

Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
General Meeting
Tuesday, May 10th, 2016
Signpost Seniors Centre
MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order- Meeting called to order @ 12:10 by Cheryl O'Brien

In Attendance- Cheryl O'Brien, Daman Werrun, Kerry Peters, Stacy Bauer, Cam Lockwood, Ruth Wilkinson, Janice Carlson, Chris Irvin, Barb Irvin, Shilo Trusz, Jenny Skelton, John Devries, David Steele and Tiffany Lund

Adoption of Agenda

- Agenda Additions- #6- RFP for Air Service Initiative #7- Letter of Support for Yukon Conservation Society
- Motion to Adopt Agenda- **Motioned by Ruth, Seconded by Chris. Motion carried**
- Adoption of April Meeting Minutes- **Motioned by Janice, Seconded by Jenny. Motion carried.**

Correspondences- N/A

Guest Speaker- David Steele- TOWL CAO

- David is happy with the TOWL staff; he finds them to be knowledgeable, resourceful and reliable.
- Operational & Capital budgets approved
- TOWL revenue is approx. \$4.8 million and expenditures equal that amount. There has been a decline in Town revenue in past year with costs increasing. David does not see a lot of opportunities to save on these costs.
- David and Mayor & Council are looking at ways to maintain our existing services and save where they can.
- Changes to the Yukon Municipal Act gives more freedom for municipalities to earn revenues- TOWL discussing what this means for Watson Lake.
- Capital Budget of 1.8 million has been approved- projects for the year include a \$200K pool project (funded by grant \$), Build Canada giving \$500K for landfill upgrades, cell development for waste containment, NLC water lines need upgrading, continuous work on the water treatment plant, a new water reservoir that will double Watson Lakes capacity, sewage lagoon upgrades in future and TWOL will receive \$3 million from the Gas Tax Fund for road, water and sewer upgrades and painting of the recreation centre and tourist information centre.
- TOWL looking more into water metres.
- By-Law officer has been hired
- TOWL looking into by-law for derelict properties
- TOWL discussing future lot development opportunities.

Old Business

1) Financials -N/A

2) Air Service initiative/partnership- update

- Rick not available at meeting for updates- RFP is later in agenda

3) AYC

a. Health Break sponsorship

- WLCC executive suggests that a \$200.00 sponsorship be approved for health breaks. **Motion 5.1 to approve sponsorship moved by Jenny, seconded by Chris. Motion carried.**

b. Trade Show Booth

- Rick will not be in town for the Trade show and there is no other interest by the Chamber members.

4) Website Renewal

- Shilo Trusz has provided 2 proposals- available upon request
- WLCC executive would like to approve option #2 which is an annual contract which includes complete upkeep/maintenance for a cost of \$1000.00/year.
- **Motion 5.2 to approve contract #2 for website maintenance moved by Janice, seconded by Cam. Motion carried.**

New Business

5) MLA Constituency BBQ

- Patti McLeod hosting the Yukon Party Constituency BBQ on June 14th from 5:00pm-7:00pm at the Sign Post Seniors Centre.

6) RFP – Air Service Initiative

- An application for \$4000.00 has been submitted to CDF for the Air Service RFP
- Rick is looking for support by WLCC to match the CDF funding of \$4000.00. **Motion 5.3 to contribute \$4000.00 to initiative moved by Ruth, seconded by Chris. Motion carried.**

7) Letter of Support for Yukon Conservation Society

- There is no interest by the WLCC at this time.
- WLCC members feel that a presentation from the society would be suggested in the future if the Yukon Conservation Society seeks WLCC support.

Reports around Town

RCMP- Cam Lockwood

- Police week is in May- Local RCMP members hosting a BBQ outside of Watson Lake Foods for the event. All proceeds are donated to the Watson Lake Food Bank.
- 2 members are being transferred out in June. Replacements have already been hired for these positions. Cam anticipates the transfer of one more member this year.

Town of Watson Lake- Chris Irvin

- Mayor & Council held their first Town Hall meeting. Meeting was not well attended but the discussions and feedback from community were very positive.
- AYC conference preparations are well underway and community reps' will be in town for the weekend.

Yukon College- Jenny Skelton

- Yukon College is currently looking at a 3-year plan for upcoming courses.
- The trades program, which was partnered with WLSC, went very well. Yukon College is looking at other opportunities for partnership with WLSS in future including pre-employment courses.
- College is looking at offering a carpentry course in the fall and forestry courses in 2 years' time.
- College will continue to provide mining courses.
- Michelle Koehl has resigned from College. Her job will be posted in near future.

Yukon Housing- Cheryl O'Brien

- New grants and lending opportunities are available for rental properties, home renovations etc...
- The Yukon Hosing manager hired.

Community Outreach- Shilo Trusz

- Computers are down at the office right now.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:03pm

Next Meeting held Tuesday, June 14th @ Sign Post Seniors