



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

January 8, 2024

6:00 pm

Council Chambers of City Hall

1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

PRESENT: Mayor Simon Yu <Via Zoom>
Councillor Tim Bennett
Councillor Garth Frizzell
Councillor Trudy Klassen
Councillor Ron Polillo
Councillor Cori Ramsay
Councillor Kyle Sampson
Councillor Susan Scott <Chair>
Councillor Brian Skakun

IN ATTENDANCE: Walter Babicz, City Manager
Deanna Wasnik, Director of Planning and Development
Kris Dalio, Director of Finance and IT Services
Andy Beesley, Director of Civic Facilities and Events
Adam Davey, Director of Public Safety
Blake McIntosh, Director of Civic Operations
Ethan Anderson, Manager of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Elisha Leclair, Legislative Services Assistant

A. ADOPTION OF THE AMENDED AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That the agenda for the regular meeting of Council scheduled for January 8, 2024, be amended by adding a late item for the discussion of rescheduling of the January 24th, 2024 budget meeting, and by moving agenda item E.8 to be considered immediately following agenda item C.1, and that the agenda, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried Unanimously

B. MINUTES

B.1 Adoption of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2023

Moved By Mayor Yu

Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That the minutes of the regular Council meeting held December 18, 2023, BE ADOPTED as read on this day and that such minutes as read set out all of the business before Council at that meeting and fully and properly record all of the resolutions passed by Council at that meeting.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATION(S)

C.1 The Exploration Place

Presenters Tracy Calogheros, Chief Executive Officer provided a presentation requesting funding in support of the Little Prince Train.

Discussion commenced. W. Babicz, City Manager, and K. Dalio, Director of Finance and IT Services, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That the request for funding in support of the Little Prince Train be REFERRED to administration for options and information.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That Council amends the main motion by adding the words, “with the operational component be returned in time for budget discussions” after the word “information.”

Carried

Councillors Skakun and Sampson opposed.

Main Motion as amended.

Carried Unanimously

Acting Mayor Scott called a recess at the Regular Council at 6:58 p.m.

The Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - DEANNA WASNIK

E.8 Official Community Plan Review Project – Update January 2024

Melissa Clements from Urban Systems provided a presentation of the report.

Discussion commenced and D. Wasnik, Director of Planning and Development, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 21, 2023, from the Director of Planning and Development titled “Official Community Plan Review Project – Update January 2024”.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Skakun left the meeting from 7:15 p.m. to 7:17 p.m.

D. CONSENT AGENDA (FOR INFORMATION)

D.1 City of Prince George 2023 - 2026 Accessibility Work Plan

Discussion commenced and A. Beesly, Director of Civic Facilities and Events, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 15, 2023 from the Director of Civic Facilities & Events titled “City of Prince George 2023 – 2026 Accessibility Work Plan.”

Carried Unanimously

D.2 Release of Council Resolutions from the December 4, 2023 Closed Council Meeting regarding RCMP Investigation into Missing Gravel

Discussion commenced. W. Babicz, City Manager, A. Davey, Director of Public Safety, and B. McIntosh, Director of Civic Operations, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated January 2, 2024 from the City Manager titled “Release of Council Resolutions from the December 4, 2023 Closed Council Meeting regarding RCMP Investigation into Missing Gravel.”

Carried Unanimously

D.3 2023 Q4 Procurement Report

Discussion commenced. W. Babicz, City Manager, and K. Dalio, Director of Finance and IT Services, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated January 2, 2024, from the Director of Finance & IT Services, titled “2023 Q4 Procurement Report”.

Carried Unanimously

E. REPORTS

MAYOR SIMON YU

E.1 Mayor's Report - Information Reports on Mayor's Remuneration Bylaw Reports

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Ramsay

That Council DIRECTS administration to return the Council Remuneration Bylaw, Bylaw No. 8414, 2012, to Council for review and options for amendment."

Defeated

Mayor Yu, Councillors Frizzell, Klassen, Polillo, Scott and Skakun opposed.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the reported dated December 22, 2023 from the Mayor titled, "Mayor's Information Report on Mayor's Remuneration Bylaw Reports."

Carried Unanimously

COUNCILLOR KYLE SAMPSON AND COUNCILLOR RON POLILLO

E.2 Revision of Business License Fees for Retail Cannabis

Discussion commenced. D. Wasnik, Director of Planning and Development, and A. Beesley, Director of Civic Facilities and Events, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council DIRECTS Administration to return to the next regular Council meeting with a proposed amendment to the City of Prince George Comprehensive Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 7557, to align the fees for Retail Cannabis with Retail Liquor.

Carried

Councillor Klassen Opposed.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

E.3 Council Advocacy Options Related to Pilot Shortages

Discussion commenced and Councillor Frizzell and E. Depenau, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Mayor Yu

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 13, 2023 from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Council Advocacy Options Related to Pilot Shortages"; and CONSIDERS the three (3) advocacy routes proposed.

Carried Unanimously

E.4 Advocacy for a Host Community Emergency Support Services (ESS) Reception Centre

Discussion commenced and Councillor Frizzell and E. Depenau, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Scott

That Council APPROVES the following resolution:

WHEREAS the City of Prince George is proud, well positioned, and routinely provides host community support to the region as community's grapple with more frequent emergencies, and;

WHEREAS no dedicated facilities have been constructed in the region to appropriately manage this response, leading to frequent reception center relocations which add unnecessary strain on all involved;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association request the province fund a permanent Host Community Reception Centre in the City of Prince George for the North Central Local Government Area.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Bennett left Council Chambers at 9:22 p.m. and returned at 9:24 p.m.

E.5 Prince George Public Library Permission Request

Discussion commenced and Councillor Frizzell and E. Depenau, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That Council APPROVES the Prince George Public Library to enter into a written agreement to cooperate in the provision of library services with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation specifically for the appointment of one (1) member to the library board as permitted by section 48 of the BC Library Act.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Skakun left Council Chambers at 9:29 p.m. and returned at 9:31 p.m.

E.6 Gaming Grant Advocacy Options

Discussion commenced and Councillor Frizzell and E. Depenau, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 13, 2023, from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Gaming Grant Advocacy Options" and pursues options 1, 2, and 3 presented in the report.

The Question was Divided.

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 13, 2023, from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Gaming Grant Advocacy Options" and DIRECTS Administration to pursue options 1 and 2 presented in the report.

Carried Unanimously

That Council DIRECTS administration to pursue option 3 as presented in the report dated December 13, 2023 and titled "Gaming Grant Advocacy Options".

The Motion was Withdrawn through Unanimous Consent.

Moved By Councillor Bennett

Seconded By Councillor Klassen

That Council DIRECTS administration to do research with local nonprofit organizations about further advocacy required regarding any recent changes to the Community Gaming Grant eligibility or eligible expenses.

Carried Unanimously

E.7 Veterans Covenant 2024

Discussion commenced and Councillor Frizzell and E. Depenau, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That Council ADOPTS the City of Prince George Veteran and Families Community Covenant, as proposed in the report dated December 13, 2023 from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, to help guide Council, Administration, and the public in collaborating on issues important to the veteran community.

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That Council extend the meeting until 11:00 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

On the Main Motion

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Mayor Yu

That the tangible actions described in Appendix A to the report dated December 13, 2023 from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, titled “City of Prince George Veteran and Families Community Covenant”, be REFERRED to Administration for further exploration.

Carried Unanimously

E.4 Advocacy for a Host Community Emergency Support Services (ESS) Reception Centre

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

THAT the resolution adopted under report titled “Host Community Emergency Support Services (ESS) Reception Centre” be circulated to the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George and the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation.

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - DEANNA WASNIK

E.9 Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100799 (Bylaw No. 9432, 2023)

Applicant: L&M Engineering Ltd. for Bruce and Kathryn Kidd

Location: 3819 Balsum Road

Documents for Council's consideration regarding "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100799 (Bylaw No. 9432, 2023)" include:

- Previously submitted staff report dated November 20, 2023 from the Director of Planning and Development titled "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100799 (Bylaw No. 9432, 2023)" (Considered at the December 18, 2023 regular council meeting);
- Location and Existing Zoning Map;
- Appendix "A" to Bylaw No. 9432;
- Correspondence dated December 9, 2023 from Steven McAlpine in opposition to the application; and
- Correspondence dated December 15, 2023 from Evan and Maureen Rosen in opposition to the application.

City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9432, 2023

Moved By Mayor Yu

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That Council GIVES THIRD READING of "City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9432, 2023".

Carried Unanimously

E.10 Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100797 (Bylaw No. 9433)

Applicant: Sukhwinder Kaur and Jaswant Singh

Location: 7168 Elk Road

Documents for Council's consideration regarding "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100797 (Bylaw No. 9433)" include:

- Previously submitted staff report dated November 6, 2023 from the Director of Planning and Development titled "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100797 (Bylaw No. 9433)" (Considered at the December 4, 2023 regular council meeting);
- Location and Existing Zoning Map;
- Appendix "A" to Bylaw No. 9433; and
- Correspondence dated December 3, 2023 from Joseph Sedlock in opposition to the application.

City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9433, 2023

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council GIVES THIRD READING to “City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9433, 2023.”

Carried Unanimously

E.11 Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100803 (Bylaw No. 9435)

Applicant: Andy Igel for Colin & Matthew Holdings Ltd., Inc. No. BC0780710

Location: 4054 and 4076 Weisbrod Road

Documents for Council's consideration regarding "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100803 (Bylaw No. 9435)" include:

- Previously submitted staff report dated November 20, 2023 from the Director of Planning and Development titled "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100803 (Bylaw No. 9435)" (Considered at the December 18, 2023 regular council meeting);
- Location and Existing Zoning Map;
- Appendix "A" to Bylaw No. 9435;
- Supporting Document; and
- Correspondence dated December 8, 2023 from Barb Tompkins noting concerns regarding the application.

City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9435, 2023

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council GIVES THIRD READING of “City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9435, 2023”.

Carried Unanimously

E.12 Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100809 (Bylaw No. 9440)

Applicant: Justin Mousseau for 0833689 B.C. Ltd., Inc. No. BC0833689

Location: 484 Douglas Street

Documents for Council's consideration regarding "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100809 (Bylaw No. 9440)" include:

- Staff report dated December 18, 2023 from the Director of Planning and Development titled "Zoning Bylaw Amendment Application No. RZ100809 (Bylaw No. 9440)";
- Location and Zoning Map;
- Appendix "A" to Bylaw No. 9440; and
- Supporting Documents:
 - Letter of Intent; and
 - Letters of Support and Associated Map.

City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9440, 2023

Mayor Yu declared a Conflict of Interest and was removed from the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Moved By Councillor Polillo

Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That Council GIVES FIRST AND SECOND READING to “City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9440, 2023”.

Carried

Councillor Klassen opposed.

Mayor Yu returned to the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY - ADAM DAVEY

E.13 Union of BC Municipalities Emergency Preparedness Fund - Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Grant Application

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

Carried Unanimously

That Council:

SUPPORTS the City submitting a grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in the amount of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to support the EOC Training plan for 2024/25 and purchase additional equipment for the EOC; and

AUTHORIZES the City’s Director of Finance and IT Services and Director of Public Safety to sign the grant application and subsequent contract documents should grant approval be received.

Carried Unanimously

E.14 Union of BC Municipalities Emergency Preparedness Fund - Emergency Support Services (ESS) Grant Application

Moved By Councillor Polillo

Seconded By Councillor Ramsay

That Council:

SUPPORTS the City submitting a grant application to the Union of British Columbia (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund –Emergency Support Services (ESS) in the amount of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to support the ESS training

plan for 2024/25 and purchase additional equipment to support ESS responses within the municipality; and

AUTHORIZES the City's Financial Officer and Director of Public Safety to sign the grant application and subsequent contract documents should grant approval be received.

Carried Unanimously

E.15 Late Item: Rescheduling of the January 23, 2024 Budget Meeting

Discussion commenced and E.Anderson, Manager of Legislative Services and Corporate Officer, responded to questions of Council.

Moved By Councillor Bennett

Seconded By Councillor Ramsay

That Council DIRECTS that the January 24, 2024 meeting be rescheduled to January 23, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

F. BYLAWS – FINAL READING AND ADOPTION

G. CORRESPONDENCE

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION Correspondence items G.1 and G.2.

Carried Unanimously

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By Councillor Polillo

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That there being no further business the Regular Council Meeting, BE ADJOURNED.

Carried Unanimously

THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 10:18 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON

CERTIFIED CORRECT

