

MINUTES OF
The Corporation of the Village of Slocan
Meeting August 16, 2006

The regular meeting of the Slocan Village Council was held on the above date at the Village Office, 503 Slocan Street, with Mayor John Van Bynen in the chair.

PRESENT:

Mayor John Van Bynen, Councillors Joanne Ellis, John Gates, Madeleine Perriere, Marc Septav, Administrator Eunice Ludlow and Foreman Jerry Simmons. Valley Voice reporter Don Currie, was in attendance, and there were four members of the public present, and MLA Corky Evans was in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

RES 06/069 Moved by Counc. John Gates, seconded by Counc. Marc Septav that the agenda be adopted as amended, with the addition of one item of new business.

Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

RES 06/070 Moved by Counc. Marc Septav, seconded by Counc. Madeleine Perriere that the minutes be adopted as amended.

Carried

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:

No question from the public at this time.

DELEGATIONS:

1.) Report from Public Works:

Village Foreman Jerry Simmons reported that the railing and bench templates have been set up at the Gazebo. Councillor Joanne Ellis asked if plans had been made to sand the benches, as the wood is quite rough. Jerry Simmons replied that as the templates are not finished yet, the finished product will be sanded and varnished. Councillor Joanne Ellis

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mentioned that she really liked the benches. Mayor John Van Bynen asked the rest of the council to view the templates and give staff their opinions, and if everyone agreed then Public Works can go ahead with the finished product. The breakwater is floating but not yet in it's final place. When the decking is installed then it will be set in place. The deck is almost ready, and at this point we are just waiting for the electrician to run cables for the beacon at the end of the breakwater. A berm is being constructed to meet the breakwater so it will be accessible at all times (changing water levels) The Ball park water system is fixed and now is fed by Springer Creek. Councillor Madeleine Perriere asked if more sidewalks were to be installed. Jerry Simmons said that they will be another project for the fall. Mayor John Van Bynen asked if sidewalks could be worked on in front of the Wellness Centre.

2.) Report from the Fire Chief:

No report at this time.

3.) Report from the Administrator:

Village Administrator Eunice Ludlow read her report, which is attached for perusal. A discussion was brought up regarding the purchase of a new loader, which is in the budget for next year. The option of lease to purchase will be looked into, and a decision about the purchase needs to be made as soon as possible. Councillor Marc Septav asked that staff look into the cost of financing the loader. Councillor Madeleine Perriere asked about applications regarding the Power plant project. Administrator Ludlow responded that we now have the forms and we are proceeding with the applications. We need to apply to Crown lands and hopefully proceedings will go as quickly as possible.

4.) Report from MLA Corky Evans:

MLA Corky Evans addressed Council following up on the Meat Transition Meeting in June of 2006 and the Abattoir issues concerning our area. At present there is no processing plant in our area for local farmers to have their livestock slaughtered. New legislation requiring livestock to travel to a government inspected slaughter house is a concern for many livestock producers, as there are no plants in the Kootenay region. It was suggested that the Village put forth an application for the grant of \$50,000.00 offered by the Provincial Government, and with the application submitted then look into having other partners involved in the possible abattoir. Councillor John Gates will contact other directors of the R.D.C.K. to see a possible partnership could be formed between other communities.

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Moved by Councillor Marc Septav, seconded by Councillor Madeleine Perriere to support the application for funds from the Provincial Government under the Meat Transition Assistance program

RES 06/071

Carried

MLA Corky Evans spoke about the Wellness Centre and what a wonderful addition it is to the Village of Slocan. Councillor Joanne Ellis asked that Mr. Evans help the Village to attract doctors to the Wellness Centre. Mr. Evans mentioned that he would offer support by that rural area practices are harder to fill.

DISBURSEMENTS:

Motion to ratify July disbursements in the amount of \$155,962.22 was made by Counc. Joanne Ellis, seconded by Counc. John Gates.

RES 06/072

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

No business arising out of minutes.

COMMITTEES:

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Please find report attached for perusal.

Recreation Commission

Councillor Joanne Ellis reported that the Annual Poker Float sponsored by the Rec. Commission was a successful family event this year and was greatly enjoyed by all participants.

COMMUNITY FOREST COMMITTEE

It was reported that a final agreement between all parties involved is close and a rough agreement is in place. An open house will be held soon, regarding agreements.

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Motion to send letter of support for final report was made by Counc. Joanne Ellis, seconded by Counc. John Gates.

RES 06/073

Carried

DOG COMMITTEE:

No report at this time.

CORRESPONDANCE:

1. Letter was received from Mike and Cathy Curran regarding the purchase of a single Village lot between their property and a neighbouring property. An appraisal will be requested on the single lot and staff will check into the possibility of a sale, not to be held before February, with the Curran's having first option to purchase.

Moved by Councillor Joanne Ellis to start the process of a sale of the single lot, seconded by Councillor Marc Septav.

RES 06/075

Carried

2. Letter was received from Consumer Advocacy and Support for Homeowners regarding possible resolutions at the upcoming UBCM Conference. No decision was made at this meeting.
3. A fax was received from UBCM regarding the softwood lumber agreement signed on July 1, 2006. Councillor Marc Septav said he would check with Springer Creek Forest Products to see how they feel about the agreement, and that he would follow up with this office with regards to a decision to support or not.
4. A letter was received from the Vancouver Island regional Library regarding support for an increase to the Library Operating Grant. As this grant may affect the proposed library in Slocan, a letter of support was suggested by Councillor John Gates.

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Motion to send letter of support regarding increasing the library operating grant was made by Councillor John Gates, seconded by Councillor Marc Septav.

RES 06/076

Carried

5. Letter was received from Bob Stokes regarding the removal of oil tanks and property taxes at the Slocan Inn. It was suggested that staff research where the tanks were placed on Village property and if there was an agreement in place at that time. A list of expenses was submitted in Mr. Stokes' letter, but there was no actual supporting documentation along with the request for re-imburement of his expenses regarding removal. The discussion was tabled.
6. Letter was received from John & Doris Sargeant regarding an aggressive dog incident. At the time the letter was received, the Bylaw Enforcement Officer was notified and he was able to contact both Mr & Mrs. Sargeant and the dogowner and discuss the situation.
7. Letter was received from the Westbank First Nations regarding a meeting to be held in New Denver in August. It was decided that Councillors John Gates and Joanne Ellis would attend this meeting. Staff to R.S.V.P.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. It was decided that Mayor John Van Bynen and Councillor Marc Septav would attend the UBCM Conference in Victoria in October of this year.
2. Regarding the Village plowing the streets of Brandon, it was mentioned by Foreman Jerry Simmons that the Highways contractor (at this time it is YRB) has always, in the past, given sand mixed with salt to the Village at no cost in return for the Village equipment plowing the streets of Brandon. This agreement is beneficial to all, as the Village does not need to purchase sand and salt, or build a shelter for the sand mixture.

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4. Terry Warren has asked that the Emergency Operation Centre be moved to the Firehall. A meeting has been suggested between Terry Warren Administrator Eunice Ludlow and Mayor Van Bynen to find out more information regarding this move.
5. A group medical plan has been offered to the members of the Village Council. Staff to find out about rates and regulations.
6. The Official Community Plan was discussed and it was suggested that we not go ahead until we find out more about the proposed Boundary expansion. Staff has been asked to contact consultants regarding guidance with the proposed boundary expansion.
7. Administrator Eunice Ludlow and Foreman Jerry Simmons met with a representative of Crown Lands and both felt the meeting was successful.
8. The acquisition of the land for the water plant was discussed, suggestion to proceed as soon as possible. Administrator Ludlow has more information.
9. The misuse of the Boat Ramp was discussed, and it was suggested that a sign with rules regarding use of the dock be posted as soon as possible.
10. Mayor John van Bynen is to approach the Acupuncturist who has been practicing at the building that houses the Women's Institute and offer her the use of the Wellness Centre at the cost of \$40.00 per day, on a trial basis.

Motion to allow the use of the Wellness Centre by the Acupuncturist at the cost of \$40.00 per day, on a trial basis, was made by Councillor Marc Septav, seconded by Councillor Joanne Ellis.

RES 06/078

Carried

11. A motion was made to send a letter of support to the W E Graham Community School regarding support for the proposed skate park.

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