



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

December 16, 2024
6:00 pm
Council Chambers of City Hall
1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

*We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh,
on whose land we live, work, and play.*

PRESENT: Mayor Simon Yu <Chair>
Councillor Tim Bennett
Councillor Garth Frizzell
Councillor Trudy Klassen
Councillor Ron Polillo
Councillor Cori Ramsay
Councillor Kyle Sampson
Councillor Susan Scott
Councillor Brian Skakun <via Zoom> <6:00 p.m. to 10:37 p.m.>

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
Eric Depenau, Director of Administrative Services
Blake McIntosh, Director of Civic Operations
Ethan Anderson, Manager of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Leslie Kellett, Deputy Corporate Officer

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Klassen
Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That the agenda for the regular meeting of Council scheduled for December 16, 2024, be amended by adding a handout supporting document to agenda item E.4, moving agenda item E.1 to be considered immediately following agenda item E.3, and moving agenda item E.8 to be considered immediately following agenda item E.4, and that the agenda, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried Unanimously

B. MINUTES

B.1 Adoption of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 2, 2024

Moved By Councillor Scott
Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That the minutes of the regular Council meeting held December 2, 2024, 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)

D. CONSENT AGENDA (FOR INFORMATION)

Council requested further consideration of consent agenda item D.1.

D.1 Monthly Building Permit and Development Permit Summary (November 2024)

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 5, 2024, from the Director of Planning and Development, titled “Monthly Building Permit and Development Permit Summary (November 2024)”.

Carried Unanimously

E. REPORTS

CITY MANAGER – WALTER BABICZ

E.2 Strategic Plan Update

Councillor Ramsay exited Council Chambers at 6:33 p.m. and returned at 6:35 p.m.

Moved By Councillor Scott
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council APPROVES the draft updated Strategic Plan attached to the report dated November 26, 2024 from the City Manager, titled “Strategic Plan Update”.

Carried Unanimously

E.3 Security Camera Pilot Program Proposal

Moved By Councillor Skakun
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council APPROVES \$35,750 from the 2024 Council Contingency fund be used as a grant to the Prince George Downtown Business Improvement Association for the purposes of the Security Camera Pilot Program as described in the proposal dated September 16, 2024 from Downtown Prince George and the Prince George Chamber of Commerce.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Ramsay exited Council Chambers at 7:16 p.m.

Moved By Councillor Polillo
Seconded By Councillor Klassen

That Council DIRECTS Administration to fund the remaining balance of \$4,250 from the existing 2024 operating budget.

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Polillo
Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That the approved funding be distributed through a mutually agreed upon grant agreement between the City and the Prince George Downtown Business Improvement Association on terms satisfactory to administration, and that the City Manager be AUTHORIZED to sign the grant agreement.

Carried Unanimously

Mayor Yu called a recess of the Regular Council Meeting at 7:17 p.m.

The Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

Councillor Frizzell entered Council Chambers at 7:29 p.m.

MAYOR SIMON YU

E.1 Civic Core District Development Conceptual Vision

Councillor Skakun left the Zoom meeting at 7:55 p.m. and returned at 7:56 p.m.

Moved By Councillor Klassen
Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated December 10, 2024 from Mayor Simon Yu titled “Civic Core District Development Conceptual Vision.”

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – DEANNA WASNIK

E.4 Civic Core District Concept Plan Options

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Ramsay

That Council IDENTIFIES Conceptual Design Option 2 as attached to the report dated November 28, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development titled “Civic Core District Concept Plan Options” as the preferred option and DIRECTS Administration to procure consultant services to prepare detailed site design, servicing feasibility studies (i.e.: Sanitary sewer, water, and storm), parking and pedestrian analysis and renderings; and incorporates the following considerations into the site design:

- *Swap location of the proposed hotel and residential building, and incorporate the possibility of mixed commercial/residential/hotel on both sites, and possibility of further sale of airspace of the PAC;*
- *Include a partitioned auditorium with seating of a range of approximately 1400 seats and a multi-purpose use seating system for the Performing Arts Centre; and that the building possibly include a rehearsal/blackbox space;*
- *Include the arts groups (e.g.: Studio 2880) in the layout of the site plan;*
- *Consider the future land use of the Prince George Playhouse property; and*
- *Maintain open-ended seating for the Arena with further exploration to help determine the best facility to meet our communities needs.*

Moved By Councillor Klassen
Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council AMENDS the main motion by adding the words “as well as the conceptual vision as attached to the Mayor’s report dated December 10, 2024 titled “Civic Core District Development Conceptual Vision” after the words “Civic Core District Concept Plan Options”.

Defeated

Councillors Bennett, Frizzell, Polillo, Ramsay, Sampson, and Scott opposed.

Main motion.

Carried

Mayor Yu, Councillor Klassen, and Councillor Skakun opposed.

DIRECTOR OF CIVIC OPERATIONS – BLAKE MCINTOSH

E.8 2024 Road and Sidewalk Capital Projects Review

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Scott

That Council EXTENDS the Regular Council Meeting to 11:00 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Polillo
Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated November 22, 2024, from the Director of Civic Operations titled “2024 Road and Sidewalk Capital Projects Review”.

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF CIVIC FACILITIES AND EVENTS – ANDY BEESLEY

E.5 Letter of Intent to Bid for Special Olympics Canada Games

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Scott

That Council APPROVES administration submitting a Letter of Intent as described in the report dated November 30, 2024, from the Director of Civic Facilities and Events, titled “Letter of Intent to Bid for Special Olympics Canada Games”.

Carried Unanimously

E.6 History of Arts and Culture Strategics, Policies and Procedures

Moved By Councillor Ramsay

Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council DIRECTS Administration to:

- *focus on the end goal of creating a comprehensive Arts and Culture Policy for the City of Prince George;*
- *review all past strategies, procedures, policies, and reports related to this topic;*
- *meet with a wide range of interested parties throughout our City to gather ideas, expertise and a framework and action plans to create a new plan; and*
- *return a report to Council in 2025 to show progress and to gather ongoing direction.*

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF CIVIC OPERATIONS – BLAKE MCINTOSH

E.7 Fox Drive Road Paving Local Area Services (LAS)

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council AUTHORIZES Administration to facilitate a formal petition for the proposed Fox Drive Road Paving Local Area Service.

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT - DEANNA WASNIK

E.9 Community Resiliency Investment Program - Structure Protection Unit Purchase

Moved By Councillor Frizzell

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council APPROVES a budget and scope amendment to the financial plan for Project # 3448 - “Structure Protection Unit Trailers New” for the addition of \$195,000 funded from the Community Resiliency Investment Program grant funding as follows:

- *Title: #3448 - Structure Protection Unit Trailers New*

- *Description: To purchase a (two) Structure Protection Units (SPU) trailer to aid in defense of critical infrastructure during a wildfire event. First unit purchase in 2024 from funds donated to City of Prince George for this purchase. Second unit to be purchased in four different phases from 2024 to 2027, using funding provided through the Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) Program;*

as described in the report dated November 20, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development titled “Community Resiliency Investment program – Structure Protection Unit Purchase”.

Carried Unanimously

E.10 Temporary Use Permit Application No. TU000102

Applicant: Shawn Smeds of S&S Doors and More for National Ski Experts Ltd., Inc.
No. 389389

Location: 1191 1st Avenue

Documents for Council’s consideration regarding “Temporary Use Permit Application No. TU000102” include:

1. Staff report dated November 13, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development titled "Temporary Use Permit Application No. TU000102";
 - a. Location and Existing Zoning Map;
 - b. Temporary Use Permit No. TU000102; and
 - c. Supporting Documents:
 - i. Letter of Support from Neighbouring Business Owner.

Moved By Councillor Polillo

Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council APPROVES Temporary Use Permit No. TU000102 for the property legally described as Lots 13-15, Block 22, District Lot 343, Cariboo District, Plan 1268.

Carried Unanimously

E.11 Development Variance Permit Application No. VP100687

Applicant: 1168315 B.C. Ltd., Inc. BC1443727

Location: 4919 Chief Lake Road

Documents for Council’s consideration regarding “Development Variance Permit Application No. VP100687” include:

1. Documents for Council's consideration regarding " Development Variance Permit Application No. VP100687" include:
 - a. Staff report dated November 18, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development titled " Development Variance Permit Application No. VP100687";
 - b. Location and Existing Zoning Map;
 - c. Development Variance Permit No. VP100687;
 - d. Exhibit "A" to VP100687;
 - e. Exhibit “B” to VP100687; and
2. Correspondence dated December 11, 2024 from Fortis BC.

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That Council APPROVES Development Variance Permit No. VP100687 to vary “City of Prince George Sign Bylaw No. 7202, 2001” for the property legally described as Lot 1, District Lot 2424, Cariboo District, Plan 10688, Except Plans 20749 and PGP39005 as follows:

- a. Vary Table 3A by increasing the maximum area of a freestanding sign from 5.0 m² to 12.0 m²;
- b. Vary Table 3A by increasing the maximum height of a freestanding sign from 1.5 m to 2.4 m; and
- c. Vary Table 3A by increasing the total maximum number of freestanding signs per site from 1 to 2.

Carried Unanimously

F. BYLAWS – FINAL READING AND ADOPTION

F.1 City of Prince George Comprehensive Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 7557, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9522, 2024

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council GRANTS FINAL READING AND ADOPTION to “City of Prince George Comprehensive Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 7557, 2007, Amendment Bylaw No. 9522, 2024.”

Carried Unanimously

G. CORRESPONDENCE

G.1 Correspondence dated December 3, 2024 from Mayor Simon Yu to Canadian Hydrogen Association: Letter of Support for Canadian Hydrogen Association's CanExport Community Investments Funding Application

G.2 Correspondence dated December 10, 2024 from Mayor Simon Yu to Prince George Seniors Activity Centre: Letter of Support for BC Community Gaming Grant Application

Moved By Councillor Frizzell
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION correspondence items G.1 and G2.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Skakun left the Zoom meeting at 10:37 p.m.

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 10:48 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON

CERTIFIED CORRECT