

Public Meeting of Witless Bay Council
Town Hall
February 12, 2019

Attending: Mayor Rene Estrada, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Chris Brinston, Neil Stratton, Vince Swain and Lucy Carew.

Remote attendance: Councillor Fraser Paul attended the meeting by remote means.

Recording: Geraldine Caul & Barb Harrigan

1. Mayor Rene Estrada called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **2019-012** Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Vince Swain
Be it resolved that Council adopt the February 12, 2019 Agenda as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.
3. **2019-013** Councillor Lucy Carew/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy
Be it resolved that Council adopt the Minutes of January 8, 2019 Public Meeting as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.
4. Business Arising from Minutes:
 - a. Town Planner –

2019-014 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Chris Brinston
Be it resolved that the Town advertise in the Telegram for a Town Planner.
Motion carried unanimously.
5. Public Works & Infrastructure:
 - a. Application for demolition and removal of structure, and levelling off lot on 19 Lower Loop Road –

Councillor Lucy Carew declared a conflict of interest on this item because she is the property owner and applicant, and left the Council Chamber at 7:35 p.m.

2019-015 Councillor Vince Swain/Fraser Paul
Be it resolved that Council approve the application for demolition and removal of structure, and levelling off lot on 19 Lower Loop Road.

Discussion: Councillor Chris Brinston stated that the applicant is to be reminded of the proper disposal and cleanup of the property.

For: Mayor Rene Estrada, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Chris Brinston, Neil Stratton, Vince Swain, and Fraser Paul.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Lucy Carew who abstained, declaring a conflict of interest.

Motion carried.

Councillor Lucy Carew returned to the Council Chamber at 7:37 p.m.

- b. Application to repair existing building and placement of 3 storage containers on 14-28 Dean's Road –

2019-016 Councillor Vince Swain/Councillor Neil Stratton

Be it resolved that Council has no problem with the applicant repairing the existing structure, but it is a residential property and the adjacent land is also residential, so there will be no permit for storage containers. *[The Town's Municipal Plan does not allow for storage containers in a residential zone]*

Discussion: There was a question of whether Council would offer the applicant an option to rezone the property to allow for storage containers. Council noted that a consideration has to be given to the fact that there are residential lots and dwellings surrounding this area, and storage containers for fishing equipment would not be desirable to these property owners.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Finance:

- a. Invoice Payment Chart for approval –

2019-017 Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Vince Swain

Be it resolved that Council pay the invoices in the payment Chart.

Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Snow Clearing invoices and logs for period January 2 to February 3 – presented to Council for information purpose only, since payment approval was given under 6a.

- c. Outsourcing Rewrite of the Town Policies –

2019-018 Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Lucy Carew

Be it resolved that Council outsource the rewrite of the Town's Policies.

Motion carried unanimously.

Maureen noted that a Notice of Motion was given to revise our policy manual, and Council now has this manual completed.

2019-019 Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Neil Stratton

Be it resolved that Council adopt the Witless Bay revised policies 2019, and that all previous policies and by-laws are repealed.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. Revision to the Town's Tax Structure –

2019-020 Councillor Lucy Carew/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Be it resolved that Council accept the revised Town's Tax Structure for 2019.

Discussion: Councillor Lucy Carew noted that the Town had a review done by Municipal Affairs as per normal and there were some minor details, but no taxes are going up as a result of this revision and the mill rates remain the same.

Motion carried unanimously.

e. Approving applications of recipients of Guaranteed Income Supplement –

2019-021 Councillor Lucy Carew/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Be it resolved that Council accept the applications for Guaranteed Income Supplement.

Discussion: Councillor Fraser Paul put a question to the Town Clerk-Manager, asking if he was in a conflict of interest because his father-in-law is on the list of recipients. The Town Clerk-Manager made reference to how the Municipalities Act defines father-in-law as a basis for declaring a conflict of interest [*Section 207 (1) A councillor shall not vote on or speak to a matter before the council or a committee of the council where (c) a relative of the councillor has a monetary interest in the matter*].

For: Mayor Rene Estrada, Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy, Councillors Chris Brinston, Neil Stratton, Vince Swain and Lucy Carew.

Against: 0

Abstained: Councillor Fraser Paul who abstained, declaring a conflict of interest.

Motion carried.

f. Mobile High School – Request for support of Senior Outreach Program

2019-022 Councillor Neil Stratton/Councillor Lucy Carew

Be it resolved that Council accept the request for support from the Senior Outreach Program for 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

g. Request for Tax Break – Alderwood Senior's Home

2019-023 Councillor Lucy Carew/Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy

Be it resolved that Council deny the request for a tax break from Alderwood Senior's Home. All tax requests are closed for 2019, and can be reviewed in 2020 upon request.

Staff to notify the business of Council's decision.

Motion carried unanimously.

- h. Re-applying for Fire Equipment through FES (SCBA) –

2019-024 Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy/Councillor Vince Swain

Be it resolved that Council re-apply to FES for SCBA equipment for the Fire Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 7. Other Business:

- a. Correspondence – MAE: Deputy Mayor Maureen Murphy reported that Council received two letters from Municipal Affairs, and a routine inspection was carried out as required under Section 4 of the Municipalities Act. Recommendations were made, Council addressed those issues, and a letter was sent back to Minister Letto to that effect. The second letter was related to tax structure and budget items, and most of these items have been revised. Council is working on finalizing the remaining items.

- b. Use of Cameras for municipal properties –

2019-025 Councillor Chris Brinston/Neil Stratton

Be it resolved Council investigate price, and any legal stipulations of installing cameras for municipal properties.

- c. Alder Hill Road – Councillor Vince Swain reported that this matter is taken care of.

- 8. **2019-026** Councillor Lucy Carew/Councillor Chris Brinston

Be it resolved that Council adjourn the public meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.