DISTRICT OF WELLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, February 23, 2021
ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) – COVID-19

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL:	Mayor Gabe Fourchalk, Councillors Jordan Rohatynski, Ksenya Dorwart and Mandy Kilsby
ABSENT:	Councillor Chris Cooley
STAFF:	Donna Forseille, Chief Administrative Officer and Carrie Chard, Fire Chief
PUBLIC GALLERY:	12

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AT 7:04PM

1.1 Agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday February 23, 2021

21-14 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council approves the agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday February 23, 2021, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

2.0 MINUTES

2.1 Minutes for the Regular Council meeting of February 9, 2021

21-15 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council approves the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday February 9, 2021, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3.0 PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

3.1 Presentation from BC Assessment regarding 2021 Tax Assessment Rolls

Darin Johnson of BC Assessments gave a brief presentation.

21-16 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council receives the presentation from BC Assessment regarding the 2021 Tax Assessment Roll.

Carried Unanimously

3.2 Wells Community Facility Building Committee update

21-17 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council receives the update from the Wells Community Facility Building Committee and letter of request regarding Council's consideration for installation of a filtration system at the Wells Community Facility Building (old school).

Carried Unanimously

3.3 Wells Community Vision and Planning Committee update

Councillor Rohatynski, chair for the Community Vision and Planning Committee Gave a brief update.

21-18 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council receives the update from the Wells Community Vision and Planning Committee Chair, Councillor Rohatynski.

Carried Unanimously

3.4 Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Board (WBCFB) update and requests

Mayor Fourchalk invited Cam Beck to speak on behalf of the WBCFB. Councillor Rohatynski requested to go on record that he is opposed to waiving the AGM of the board as he feels that more Community events and updates need to happen.

21-19 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council receives the update and report from Wells-Barkerville Community Community Forest Board.

Carried Unanimously

21-20 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council

approves waiving the appointment of auditor for the year 2021 for the Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Board.

Carried Unanimously

21-21 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council approves the waiving of the 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Board.

Carried, Councillor Rohatynski Opposed

4.0 **CORRESPONDENCE**

4.1 Letter to Mayor and Council from Jules Mackey regarding light pollution

Mayor Fourchalk suggested a shroud for the outside Fire Hall.

The Fire Chief stated that a shroud would not be of benefit to brigade members who must conduct walk around inspections on the trucks on the street. There are certain lights around machinery that cause shadows which can cause risks to brigade members. Shroud's also cause heat which could potentially be an issue. The District can look into lighting alternatives, but this is likely not an easy fix.

21-22 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council receives the letter from Jules Mackey regarding the recent light pollution at Barkerville Gold Mines Lot B (located on Pooley Street) and the lighting located at the Fire Hall on Jones Avenue.

Carried Unanimously

4.2 Letter of request for support from Island Mountain Arts

21-23 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council receives the letter from Elyssia Sasaki of Island Mountain Arts (IMA) regarding request for a letter of support for a grant application to Northern Development Initiatives Trust (NDIT).

Carried Unanimously

21-24 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council approves staff writing a letter which supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from Island Mountain Arts for a grant of up to $15,000 for the Island Mountain Arts Summer Programming and year-round residencies marketing Initiatives from the (insert regional development account name).

Carried Unanimously

5.0 **STAFF REPORTS**

5.1 EFT TD Canada Trust Bank cheque report for the period of January 1, 2021 to February 19, 2021 in the amount of $142,057.34.
Councillor Rohatynski inquired about the cheque for nearly $25,000, the CAO responded the cheque was for new Fire fighter gear, covered under the grant awarded last year by UBCM. Councillor Rohatynski inquired about the cheque for $461 , the CAO responded that was a reimbursement for supplies purchased for the District in Prince George, BC.

21-25 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council receives the EFT TD Canada Trust Bank cheque report for the period of January 1, 2021 to February 19, 2021 in the amount of $142,057.34.

Carried Unanimously

6.0 INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

6.1 Council

Councillor Kilsby thanked all the board and committee members for all the work they do.

Councillor Dorwart echoed Councillor Kilsby, also thanking staff for their work. She hopes everyone had a great Family Day long weekend. Thank you for joining the meeting tonight, stay safe and healthy.

Councillor Rohatynski thanked Mr. Johnson for the BC Assessment presentation. He reminded everyone to keep an eye out for the engagement

process of the Official Community Plan. He also reminded everyone that the Fire Brigade would be going door to door with handouts for the red check, green check program.

Mayor Fourchalk echoed his colleagues. He looks forward to seeing everyone in two weeks at the next Council meeting.

6.2 Staff

Fire Chief, Carrie Chard, thanked staff for assisting in getting the red check, green check campaign packages together. These packages have been updated to add potable water.
She thanked Barkerville Gold Mines for their donation of bags for the campaign packages. Packages will also be left at the post office and the District office. Thank you to the brigade members for their assistance in handing packages out door to door, Carrie invites community members to volunteer in handing out packages in their neighborhoods. She feels that with more snow and covid fatigue it is important to check on your neighbors. Be patient with each other.

CAO, Donna Forseille, announced that the District was successful in obtaining the Grant Writer position grant from NDIT, a employment announcement would be going out and she hopes locals will apply for this part time position.

6.3 Public Gallery

Jules Mackey thanked everyone for all their hard work, she also thanked staff for supplying bottled water. The Sunset Theatre Cafe is open 11-4 on Wednesdays and weekends. Ms. Mackey asked if the District of Wells could provide minutes to their monthly meetings with the Cariboo Gold Project Technical Advisory Committee.

Dorothea Funk stated that she feels the letter regarding light pollution raised some good points. Thank you to the District of Wells for the bottled water supplied. She would like to know what the staff situation is for the District of Wells. She feels it would be nice for the Community to be notified when a new employee or staff member joins the District.

Alison Galbraith thanked the District for the supply of bottled water. She would like to know who initiated the proposed TELUS tower and is hopeful that Mayor and Council are engaged in the process. She would like to know if

Council requested the cell tower consultation to happen and if they have heard that the range of the tower is allegedly small. She feels a lot more input needs to happen.

Mayor Fourchalk responded that Council and the District did not actively seek TELUS out to ask for a cell tower. A cell tower has been discussed for years. The province prioritized all small rural communities for cell service to assist in safety aspects. He is unclear on exact range.

Alison Galbraith felt that the March 1st, 2021 deadline for input was soon, she would like clarification on the tower. If the local government did not initiate the tower, than who did?

Carrie Johnston stated that she heard that the Council was having meetings once per month with Barkerville Gold Mines. She hopes Council is being proactive and participating in the meetings. She also inquired if the advisory meetings were being brought forward to the vision and planning committee. She is disappointed in the water situation. She asked where all the tests were at, why the District was spending money on consultants knowing the problem is likely lack of maintenance and flushing of lines.

Dawn Leroy announced that she took initiative to organize water sampling from some residences. There were 19 household samples collected. Samples were sent to the lab on Monday (February 22, 2021), she hopes to have the results back to individuals within a week.
Sample kits came with specific instructions.

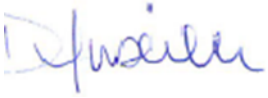
Dorothea Funk inquired as to where to send cell tower feed back too.
The CAO responded that all feedback and questions should be directed to Cypress. The CAO offered to email Dorothea the information again.

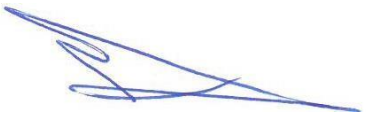
7.0 ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Adjournment of the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday February 23, 2021.

21-26 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Jordan Rohatynski THAT Council at 8:18 PM adjourns the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday February 23, 2021.

Carried Unanimously





Donna Forseille, CAO

Gabe Fourchalk, Mayor