these program(s) for offering this spring/summer on a pilot basis.

Discussion:

- All options were viewed favourably by Council.
- Option 5 - Interested in knowing what municipalities contributed on top of funding received from outside agencies – would like more information on how these programs would be financed.
- Options 1 and 2 are easiest options to start with, noting these do rely on the availability of Wildland Fire Management personnel. If WFM personnel are available, these options could get going this spring.
- Options 3 and 4 could be done by local contractors. Council expressed concern that earlier offerings of a chipping program were unequally accessed by residents – some residents put out a tremendous amount of material.
- Option 4 could be tied into Option 5.
- Application windows for funding programs has passed for this year, would need to investigate this for next year.
- Would like to start on this earlier in the year next year.

#131-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT staff be directed to begin implementing Options 1 and 2 as identified in the RTC, and to explore Option 5 for next year – and whether other options (e.g. 3 and 4) can be rolled into Option 5.

Motion #131-24 was **CARRIED**.

RTC – Haines Junction Lottery Funding Grants

Materials provided: RTC

Corporate Manager Report:

- This is the first of two intakes this year, the second will be in October; historically, we receive more applications in October than in April.
- Applications have dropped in number since the Free Use policy was passed. Lotteries funding used to be applied for to cover fees to use facilities which is no longer required.
- The two applications were assessed against the funding criteria.
 - Treblemakers Fiddle Club has requested funding for instructor honoraria and travel as they have in previous years, we recommend providing \$1,770, as requested.
 - The Horsemanship Work Club is also looking for instructor honoraria and travel, which is an eligible expense. They are also seeking funding to provide part-time jobs to youth to put new skills to work, which is unfortunately not an eligible expense under this program. So we recommend funding 75% of the costs for the instructor, or \$5,400 which is the maximum we can fund.
- This amounts to \$7,170, which is less than half of the just over \$23,000 we have to allocate this year.

Discussion:

- A typo was noted in the Recommendation and Draft Resolution sections of the RTC – it should read \$5,400 for the Haines Junction Horsemanship Work Club (not the Creative Junction Collective).
- Creative Junction is requesting an extension to September 2024 to spend funds they were awarded last year, which has no impact on this year's budget and is recommended for approval.
- Council sought clarification on Motion #124-22 and why the review isn't taking place?
 - When this motion was passed in 2022, the Village was receiving a lot more applications and there was concern at the time about how to equitably balance applications received in April with the October intake. This is no longer an issue as we now receive far fewer applications since the Free Use policy was passed.
- Council requested a report on Motion #124-22 so this is not left in limbo.
- If the Horsemanship Group hasn't done fundraising yet, are they getting the money without doing the fundraising part of their eligibility?
 - This can be approved as we don't provide funds to recipients as an advance – we pay when eligible receipts are sent to us for reimbursement. When they are issued their letter of award, we would note that they must fundraise 25% of the costs to be eligible for their award. If they don't succeed in fundraising, the funds would be put back into the pot for the October intake.

#132-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT Council approve Creative Junction Collective's request to extend their funds to September 2024 and to award the following Haines Junction Lottery

Funding Grants to Treble Makers Fiddle Club for \$1,770 and the Haines Junction Horsemanship Work Club for \$5,400 with the understanding that they will initiate and complete the fundraising as per the criteria for this grant.

Motion #132-24 was **CARRIED**.

Bylaws – Reports, Readings and Adoption

Correspondence

Letters from St. Elias School – Grad Invitation and Free Use Request

Materials provided: Letters

Discussion:

- Mayor is likely not available to address graduates at their Graduation Ceremony on May 24th as he will be in Vancouver. Council will discuss availability and will let the school know who from Council, is available.
- The second letter is requesting donation of the rental fee for use of tablecloths and glasses etc as has been provided in previous years.

#133-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT Council will agree to donating the rental fee for the use of plates and tablecloths and that a Council member will be available to speak to graduates at the ceremony on behalf of the Village, Council will be in touch as soon as they identify who is available to participate.

Motion #133-24 was **CARRIED**.

Council Reports

Councillor Nassiopoulos

- School is wrapping up for the Year. Will be speaking on behalf of staff at Grad. Grad is scheduled for Friday May 24, 2024 at 4pm at the Convention Centre.

Councillor Strand

- Want to make sure orange t-shirt banners have been ordered for Truth and Reconciliation Day in September.
- Would like to make sure that we are hiring someone on contract to do some reconciliation work. Would like to hire IRP to do work with Council and Staff with the potential of having anyone who is considering running for Council participate in this.

- A citizen approached Diane with concerns about the muffin. This issue has been raised before. VoHJ has been requested to not fix up the muffin due to who worked on it; and consider getting rid of the muffin. Would like Council to discuss this further.
- Attended the AIP Ceremony last night in Whitehorse. VoHJ was acknowledged as a new co-owner of the prize at the event. Yukon prizewinners included a therapeutic farm, and a youth theatre – great opportunity for youth from the school here.
- Election in the fall. Would like to see packages compiled for those interested in running. Does AYC provide materials for advertising and promoting running for Council? CAO was asked to raise this at this week's AYC Administrator's forum.
 - AYC provides transition and orientation documentation (for use after Council is elected).
 - Transition binders have been provided by the CAO in the past after Council is elected but prior to being sworn into role. The transition binder included a copy of Robert's Rules of Order.

Mayor Tomlin

- VHJ sent out a Public Notice today that indicated we are not doing a clean up through town this year. Who made this decision? Finds it strange that VHJ communicated this, we have invested a lot into the Pine Lake trail and cleaning up is more important than the Pine Lake event. Mayor would like to see us encourage clean up all the time.
 - CAFN is doing a spring clean up this year, and we will participate in this when this occurs.
 - The Corporate Manager clarified the notice was just in relation to the Highways and Public Works Spring Litter Roadside Cleanup Campaign. HPW had excluded the section through town as this was coordinated by the Village last year. Due to capacity, staff asked HPW to include this section in their current campaign and they generously agreed to do so. This means that community groups can apply for funding from HPW to clean up the highway roadside through town.

Questions from the Public

Motion to Close Meeting to the Public

#134-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT the meeting be closed to the public at 7:52pm.

Motion #134-24 was **CARRIED**.

Motion to Reopen Meeting to the Public

#135-24 It was moved and seconded

THAT the meeting be reopened to the public at 8:24pm

Motion #135-24 was **CARRIED**.

Adjournment

#136-24 It was moved and seconded


THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Motion #136-24 was **CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.



Mayor Bruce Tomlin



CAO David Fairbank

