

MINUTES
TOWN OF INUVIK ~ COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS
HELD ON AUGUST 12 AND 14, 2019
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present:	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
Mayor:	Natasha Kulikowski	Natasha Kulikowski
Deputy Mayor:	Steven Baryluk (<i>in at 7:10 p.m., via teleconference</i>)	Steven Baryluk
Councillors:	Paul MacDonald	Dez Loreen
	Gary McBride	Paul MacDonald
	Alana Mero	Gary McBride
	Kurt Wainman	Alana Mero
	Clarence Wood	Ray Solotki
		Kurt Wainman
		Clarence Wood

Absent: Councillor Dez Loreen (with notice on Monday)
Councillor Ray Solotki (with notice on Monday)

Staff Present: Nicole Cherniwchan, Director of Finance and Acting SAO (both meetings)
Grant Hood, Senior Administrative Officer (via teleconference on Wednesday)
Cynthia Hammond, Director of Protective Services (both meetings)
Jackie Challis, Director of Tourism & Economic Development (on Monday)
Lise Saumur, Director of Community Services (both meetings)
Matt Hogan, Municipal Enforcement Peace Officer (both meetings)
Rick Campbell, Director of Public Services (on Monday)

Others Present: Cpl Brennan Woodcock and Sgt Louis Jenvenne, Inuvik RCMP (on Wednesday)

Media Present: Inuvik Drum (on Monday)

Item # 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kulikowski called both meetings to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item # 2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was noted that the in-camera session was moved to Wednesday.

Moved by Councillor McBride, seconded by Councillor Wood:

MOTION: 195/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby adopts the agenda as presented."

Motion CARRIED.



Item # 3

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST OR PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest or pecuniary interest.

Item # 4

DELEGATIONS, PRESENTATIONS OR PETITIONS

4.1

RCMP Report

No representative was available to present the report on Monday. On Wednesday, Mayor Kulikowski relayed concerns presented on Monday by Jackie Challis regarding the increase in public intoxication this summer around town and on Town public properties. She inquired if the RCMP should be called every time someone sees open liquor and if the RCMP is able to respond to these calls. Cpl Woodcock encouraged the public to call in and that calls would be responded to on a priority basis. He added that depending on other more pressing incidents, it may take time for the RCMP to respond.

Councillor McBride noted that he had heard that the community of Whitehorse was facing similar issues and was curious how they were dealing with it. He stated that the emergency warming shelter appears to be being abused by patrons and that intoxicated persons are causing tourists and residents to feel uncomfortable walking downtown. He also noted Ms. Challis' comments about tourists expressing their discomfort with walking our streets on social media. Sgt Jenvenne stated that he noticed the issue as soon as he arrived in town and that he would like to discuss it further with Council in order to try to mitigate the damage it is creating. He suggested looking into moving the shelter away from the downtown core.

Councillor Wood stated that the problem has gotten progressively worse and inquired if RCMP foot or bicycle patrols in the downtown core would help. Cpl Woodcock stated that with only two officers on duty at one time, it was not feasible, but agreed that it would probably assist with curbing activities.

Councillor Mero stated that she met with NWT Housing Corporation's staff and representatives from both the homeless and warming shelters, and all share the same concern. She advised that funding has been provided to both shelters for a support worker whose role is to get people back to their home communities. She added that both shelters are open to meeting with community leadership and other organizations to discuss the issue and that both are open to moving locations. Both organizations also share the concern about intoxicated persons entering the library and local businesses that youth frequent. She advised that the next Interagency Committee meeting is scheduled for September.

Councillor McBride inquired if the Town could spearhead working with IRC and GTC to develop a treatment plan. Mayor Kulikowski stated that this issue will require working with more community stakeholders and that the Interagency Committee would be the best place to start the discussion.



Councillor Mero stated that she has been involved with dealing with addictions in the community for many years and that the Department of Health has clearly stated that it will not be providing a treatment facility in the Territory due to the sheer cost and the fact that treatment facilities in the north do not have as high a success rate as those in the south. She stated that the Inuvialuit and Gwich'in both have land camps that they see as a more appropriate approach.

Councillor Wainman stated that according to the RCMP's year-to-date statistics, the detachment is much busier than last year. Cpl Woodcock confirmed that calls have picked up and that most involve alcohol or drugs.

Councillor Wainman requested that Crime Stoppers posters be put up around town.

Item # 5

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Speaking as a resident on Monday, Ms. Challis stated that intoxicated persons on the streets with open containers of alcohol has become a big problem in the community and that residents and visitors are feeling threatened by it. She stated that children are being accosted at the library and while entering Mac's convenience store and that the Town has been trying to run programming in Chief Jim Koe Park which it has been forced to adapt or change. She acknowledged that it is a systemic issue that many Councillors have worked on in one capacity or another, and that it has recently increased. She noted that visitors have publicly posted on social media about people on our streets and that she was concerned for visitors, residents and young people witnessing the behaviours. She added that it is putting a damper on the positive things that the Town is trying to do, including vandalism to the large tent used for events in the park and the fact that staff cannot attach the walls to the tent for fear of people congregating inside and drinking. She stated that something has to be done and that the behaviour should not be accepted or tolerated.

Councillor Mero thanked Ms. Challis for bring the issue forward and agreed that the problem has worsened. She was particularly concerned with intoxicated persons entering the library where children go for activities, especially knowing the history of some of the people on the street. She suggested setting up a meeting with the emergency warming shelter given that much of it involves their clients, and stated that she worries about the location of the shelter and enabling the behaviour. She recommended that the issue be brought forward to the Interagency Committee.

Councillor McBride inquired if anyone knew why the problem has increased. Councillor Mero stated that when the warming shelter first opened, it closed for the summer months due lack of funding to stay open all year and that the funding has been increased allowing it to remain open 24 hours a day. She stated that we have allowed a culture to develop that it is acceptable to behave this way and more people are coming into town seeing it is a fun thing to do.



Mayor Kulikowski stated that the Town will need to discuss the emergency warming shelter in September and encouraged councillors to forward any ideas that they wish to discuss.

Councillor Wainman inquired why the shelter is open during the summer. Councillor Mero stated that when the Department of Health and Social Services funded it initially, it was for winter months only and when funding switched to the NWT Housing Corporation, it became funded year-round.

Councillor Wainman inquired how long the shelter has been in operation. Councillor Mero stated that it opened on a much smaller scale at the Anglican Church in 2013, but only during the winter months and that it moved to its current location in 2015. She stated that people are not making the progress that was hoped and that there need to be more expectations placed on the people staying there. She stated that it was unfair to people downtown if we must worry about children going into the library or for ice cream.

Councillor Wainman stated that he did not see the point of the centre being open in the summer and that it is clearly being abused. Councillor Mero agreed with Councillor Wainman, adding that the reasoning of it being open over the summer was to bring people in off the streets. She stated that there are currently no expectations being placed on people entering the shelter and that some are highly intoxicated. She noted that the original mandate has shifted and needs to go back to helping people with their addictions rather than enabling them.

Councillor Wainman stated that this issue is coming up much too often and that it has become a bigger problem that needs to be addressed. Councillor MacDonald agreed, adding that cyclists, hikers and others are being allowed to stay at the shelter free of charge while they are in town, which he felt was unacceptable. Councillor Mero advised that she sits on the shelter's advisory board and that the issue with free lodging was brought up and was deemed inappropriate. She recommended meeting with the shelter's board to outline what needs to happen and offered to meet with them in her role with NWT Housing Corporation.

Councillor Wainman stated that the region needs a treatment centre, not a warming centre and that he was disgusted that we are keeping people warm so that they can remain intoxicated. Councillor Wood stated that when Delta House was operating as a treatment centre, there community had much less of a problem with people on the streets. He questioned where the centre and people would go if the Town does not renew the lease on the building. He also stated that Ms. Challis raised some valid points and that the Town should also include the RCMP in the conversation.

Councillor MacDonald inquired which laws the Town's Municipal Enforcement department could enforce with respect to public behaviours. Officer Hogan advised that staff has drafted a public behaviours by-law which is currently with the SAO to be provided to legal counsel for review that covers public urination, defecation, open containers and public consumption of alcohol. He stated that the Town currently has no ability to enforce liquor infractions until the by-law is passed. Councillor MacDonald



inquired if the by-law could be expedited given that this is a serious problem and that we still have 2 months of relatively warm temperatures. Mayor Kulikowski stated that she would follow up on this.

Councillor Wainman inquired how enforcing the by-law would work. Officer Hogan stated that in other municipalities when people are ticketed for offences and cannot pay the fine, they are given a mandatory court date and if they do not attend, a warrant for their arrest is issued and they are jailed to pay off the fine amount. Councillor Wainman inquired if municipal enforcement could issue the fine. Officer Hogan stated that it would depend on what Council approves and that the RCMP can issue fines as well. It was noted that any by-law ticket would involve a territorial judgment. It was also noted that there is typically no access to addictions treatment while in jail unless a medical process is followed.

Item # 6

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the July 8 and 10, 2019 Council Meetings

Moved by Councillor Loreen, seconded by Councillor McBride:

MOTION: 196/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby adopts the minutes of the July 8 and 10, 2019 council meetings as presented."

Motion **CARRIED**.

6.2 Minutes of the July 16, 2019 Public Works Committee Meeting

Councillor MacDonald stated that he had given notice of his absence.

Moved by Councillor Wood, seconded by Councillor MacDonald:

MOTION: 197/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby adopts the minutes of the July 16, 2019 public works committee meeting as amended."

Motion **CARRIED**.

6.3 Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Administration Committee Meeting

Moved by Councillor MacDonald, seconded by Deputy Mayor Baryluk:

MOTION: 198/08/18 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby adopts the minutes of the July 18, 2019 administration committee meeting as presented."

Motion **CARRIED**.



6.4 Minutes of the June 25, 2019 Economic Development Committee Meeting

Moved by Councillor Loreen, seconded by Councillor MacDonald:

MOTION: 199/08/19 “**THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby adopts the minutes of the June 25, 2019 economic development committee meeting as presented.**”

Motion **CARRIED**.

Item # 7

ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Action Items List

Ambulance Response Time

Councillor MacDonald noted that the issue with ambulance response times has resurfaced and requested that it be followed up on.

Re-instating Inuvik Works Program

Councillor Wood inquired if there had been any progress regarding the Inuvik Works Program. Mayor Kulikowski stated that present day is not the same now as it was when the program was running. Councillor Wood stated that if a similar program was to operate, it would be a good countermeasure to the number of street people and public intoxication and felt that finding the money to bring the program back would help.

Environmentally Responsible Initiatives – Smoking Shelters

Councillor Wainman inquired why smoking shelters were listed on the action items and stated that they would be a waste of time and taxpayers' dollars. Mayor Kulikowski stated that smoking shelters came up when discussing environmental stewardship ideas. Councillor Wainman inquired how they fit in with environmental responsibility. Mayor Kulikowski stated that the idea was that they would keep the streets cleaner by giving people an area to dispose of their cigarette butts. She pointed out that setting up the environmental stewardship committee was the focus of the discussion.

Unightly Property on Industrial Road

Deputy Mayor Baryluk inquired if the tour of the community to identify unsightly properties included residential areas. Director Campbell stated that staff identified abandoned or semi abandoned properties that require cleaning up and that a map was being prepared for Council.

Councillor Mero inquired if Administration has tried to move ahead with a by-law to get rid of the unsightly buildings. Director Campbell stated that Administration is currently trying to determine the cost to clean up the properties should the owners fail to. He added that the map will bring to light how many properties currently have abandoned or derelict buildings on them.

Councillor Mero inquired if the Town has a by-law directing that a building be torn down given that some buildings are dangerous as well as unsightly. Mayor Kulikowski stated



that she did not think the Town had the authority to demolish buildings and that she thought that the authority lies with the GNWT.

Councillor Wainman suggested that the Town pass a by-law prohibiting people from boarding up windows, adding that it looks terrible on Mackenzie Road coming into town. Director Campbell stated that abandonment includes many different types of things and that sometimes boards are used to preserve a building and prevent vandalism. Councillor Wainman stated that if vandalism is causing people to board up their windows, the community needs to deal with it. Director Campbell stated that some owners have chosen to board up windows and continue to pay their property taxes, while others have boarded up their windows and walked away.

Councillor MacDonald inquired if any progress had been made with respect to 84 Industrial Road. Director Campbell stated that Administration is currently seeking quotes on prices to clean up the property.

Councillor Mero stated that other communities do have by-laws in place requiring people to keep their yards and homes clean.

Emergency Warming Shelter

Councillor Wainman inquired if the emergency warming shelter could be moved to the old Inuvik Works warehouse building. Director Campbell stated that the building is being used for cold storage and that it would require a significant number of upgrades in order to accommodate the shelter. He added that its location would not be ideal and mentioned that there is an abandoned camp in the industrial area on the edge of town that could be considered.

Solar Panels at Midnight Sun Complex

Councillor Wainman stated that although the roof of the Midnight Sun Complex would not accommodate solar panels, the Town should still consider an alternative method of installing panels. Mayor Kulikowski stated that discussion is taking place on installing them on the sides of the building. She pointed out that NWT Power Corporation has a 20% cap on net metering and that Inuvik has already reached that cap. She explained that any additional alternative energy sources installed in the community that would lower power consumption through NWT Power Corporation could cause rates to rise for the community. She stated that she was planning to address this with NWT Power Corporation when they attend Council to present their strategic plan in September.

Councillor Wainman expressed his disbelief with NWT Power Corporation punishing the community for trying to harness green energy. Deputy Mayor Baryluk stated that he intended to raise the issue at this year's Territorial election and that it was ridiculous to have such a low cap. Mayor Kulikowski noted that the Town is hosting the 2020 NWTAC annual general meeting which will give us an opportunity to raise these issues there as well. She recommended that councillors attend any upcoming public forums ahead of this fall's election to voice their concerns.



Item # 10 **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

10.1 Mayor's Report

Councillor Wood inquired what new resources the RCMP had acquired. Mayor Kulikowski clarified that the detachment had acquired a piece of equipment to assist with apprehending suspects who may be evading them on foot.

10.2 Public Works Department Report

Councillor Mero thanked the Public Works Department for getting the dump station fixed at Happy Valley Campground.

Councillor MacDonald inquired when the department was planning to do the work on street signage that was discussed sometime last winter at a public works committee meeting. Director Campbell advised that quite a bit of work has been done on replacing and re-erecting signs throughout the community.

Councillor MacDonald inquired if construction of the second water tank was complete, noting that it appeared to be swooping and did not appear to be square at the top. Director Campbell assured Council that the work has been measured throughout the process and that it was square. He added that there was still an insulation layer and steel cladding to be installed which will make it look very similar to the other water tank.

10.3 Capital Projects Report

Council noted the report. There were no questions, comments or concerns.

10.4 Financial Report

Council noted the report. There were no questions, comments or concerns.

10.5 Community Services Department Report

Council noted the report. Councillor Mero inquired if library staff had concerns with the number of intoxicated people entering the library and their presence around children as well as the probable risk to children. She inquired if Director Saumur and staff needed any support working through it in terms of policy. Director Saumur stated that it is an issue and something that staff struggle with, noting that it has been discussed at past recreation, parks & library advisory committee meetings and is something that needs to be re-addressed to take a more solid look at how to alleviate the problem from library patrons' perspective as opposed to being a secondary shelter. She added that staff struggle with asking people to leave when it is cold and the zero tolerance policy has been enacted many times, only to have offenders re-enter the facility after their ban has been lifted only to be banned again. She stated that the zero tolerance policy alleviates the problem for a short time, but does not solve the long-term problem.



Item # 8 **NEW BUSINESS**

8.1 RFCD 2019-SAO-080 ~ Closure of Town Facilities to Facilitate Training Workshops

Councillor Wainman stated that tourists are still visiting in September and that Administration keep this in mind when planning future training opportunities that involve closing facilities.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Baryluk, seconded by Councillor Wood:

MOTION: 200/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby approves of closing the Midnight Sun Complex, the Inuvik Centennial Library and the Town Office on Monday, September 16, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. to facilitate a staff training workshop."

Motion **CARRIED**.

8.2 Community Beautification Contest Results

Deputy Mayor Baryluk expressed that it was disappointing to see only one commercial entry and recommended that staff do more to encourage more entries next year.

Moved by Councillor Mero, seconded by Councillor Solotki:

MOTION: 201/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby awards the winners of the Town of Inuvik Community Beautification Contest as follows:

- Winner's Circle Residential – \$ 325.00 – Kelcy McDonald, 26 Raven Street
- Winner's Circle Commercial/Organization – \$ 325.00 – Elders Day Program – Inuvik Regional Hospital
- First Place Residential – \$ 325.00 – Peggy Jay & John Cournoyea – 2 Carmichael Dr. East
- First Place Commercial/Organization – \$ 325.00 – Bertha Allen Housing – 60 Kingmingya Road
- Second Place Residential – \$ 225.00 – Fred Bailey & Deanna Larocque – 53 Kingmingya Road
- Third Place Residential – \$ 125.00 – Camellia Gray – 47 Spruce Hill Drive."

Motion **CARRIED**.

Item # 9 **BY-LAWS**

There were no by-laws.

Councillor MacDonald clarified that the reference should be to the warming shelter and not the homeless shelter, as clients there need to be sober to enter. Councillor Mero noted that the homeless shelter is serving as a secondary housing facility. Councillor McBride noted that library staff was doing their best by utilizing the zero tolerance policy to keep people out of the library who should not be there.

Councillor Mero inquired if the community services department's summer green shack program was being well attended. Director Saumur stated that there are shacks at Camsell Crescent and the train park and that the train park is seeing the largest attendance, with 15-25 kids per day. She stated that staff would be looking at possible alternate or additional locations for next year's program. Councillor Loreen suggested the park at Ruyant Crescent.

10.6 Planning and Development Department Report

Council noted the report. There were no questions, comments or concerns.

10.7 Economic Development and Tourism Department Report

Council noted the report. There were no questions, comments or concerns.

10.8 Protective Services Department Report

Council noted the report. There were no questions, comments or concerns.

Moved by Councillor Loreen, seconded by Councillor Wainman:

MOTION: 202/18/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby adopts the following staff reports as presented: Item 10.1 ~ Mayor's Report; Item 10.2 ~ Public Works Report; Item 10.3 ~ Capital Projects Report; Item 10.4 ~ Financial Report; Item 10.5 ~ Community Services Report; Item 10.6 ~ Planning and Development Report; Item 10.7 ~ Economic Development and Tourism Report; and, Item 10.8 ~ Protective Services Report."

Motion **CARRIED**.

Item # 11 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

11.1 Aurora Research Institute – Research Notifications

Council noted the report. For information only.

11.2 Strategic Priorities Chart

Council noted the report. For information only.

Item # 12 **COUNCIL CONCERNS**

12.1 Regular Council Meeting

Councillor Wainman inquired who pays the water bill for Happy Valley Campground, noting that a citizen had relayed that visitors have been lining up to wash their campers there all summer. He also stated that concerns were raised to him about the need for signs, blind corners and people speeding on Franklin Road. Councillor Mero recommended installing signs prohibiting washing of vehicles as there are businesses in town who provide car washing services. Councillor Wainman stated that other communities charge for water. Mayor Kulikowski stated that she would find out who pays for the water.

Councillor MacDonald suggested considering implementing an additional tax for dilapidated empty buildings, stating that it may encourage people to either fix up their buildings or tear them down. Councillor Mero noted that she had heard that the Eskimo Inn building was leaning on the building beside and that this should be verified.

Mayor Kulikowski noted that as she would be away, someone would be required to speak on her behalf at the upcoming Ecology North Summit and the BDEC in-service session.

Item #13 **IN CAMERA ITEMS**

13.1 Regular Council Meeting ~ Confidential Item [CTV Act, s. 23 (3) (a)]

Moved by Deputy Mayor Baryluk, seconded by Councillor Loreen:

MOTION: 203/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby moves in camera at 7:38 p.m."

Motion **CARRIED**.

Moved by Councillor McBride, seconded by Councillor Wainman

MOTION: 204/08/19 "THAT Inuvik Town Council hereby moves out of camera at 8:07 p.m."

Motion **CARRIED**.

Item # 14 **ADJOURNMENT**

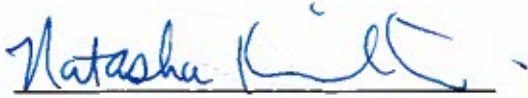
The committee of the whole meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Moved by Councillor MacDonald:

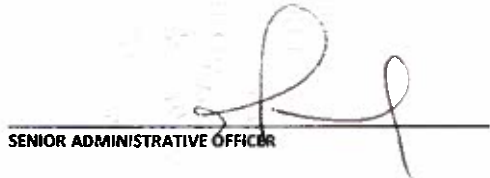
MOTION: 205/08/19 "THAT the regular council meeting be adjourned at 8:08 p.m."



MINUTES APPROVED THIS 11TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2019 BY MOTION #207/09/19



MAYOR



SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER