



Town of Fort Smith  
Corporate Services Standing Committee  
Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 8:15 pm  
Town Hall Council Chambers

Chairperson: Cr. Tuckey  
Members: Mayor Daniels, Cr. Pischinger, Cr. Beaulieu, Cr. Couvrette  
Regrets:  
Staff Present: Emily Colucci, Director of Community Services, Acting SAO  
Sarah Westwell, Clerk/ Reception  
Guests:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Daniels called the meeting to order at 8:40 pm and handed the Chair to Cr. Tuckey.

2. Delegations

3. Declaration of Financial Interest

- a. Statement of Disclosure of Interest

4. Review

- a. Agenda –The agenda was reviewed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by: Cr. Couvrette**

**Seconded by: Cr. Pischinger**

**That the agenda be adopted as presented.**

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- b. Minutes – The Corporate Services Standing Committee Minutes of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 were reviewed and adopted at the Regular Meeting of Council on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

- c. Vision and Values – The Vision and Values were reviewed.

- d. Strategic Plan – The Strategic Plan was reviewed.

5. Governance

- a. Infrastructure Renewal

Director of Community Services stated that there will be more of an update at the Municipal Services Standing Committee meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>. We are continuing to work away at our Capital Infrastructure Projects. The Raw Water Intake, the Lagoon, Conibear Park, these are all continuing on. There will also be one for the Landfill that the SAO will bring to the next meeting.

- b. Economic Growth

- c. Lands

- d. Human Resources

Director of Community Services mentioned that one of the bigger things here is the ongoing Capitol Project with our HR services, we are coming close on that. The SAO will most likely have a report on that and where we sit on that. With our job evaluations, we were due to have all of our jobs evaluated in 2024 as part of the collective agreement and we have worked through that quite diligently. We have updated job descriptions. Updating the org chart. Some policies will also be going to the Bylaw Review committee around onboarding and other polies. One of the biggest wins we have seen having someone in the HR role for us is the amount of funding opportunities that they have been able to pursue around new

hires and training. They put together a proposal that stands to save us close to \$200,000 and actually get us up to date on our training with a big focus on what we are legislatively able to provide for municipal services employees, already we have been successful in obtaining funding for training and training related travel.

#### Advocacy for Excellence of Services

##### e. Communications Committee

The Director of Community Services stated that she believes the SAO is still trying to meet with the Communications Committee.

##### f. Bylaw Review Committee

##### g. Post-Secondary Education Committee

Cr. Couvrette gave an update. He will be sending out a request for the Post-Secondary Education Committee to meet in the next week or so. The biggest thing that has happened, late last week the Board of Governors and the Minister have said that they are putting a pause on the transition of the college to a Polytechnique University. The amount of resources that the Government expended on the transition. As a Councilor, one of his concerns is asking the Board of Governors and/ or the Minister to provide an update on programming status within the college. They were supposed to be launching the Bachelor of Education program in the fall as well as a Social Services program. Both have been delayed because of accreditation issues. Cr. Couvrette stated that he is disappointed in the utilization. It is empty, with very little activity. We might have an opportunity, with the Board of Governors coming into town, Cr. Couvrette would like to see either the Mayor or the Post-Secondary Education Committee sit and meet with them and try to get more information on the future.

##### h. NTPC Intervention Committee

Cr. Couvrette gave an update for public information, back in mid-May the NTPC filed a general rate application to increase electrical rates across the NWT. In this new application, it looks like they are asking for a 4.6% increase on the TULSA system which will work out to a couple of cents a kilowatt for Fort Smith. As part of the general rate application, Fort Smith has filed to be an intervenor so that we can present an argument and ask very important questions such as what it costs to produce power from the TUSLA system, and are we as users of that system paying a premium i.e. subsidizing other areas in the NWT. The numbers Cr. Couvrette has heard that it costs between three and four cents a kilowatt to produce, why are we paying 26 cents a kilowatt. We will be asking them to provide a full cost analysis, what it costs to produce power, and distribution costs, so that we can get a realistic rate of what power should be. As an intervenor, we can ask those questions and under the Public Utilities Act, we will be reimbursed any cost associated with us being an intervenor.

#### 6. Director's Report

Director of Community Services stated that the report was very straight forward the only addition she would like to make is that Corporate Services is still working to try and get the finalized audit. Once the auditors have completed it they will, as in previous years, do a presentation. We will be able to share it once we have the finalized document.

a. Corporate Service Report – The Corporate Services Report from May 2024 was reviewed.

b. Accounts Paid List – The Accounts Paid List from May 2024 was reviewed.

c. License Report – The License Report from May 2024 was reviewed.

7. Administration

The Director of Community Services stated that there was nothing additional at this time in regards to the Director's report.

Cr. Pischinger asked, looking at the Director's report, are we ready for the June 27<sup>th</sup> property tax auction. Director of Community Services responded with almost. One of the last things that need to be done is the listing and the advertising of it. That will be happening shortly, and then it will be complete. Hopefully, it gives people time to get off of the arrears list if necessary. We are on schedule to hold it on that date.

8. Other Business

9. Excusing of Councillors

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by: Cr. Couvrette**

**Seconded by: Cr. Couvrette**

**That D/M Korol, Cr. Fergusson, Cr. Campbell be excused from the Corporate Services Standing Committee Meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next Corporate Services Standing Committee meeting will be on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

11. Adjournment

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by: Cr. Couvrette**

**Seconded by: Cr. Couvrette**

**That the meeting be adjourned at 8:55pm.**

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**