



Town of Fort Smith  
Corporate Services Standing Committee  
Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 8:15 pm  
Town Hall Council Chambers

Chairperson: Cr. Tuckey  
Members: Mayor Daniels, D/M Korol, Cr. Fergusson, Cr. Campbell, Cr. Pischinger, Cr. Beaulieu, Cr. Couvrette  
Regrets:  
Staff Present: Tracy Thomas, Senior Administrative Officer  
Sarah Westwell, Executive Secretary  
Guests:

1. Call to Order

Mayor Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:55pm 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. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

- b. Minutes – The Corporate Services Standing Committee Minutes of June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 were reviewed and adopted at the Regular Meeting of Council on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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

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

5. Governance Committee Reports

- a. Human Resources Committee

- b. Communications Committee

- c. Bylaw Review Committee

Administration noted that she has been trying to meet however due to conflicting schedules it has been difficult. There are a few HR policies that we need to move forward with and would appreciate a meeting soon.

- d. Post-Secondary Education Committee

- e. NTPC Intervention Committee

Administration gave a quick update that an argument was submitted, and they have responded. It is moving forward.

Cr. Campbell stated that the committees seem to be falling apart, there are no monthly meetings or communication within the department. We have to get back to where we were a few years ago.

Cr. Fergusson stated that the NTPC is very active, as well as the Bylaw Review committee. Most boards are as is needed.

6. Director's Report

- a. Accounts Paid List – The Accounts Paid List from June 2024 was reviewed.

Cr. Campbell questioned cheque 41794, for rent. Cr. Campbell believed that Council was going to receive something explaining the full cost of that and to put it out to tender.

Administration responded stating that with the priority being public health and safety and emergency preparedness there has not been a chance to focus on where we are housing our ambulance staff, it is on the list of things to do once we are out of the emergency preparedness season.

Point of order. Violation of Code of Conduct.

Cr. Campbell, cheque 41879 Wildfire Services, was this put out to tender for anyone in Fort Smith to bid on.

Administration responded stating all of the Fire Smarting contracts were put out to tender.

Cr. Fergusson questioned cheque 41781, Groceries supply for Fire Truck referencing Daycare/ Ambulance.

Administration speculated that it was around the parade but will confirm.

- b. Correspondence – The Correspondence List from June 2024 was reviewed.

Cr. Fergusson, looking into the correspondence there has not yet been a response to the St. John Anglican Church in regards for their request for clarification on taxed. Asking if they said they were coming to delegate and if so, could we get a briefing note as a reminder update for the fees.

Cr. Tuckey noted that they were planning to delegate at the end of August.

Administration stated that she was looking to Council to invite them and set the date and what Council wanted on this. For clarification, Administration understands that Council would like to accept their request and for Administration to prepare an information briefing note in preparation for that meeting.

Cr. Fergusson advised that a letter explaining the tax may be a better place to start.

Cr. Campbell stated that this would be a touchy subject, inquiring if maybe we should involve Leadership.

Cr. Pischinger agreed, sending a letter is a good start.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** Cr. Campbell

**That Administration follows up with the correspondence log for St. John's Anglican Church from the Mayor and Council to address their questions regarding the rates and fees changes in a detailed letter.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr. Fergusson spoke on the letter to MACA regarding the Arctic Winter games, boasting Fort Smith athletes and volunteers. Stating she would be in favour of hosting and it should be talked about.

Cr. Campbell agreed that it should be talked about, it is a considerable workload and takes a lot of people involved behind the scenes and it is a big financial commitment.

Cr. Fergusson stated that step one is asking Hay River if they are interested first. Step two would be reaching out to MACA with directions.

Mayor Daniels agreed that it would be good for Fort Smith but questioned if we would have the money or the manpower for it.

Cr. Fergusson asked if Administration could follow up and let Council know if the other communities are interested in this because that would decide if Fort Smith is doing it or not.

- c. License Report – The License Report from June 2024 was reviewed.

## 7. Administration

- a. Briefing Note - HR Project

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

**That Council accepts the update on the status of the HR project as information.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Administration commented that having this project in place before her arrival was a huge support and was an asset in developing better policies and processes.

- b. Capital Projects Report

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** Cr. Campbell

**That Council accepts the Capital Projects monthly report for July 2024 as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr. Fergusson commented on how great Conibear Park looks.

Cr. Campbell questioned what was happening with the backup generator, as well as well as the Ice Plant.

Administration gave an update that on June 12<sup>th</sup> there was a meeting with the design engineer. There are some outstanding questions and details that are being confirmed. Location, generator size with updated records of peak use.

Cr. Campbell stated that this engineer design team for months, why are there only questions now? We have to push them to get this going. We already have a location, it is going to be on the far side by the skateboard park but its not a very big generator building. It just seems like this is dragging on. The Ice Plant for CRC, questioned if it was in the process and if we are going to have the pad poured in time. Instead of waiting until the fall to get the concrete poured we should be putting it out to tender.

Administration advised that she requested an updated schedule on June 24<sup>th</sup> but has not received anything as of yet. As soon as an update is available it will be brought to Council.

- c. Briefing Note – CPI Funding Agreement

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson  
**Seconded by:** Cr. Pischinger  
**That Council approves the CPI funding Contribution Agreements with MACA for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$1,656,000.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr. Fergusson stated that she believes this is underfunded. This amount is not enough for our aging infrastructure. If our MLA or Premier are here next week and our Leadership is meeting with them they should be pushing them to give us the money it takes just to maintain our aging infrastructure.

Mayor Daniels stated that he will be looking at that when they meet, Council is more than welcome to attend. The meeting is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30am at the Salt River Business Center. Mayor Daniels stated that he will also be looking at other federal funding for these projects.

- d. Briefing Note – O&M Funding Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION**  
**Moved by:** Cr. Campbell  
**Seconded by:** Cr. Fergusson  
**That Council approves the Operations and Maintenance Funding Contribution Agreements with MACA for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$2,408,000.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- e. Briefing Note – Water and Sewer Funding Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION**  
**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson  
**Seconded by:** Cr. Pischinger  
**That Council approves the Water and Sewer Subsidy Funding Contribution Agreements with MACA for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$671,000.**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Cr. Fergusson noted that she believes this is also underfunded from what it costs resulting in the remainder of the cost coming from taxpayers. We have services that we cannot afford to develop. If Leadership is in the room with our MLA or Premier they need to be advocating for proper money and giving us the right amount of funds to actually provide the services that are basic minimal needs for our community.

- f. Briefing Note – MSA Extension Request SRFN/ Town

**RECOMMENDATION**  
**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson  
**Seconded by:** Cr. Campbell  
**That Council approves the Salt River First Nation Municipal Services Agreement Extension.**

Administration advised that Salt River First Nation wants to move forward with this and they are cooperative regarding outstanding payment in lieu of taxes and very amenable with working towards a new Municipal Service Agreement they just have not been able to have a council meeting as of yet, so they are unable to make any motions or approve anything. They have asked for an additional year extension so that they can, in good faith, continue to move forward.

Cr. Campbell questioned if this is going to open up the water with the new subdivision.

Administration stated that this is just extending the existing agreement with the terms contained in it.

Cr. Fergusson stated that extending the agreement is good, however, something that we are cautious of is if we say to extend the agreement does that turn the water on because we are not ready to take that on.

Administration requested that Council give a direction in response that Council is in support of moving forward extending the agreement while we negotiate a new municipal service agreement while understanding signing this agreement extension does not in anyway approve turning on the water to the new sub-division.

D/M Korol questioned if this recommendation should be tabled until there is clarification.

Cr. Fergusson stated that she does not believe the recommendation needs to be tabled, continued on to make an updated motion.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** Cr. Campbell

**That Council directs Administration to approve an extension for the Municipal Services Agreement noting that the services for the development of the new subdivision will not be turned on until we can properly accept the load to our services.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

- g. In-Camera in accordance with the Cities, Towns, and Villages Act, Section 23(3)(d)(e)(i)

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

**That Council move in-camera in accordance with the Cities, Towns, and Villages Act, Section 23(3)(d)(e)(i) *the salary, benefits or performance record of an employee; a matter still under consideration and on which Council has not yet publicly announced a decision, if discussion in public would likely prejudice the municipal corporation's ability to carry out its activities or negotiations; the conduct of an investigation under, or enforcement of, an enactment or bylaw.***

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

**That Council move out of in-camera at 9:47pm.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

**That Council approves the increase in the Sewage Lagoon Liner Replacement Project Budget to include the additional design and project costs.**

**5 AGREE/ 1 OPPOSED**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

**That Council approves the award of the Sewage Lagoon Liner Replacement Project to NWT Construction for the total amount of \$1,673,350.**

**5 AGREE/ 1 OPPOSED**

**MOTION CARRIED**

8. Other Business

9. Excusing of Councillors

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** Cr. Pischinger

**That Cr. Beaulieu and Cr. Couvrette be excused from the Corporate Services Standing Committee Meeting on July 9, 2024.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next Corporate Services Standing Committee meeting will be on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

11. Adjournment

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved by:** Cr. Fergusson

**Seconded by:** D/M Korol

**That the meeting be adjourned at 9:50pm.**

**MOTION CARRIED**