

Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
General Meeting
Tuesday, October 10th, 2017
MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order Meeting called to order @ 12:08 by Cheryl O'Brien
In Attendance- Cheryl O'Brien, Kayla McMillan, Gerry Vigeant, Jim Holt, Janice Carlson, Jenny Skelton, Cam Lockwood, Ruth Wilkinson, Kathy Dyck, Ray Dyck, Eric Little and Tiffany Lund

Adoption of Agenda

- Addition to Agenda- 8) EMS
- Motion to Adopt Agenda- *Motioned by Jenny, Seconded by Cam. Motion carried.*
- Adoption of September Meeting Minutes- *Motioned by Jim, seconded by Jenny. Motion carried.*

Correspondences- N/A

Guest Speaker- Eric Little of Dynamic Microgrids Corp.

- Eric has recently met with ATCO Electrical and the Liard First Nation (LFN) to discuss partnerships for what would be the largest solar project in the Northern Hemisphere. LFN is interested in an equal partnership with Dynamic Microgrids Corp. LFN would provide the land and Dynamic Microgrids and Tesla would provide the cash flow, through investments. ATCO Electrical would expand their infrastructure and maintain the operation of year-round diesel generators.
- The proposed project location is lot 1-77 (the old saw mill site) and will cost roughly \$14 million. There are two components of the project; the first is solar energy and the second would be battery. ATCO Electrical would be responsible for the maintenance of the battery operation and Dynamic and LFN would be responsible for the solar farm portion. The life expectancy of the solar panels is 35 years (warranty) and the batteries has a 25 year life expectancy (warranty with Tesla) and partners would have an asset retirement obligation after these time frames.
- Eric is planning a community meeting on October 26th to share updates on this project with the community. Eric believes that this project will benefit the community by eventually providing lower energy rates. Also, once investors are paid out, LFN would own and operate the solar farm, providing revenue and jobs for locals.
- Eric provided a copy of this YESAB application which is held on file.

Old Business

1) Financials

- No formal financials provided
- Balance of general account is \$13,915.16, which includes funding from CDF for airport project (\$1,977.24 remaining from CDF funds). WLCC also hold two GIC's at CIBC which total \$10,965.72.

2) Medical Advisory Board

- WLCC feels that there is still a need for resident doctors in the community but the Yukon Government does not think that it is needed. Parhelion Medical Clinic has taken on a larger portion of duties, such as scheduling, booking and transportation for our rotating doctors, so that there isn't as much turnaround and we get consistent doctors. WLCC feels that it would save tax dollars and provide more consistency in our health care if we had resident doctors instead.

- WLCC will write a letter to the Minister of Health and Social Services, Yukon Medical Association and the Medical Council to encourage YG to consider long term doctors for our hospital.

New Business

3) Small Business Tax Petition

- YG did not delay their deadline for feedback. WLCC sent a letter to Larry Bagnell expressing our dissatisfaction with the tax increase but we have not received a response. There will most likely be tax increases in the new year.

4) Yukon Financial Advisory Panel

- WLCC members met with the panel in September. WLCC stated that we do not support an increase to sales tax and would suggest that YG lower spending, decrease budgets and instate a hiring freeze instead. The panel shared that no one agrees with the tax increase except one entity, which was not named, and that most people that they have met with have the same feedback and concerns.
- Cheryl and Rick are writing a letter reiterating WLCC's stance on the tax increase and are sending it to the panel, our MLA and Premier Silver.

5) Cannabis Legislation Survey Results

- The outcome of the Cannabis survey was in favour of private sale of Cannabis, rather than sold by Government. WLCC will write a letter to YG about keeping the sale of cannabis in the private sector.

6) Moonlight Madness

- Cheryl is working on the Moonlight Madness event, which will be held on Friday, December 8th. She will start talking to local businesses about how they want to participate this year. Cheryl has requested a \$100.00 budget.
- **Motion 10.1 to grant a budget of \$100.00 for Moonlight Madness supplies *motioned by Jenny, seconded by Kathy. Motion carried.***

7) Chamber Gala and Policeman's Ball

- Planning committee includes Cheryl, Cam, Gerry V., and the new RCMP Sergeant.
- Gala will be held on January 27th, 2018 at the Rec Centre. Tiffany will send out a request to TOWL for use of the Hall at no charge.

8) EMS

- The EMS supervisor position has been moved back to Whitehorse and Laurel has been doing training in Whitehorse which has left the community with limited first responders. WLCC does not feel that YG is addressing the needs of the community and would like to rewrite a letter about our concerns and sent it to Premier Silver, MLA Patti McLeod, EMS and the TOWL. The letter will include the consequences of not having enough responders and the burden it is putting on the RCMP and Fire Department.

Reports around Town

Yukon College- Kayla McMillan

- Kayla is interested in working with RCMP, TOWL, Fire Department and EMS to bring in new safety training courses.

WL Ski Club- Jenny Skelton

- Brush cutting is underway at the Hill.
- Ski Hill auction coming up on December 2nd.
- Ski patrol training has started- 10 returning patrollers and new interest from approx. 5 people.

RCMP-

- New Sergeant, Mr. Kent Lang, has started and hopes to attend the next WLCC meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00pm