

**Regular Council Meeting
Minutes**

**March 27, 2023, 7:15 p.m.
Council Chambers of the Municipal Office
1 Mackenzie Boulevard, Mackenzie, BC**

Council Present: Mayor J. Atkinson, Councillor A. Barnes, Councillor V. Brumovsky, Councillor A. Hipkiss, Councillor R. McMeeken, Councillor K. Tapper, Councillor J. Wright

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer D. Smith, Chief Financial Officer K. Borne, Director of Recreation Services T. Gilmer, Building Inspector K. Gawryluk, Fire Chief J. Guise, Director of Corporate Services E. Kaehn, Legislative Clerk/Executive Assistant C. Smirle

1. CALL TO ORDER

CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:30 pm.

Mayor Atkinson acknowledged the land on which we gather is within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Regular Meeting - March 13, 2023

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 13, 2023 were adopted as amended.

2.2 Special Meeting- March 14, 2023

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 14, 2023 were adopted as presented.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

N/A

4. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Resolution: 32861

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

Shannon Bezo, resident, thanked Council for providing their monthly reports and added that she looked forward to the items on this evening's agenda.

6. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

David Sheach, Non-Profit Portfolio Manager at BC Housing, provided an update on the BC Housing Initiatives in Mackenzie.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Resolution: 32862

Moved by: Councillor Hipkiss

THAT the Correspondence listed on the Agenda be received.

CARRIED

7.1 **For Action:**

7.1.1 Letter of Support - MORATA

Resolution: 32863

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT the District of Mackenzie provide a letter of support to the Mackenzie Outdoor Route and Trail Association towards their grant application to the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, for the Cultural Endowment Fund to assist with funding towards the 2023 Morfee Scramble.

CARRIED

7.1.2 Dry Grad Dinner and Dance Venue Rental

Resolution: 32864

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT the District of Mackenzie provide an in-kind grant to waive the rental fees for the 2023 graduating class to host their dry grad dinner and dance at the Rec Centre;

AND THAT staff set up a meeting with School District No. 57 and the Dry Grad Committee to discuss future funding.

CARRIED

7.1.3 MSS 2023 Grad Banners

Resolution: 32865

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT the District of Mackenzie support the 2023 Grad Class by providing an in-kind donation to set up grad banners around town.
Opposed (6): Mayor Atkinson, Councillor Barnes, Councillor Brumovsky, Councillor Hipkiss, Councillor McMeeken, and Councillor Tapper

DEFEATED (1 to 6)

Amendment:

Resolution: 32866

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Council postpone the decision to support the 2023 Grad Class with an in-kind grant to displaying the grad banners around town until Staff and the Grad Committee can discuss the costs further;

AND THAT a report be brought back to an upcoming Council meeting with further details.

CARRIED

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

8.1 Property Tax Revenue

Resolution: 32867

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council amends to approve an 8% Class 1 Residential property tax increase for 2023.

CARRIED

8.2 Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan 2022

Resolution: 32868

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT Council approves the 2022 District of Mackenzie Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan.

CARRIED

8.3 2023 Water, Sewer, and Garbage Bylaw Amendment

Resolution: 32869

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

8.4 Council Travel and Expenses

Resolution: 32870

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Council allow the reallocation of unused Council expense budgets to other Councillor budgets if they have or will be exceeding their annual budget;

AND THAT any requests for further funding would be brought forward to Council for approval prior to booking.

Opposed (6): Mayor Atkinson, Councillor Barnes, Councillor Brumovsky, Councillor Hipkiss, Councillor Tapper, and Councillor Wright

DEFEATED (1 to 6)

Amendment:

Resolution: 32871

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT the 2023 Council travel and expenses budget be increased to include expenses related to attending the Local Government Leadership Academy – Elected Officials Seminar in March;

AND THAT following the next election year, and those subsequent, that the Council travel and expenses budget be increased in future to allow all members of Council the opportunity to attend the Local Government Leadership Academy – Elected Officials Seminar, if hosted, without it affecting their individual budget allocations.

CARRIED

8.5 Business Façade Improvement Program 2023

Resolution: 32872

Moved by: Councillor Hipkiss

THAT Council approves the Mackenzie PharmaChoice application to the Business Façade Improvement Program to a maximum amount of \$5,000.00.

CARRIED

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

9.1 Mayor's Report

9.1.1 Mayor Atkinson - February 2023

Mayor Atkinson provided a written report.

9.2 Council Reports

9.2.1 Councillor Wright - March 2023

Councillor Wright provided a written report.

9.2.2 Councillor Barnes

Councillor Barnes provided a verbal report.

9.2.3 Councillor Tapper

Councillor Tapper provided a verbal report.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

11. NEW BUSINESS

N/A

12. BYLAWS

12.1 Bylaw No. 1495 - Water Rates and Regulations Amendment

Resolution: 32873

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Bylaw No. 1495 cited as "Water Rates and Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 1495, 2023" be given the first three readings.

CARRIED

12.2 Bylaw No. 1496 - Sewer Rates and Regulations Amendment

Resolution: 32874

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT Bylaw No. 1496 cited as "Sewer Rates and Regulations Amendment No. 1496, 2023" be given the first three readings.

CARRIED

12.3 Bylaw No. 1497 - Garbage Rates and Regulations Amendment

Resolution: 32875

Moved by: Councillor Hipkiss

THAT Bylaw No. 1497 cited as "Garbage Rates and Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 1497, 2023" be given the first three readings.

CARRIED

13. NOTICE OF MOTION

N/A

14. COMING EVENTS

14.1 Rec Centre Fitness Survey

Survey available until March 31, 2023

<https://www.letschatmackenzie.ca/recreation-centre-feedback>

14.2 Burger Night - Mackenzie Legion

March 31, 2023 - 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

14.3 Karaoke Night - Mackenzie Legion

April 1, 2023 - 7:00 pm

- 14.4 Mackenzie Secondary School Pancake Breakfast
April 2, 2023 - Mackenzie Legion
8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- 14.5 Council of Forest Industries Convention - Prince George
April 12-14, 2023
- 14.6 North Central Local Government Association Convention - Dawson Creek
May 9-12, 2023
- 14.7 CNC Training Programs
Forest Worker Essential Program
Short Order Cook Program

15. INQUIRIES

Shannon Bezo, resident, noted that there was quite a bit of discussion during the "For Correspondence" section of the agenda and suggested that if staff had invited those particular user groups to the meeting some of the questions may have been addressed. Mayor Atkinson thanked Ms. Bezo for her comment and added we would pass that on to staff.

Ms. Bezo also noted that there was quite a bit of discussion during the Council Travel and Expenses Report and suggested that this report should have gone to a Special meeting first to ensure all Councilors were on the same page prior to the report coming to a regular meeting.

Ms. Bezo commended the Council meetings for being available online through Zoom and added that she hoped future meetings would see further public participation as a lot of hard work goes into the whole Council meeting process.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution: 32876

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:34 pm.

CARRIED

Mayor

Corporate Officer

DRAFT