

Regular Meeting of Council
Monday, April 23, 2007 at 7:00p.m.
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council held at the Village Council Chambers,
380 Main Street, Lytton, BC

PRESENT:

Mayor O'Connor
Councillor McArthur
Councillor Lightfoot
Councillor MacIntyre
Councillor McKay
Finance/Corporate Officer Wood

ABSENT:

PUBLIC:

Peggy Chute
Byron Spinks

GUESTS/DELEGATION:

Brad Sparkes, President BowArk Energy Ltd
Pat Bowes, VP Development, BowArk Energy Ltd
Keith Knudsen, Manager Development Engineering, BowArk Energy Ltd
Keith MacLean, Developer

1. ORDER:

Mayor O'Connor called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:11 p.m.

2. AGENDA

073-07 "Moved that the agenda for the April 23, 2007 Regular Meeting of Council be approved as amended."

CARRIED Unanimously

Lightfoot/MacIntyre

Additions to the agenda include:

- Mayor O'Connor – BowArk Energy Ltd. - Delegation, TNRD – Council Reports, Public Works Conservation report – 6e
- Councillor McArthur – BC Hydro, Spences Bridge update
- Councillor Lightfoot – Lytton Days request for street closure

3. MINUTES:

074-07 "Moved that the minutes of the April 10, 2007 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted, as presented."

CARRIED Unanimously

Lightfoot/MacIntyre

4. DELEGATIONS:

President Brad Sparkes of BowArk Energy Ltd., spoke to Council about their company and their potential plans for wind energy in the Lytton area. They have developed energy projects since 1996 starting with co-generation projects with Trans Alta, then with Calpine and the Campbell River co-generation plant, and finally they started BowArk in 2001. He stated that renewable energy is the “in thing” now specifically wind projects. BowArk successfully built a 100 megawatt project at a cost of over 250 million dollars in Manitoba. They are very community focused and if the project should become viable, they would not continue unless the community embraces it. He continued saying that they came here today to assess the wind in the area, the location, and constructability of the project up in the shelves of the hills. If it is viable from these standards, they will assess the community and decide if the community is on board.

Mr. Sparkes continued saying that Mayor O’Connor showed them around the community and the areas that may be good for the towers. If they choose to continue with the project and have community support, they will put up a few test turbines approximately 60 meters high at various locations. The test towers look like a communication tower with cups that spin. There is a similar one up at the weather station but it is only 10 meters high and the final towers are usually 80 meters high.

Once built, a 100 mega watt plant could employ up to 16 full time people. About 64 towers will create 100 mega watts, which could be grouped in 2-3’s about 500 meters from one another. You can add another row, approximately 800 meter to 1 km away from the first row.

Mr. Sparkes was asked if they are noisy. He replied that the wind turbine business gets a bad rap because the old ones were noisy. The new technology is a continuous tower with colors that blend into the surroundings. They make a swooshing sound and there are very stringent regulations for noise tolerance levels. A tower placed at the edge of the property would sound like a refrigerator when everything is quiet.

Mr. Sparkes was asked about the impact on animals, especially birds. He responded saying that they are required to monitor the native animal species and in Manitoba the statistics show less than one bird per year per tower that was killed. The birds are good at avoiding the blades as they turn slowly. Their biggest problem they face in a community is the look of the towers.

Mr. Sparkes stated that the energy that is generated from the towers goes directly into the hydro grid. A lull in wind effects the production, but they do extensive statistical analysis to determine the lows and highs and how it will average out. They have done permitting in BC, so they know the process and they feel it will take at least 3 years before the project would enter into the construction phase.

Mr. Sparkes was asked what the benefit is to the Village. He replied that the Village would benefit from employment, royalties to land owners, royalties paid into the community, and taxes. They usually pay a bonus payment to the community once the project is fully approved. They try to contract locally for roads, building, and construction.

Mayor O'Connor commented that there may be economies of scale if it were to be combined with Kwoiek Creek project and/or a co-generation plant at the mill. They could all use the 50+ km transmission line that is required towards Merritt.

Chief Byron Spinks stated that 3 years is pretty ambitious, and getting community support could be challenging.

Chamber of Commerce member Peggy Chute offered the Chambers support to the project.

Council thanked BowArk Energy Ltd. for the presentation and invited them back to the community any time.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

a) Kamloops Foundation

The Kamloops Foundation issues a cheque every year to the Village for the interest portion of their investment. Council determines whether the interest will be reinvested or used for a project. Currently, the Village has \$10, 647.60 of interest. Council has the option to form a committee to make the decisions regarding this money or to continue to make the decisions themselves. Chief Byron Spinks stated that he felt after the hospital facility is built, a committee could be formed as they will have a better idea of how the funds should be spent.

Council will wait until the new hospital facility is complete and then form a committee to make the decisions regarding this fund.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

b) Correspondence - none

i. Mar 29 & Apr 4, 2007 – LAWS Minutes

For Council's information.

ii. Apr 01, 2007 – BC Hydro Turn it off challenge

BC Hydro is asking that the Village participate in the Turn it Off Challenge. The Challenge runs from June 1, 2007 – August 31, 2007 and local governments are competing against one another to become the top conservation leaders. Council stated that the Village should write to BC Hydro challenging them to keep the power on.

iii. Apr 04, 2007 – Local Government Leadership Forum

For Council's information.

iv. Apr 05, 2007 – UBCM RCMP Contract Issues Survey

A meeting was held on March 28, 2007 in Richmond to discuss local government concerns with the current RCMP contract and to begin identifying issues to be addressed when discussing the renewal of the agreement which expires in 2012. The Ministry is giving local government an opportunity to identify the issues that they feel should be included in upcoming RCMP contract negotiations and this can be done via a survey. The survey will be completed by staff.

v. Apr 10, 2007 – Okanagan Aggregate Ltd – Trans Canada Hwy Project

From April 1 – May 31, 2007, Okanagan Aggregate Ltd will be paving Highway 1 approximately 9.05 km from Kanaka Bar to the Skuppah rest area.

vi. Apr 10, 2007 – LFN Elected Candidates

The results of the Lytton First Nation election are: Chief Byron Spinks, and Councillors John Haugen, Deborah Abbott, Allen Charlie, Gloria Adams, Freddie Charlie, Fred Raphael Sr., Amy Charlie, Brenda Munroe, Frederick Henry Sr., Jimmy Brown, Bernadine Paul, Daryl Webster.

Council will send a letter of congratulations to the new Chief and Council and invite them to work and meet with Council anytime. The signing ceremony is scheduled for April 26.

vii. Apr 13, 2007 – Ministry of Community Services – Building Effective Regional Districts

For Council's information.

viii. Apr 16, 2007 – Ministry of Community Services – Small Community Grant

The Village of Lytton will receive \$217,911 from the Small Community Grant in 2007.

ix. Apr 18, 2007 – Knowledge Network Wild at Heart Challenge

The Knowledge Network has a new reality series called Wild at Heart which takes ordinary urbanites deep into the BC backcountry to experience unspoiled wilderness and heart-pounding adventure. They are asking that communities pull together to experience more of the province and have an adventure of their own.

This information will be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce to pursue if they are interested.

x. Apr 18, 2007 – BC Non-Profit Housing Association – Networking Session May 15 or 16

075-07 “Moved that Councillor McKay attend the BC Non-Profit Housing Association meeting May 15, 2007.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/MacIntyre

b) Correspondence for Information – as per attached listing.

The Correspondence List April 05, 2007 to April 18, 2007 was received for information.

c) Administrator Reports: none

d) Financial/Corporate Officer Report:

i. Accounts Payable – March 2007

For Council’s information

ii. Revenue & Expense Report – March 2007

For Council’s information

iii. Request resolution for Community Hall Reserve

076-07 “Moved that a reserve be set aside for a future community hall which will include the increase in revenue received in 2007 compared to the revenue received in 2006 from taxation.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/Lightfoot

iv. School Connections Administrators Meeting

School District 74 and the municipal administrators of the area met on April 16, 2007 to begin discussions to identify and assess the viability of embarking on joint initiatives involving the use of school facilities for broader community use. For the next meeting, each administrator and the school board, will bring an inventory of their facilities, old joint use contracts, mutually beneficial joint projects and issues that may be contentious to each community.

Council stated that they would consider sharing any joint use projects at this time.

e) Public Works Report:
i. Update on current projects

The Village has drafted a letter to be hand delivered to property owners who have leaks identified on their property. The leaks will be verified by the public works staff and if they are reaffirmed, the property owner will be requested to fix them as soon as possible. Fixing of these leaks on private property could have a significant impact on the “lost” water in the system.

Conservation products are available to aid in educating the residents on water conservation. The Village will purchase some of these products and Lytton First Nation will be contacted to see if they are also interested.

077-07 “Moved that the Village purchase 1 case of 200 rain gages and 6 cases of 10 sprinkler timers for the purpose of water conservation.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/McIntyre

A local contractor has offered his services to aerated Village owned/maintain green spaces. The cost for this service is \$35.00/hr and it is estimated to take approximately 6-10 hours. Another option is to rent an aerator from Lillooet at a cost of \$20/hr for 2 days and the Village would pick it up and return it. It was noted that the irrigation lines must be considered when aerating.

078-07 “Moved that the Village contract Jason Robertson to provide aerating services at \$35.00 per hour for the parks and the church lot.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/McKay

f) Fire Department Report:

079-07 “Moved to authorize the payment of \$484.00 to Lytton Fire-Rescue for the month of March 2007.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McIntyre/McArthur

Councillor McArthur will work with the Fire Department and neighboring bands to encourage residents to become members of the fire department. It was suggested that an ad for recruitment could be placed in the LFN newsletter. They will also send a letter to Siska as a reminder that the fire truck is being kept out there, but it requires 3 members.

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES

a) Tax Rate Bylaw

080-07 “Moved that fourth and final reading be given to Bylaw No. 593, 2007 – Tax Rates 2007.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/Lightfoot

b) Financial Plan

081-07 “Moved that fourth and final reading be given to Bylaw No. 592, 2007 – 2007-2011.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/MacIntyre

8. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councillor McArthur:

- reported that BC Hydro has stated that it will be approximately 1 week before they complete the connection to Spences Bridge. They are waiting approval from CP to cross the railway track at Nicomen. They will begin the decommissioning of the generation station this week.

Councillor Lightfoot:

- reported that Lytton Days committee has requested permission to close roads during the May long weekend.

082-07 “Moved that 4th Street from Main to Fraser be closed the evening of Friday May 18 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. and again on Monday May 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the parade gathering and street market.”

CARRIED Unanimously

Lightfoot/McArthur

Councillor McKay: nothing to report

Councillor MacIntyre: nothing to report

Mayor O’Connor:

- reported that he attended the TNRD meeting a spoke again about the lack of response at Gladwin during the floods. He is being told that there was no policy in place and it was not in the budget. If there was an emergency, the first thing they should do is send someone out in a truck and work as advocates for the residents. There was no activity until he called BC Hydro.
- reported that the New Pathways to Gold Society has been given \$250,000 from the Province for tourism and marketing.

9. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10. IN CAMERA

11. ADJOURNMENT

083-07 “Moved that the regular meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:27 p.m.”

CARRIED Unanimously

McArthur/Lightfoot

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER