

**Village of Haines Junction
Regular Council Meeting October 24, 2018**

Present: Mayor Riseborough
Councillor Koh
Councillor Sundbo
Councillor/Mayor-Elect Eckervogt
Councillor/Councillor-Elect Smith
Councillor-Elect Johnston
Councillor-Elect Nassiopoulos
Councillor-Elect Quinn

CAO Clarke, Recorder Palmer
Public Policy and Strategic Initiatives Manager Thomas
Community Affairs Advisor Crosby

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Acknowledgement of CAFN Traditional Territory

Mayor Riseborough acknowledged that we are on the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations.

Adoption of Agenda

#243-18 Moved E. Koh Seconded S. Smith
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Motion #243-18 was **CARRIED**.

Adoption of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes October 10, 2018

#244-18 Moved T. Eckervogt Seconded S. Smith
THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of October 10, 2018, be adopted as amended under Business Arising, FireSmart Contract Award, to clarify that "Councillor Sundbo voiced concern that the FireSmart contracts continue to be prepared using a fuel modification strategy of single-tree spacing and suggested that it would be beneficial to consider alternate strategies in the future".

Motion #244-18 was **CARRIED**.

Bylaws and Policies

Bylaw #339-18, Council Remuneration Bylaw Amendment #1 Bylaw

Mayor Riseborough observed that outgoing Councils are responsible for reviewing Council remuneration and noted a potential conflict of interest for Councillor Eckervogt and Councillor Smith. Councillor Eckervogt assumed the Chair. Councillor Smith abstained from voting.

#245-18 Moved E. Koh Seconded B. Sundbo
THAT Bylaw #339-18, Council Remuneration Bylaw Amendment #1 Bylaw, be accepted as having been read for the third and final time.

Discussion: Councillor Koh proposed amending the last line of s. 2.a.i. to read "For clarity, only expenses authorised by resolution shall be valid" as per prior Council discussion and given that meetings are only twice monthly. Mayor Riseborough noted that this bylaw is only temporary. Councillor Koh voiced her continued concern but withdrew her amendment in order to ensure passage. Councillor Sundbo requested that her wording go on record for future bylaw review.

Motion #245-18 was **CARRIED**.

Mayor Riseborough resumed the Chair.

Accounts Payable

Municipal Accounts Payable to October 24, 2018

#246-18 Moved B. Sundbo Seconded E. Koh
THAT municipal accounts payable, transfers and cheques #24794 to #24821 in the amount of \$92,413.44 be approved for payment.

Motion #246-18 was **CARRIED**.

New Business

Official Election Results

#247-18 Moved T. Eckervogt Seconded E. Koh
THAT the following official elections results become part of the official record of this meeting:

Mayor: Thomas Eckervogt - Acclaimed
Councillors: Susan Smith - 166 votes
Courtney Quinn - 158 votes
Kari Johnston - 137 votes
Mark Nassiopoulos - 132 votes
Defeated: Elodie Dulac - 110 votes
John Farynowski - 86 votes

Motion #247-18 was **CARRIED**.

Transition of Powers

Mayor Riseborough made some remarks to the incoming Council, offering advice and encouragement (see attached).

CAO Clarke called upon each member of the outgoing Mayor and Council to individually thank them for their service and present them with a Certificate of Appreciation and Council photo.

The incoming Mayor and Council were sworn in to office and invited to sit at Council table.

Adjournment

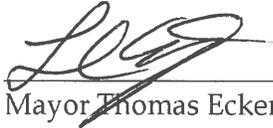
#248-18

Moved M. Nassiopoulos

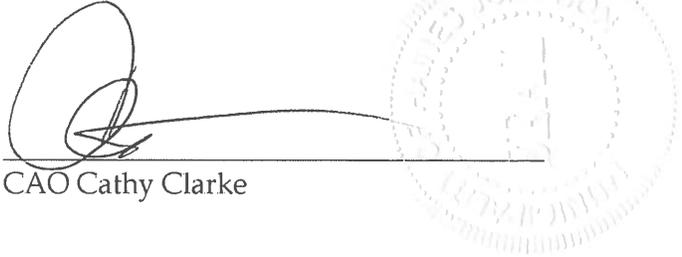
THAT there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned.

Motion #248-18 was **CARRIED**.

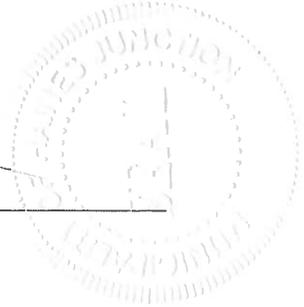
The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.



Mayor Thomas Eckervogt



CAO Cathy Clarke



Mayor Riseborough – Outgoing Remarks

I want to begin by thanking the voters of Haines Junction for having the confidence in me to have elected me as mayor for the previous term.

It was both an honour and a privilege to have served this community in that capacity, and I shall never regret having done so.

I want to thank all of you for allowing your names to stand, as well as those other candidates who were not elected. It takes courage to step up to the plate and assume the role of leaders. I want to especially acknowledge the commitment of Thomas Eckervogt and Susan Smith in running again, and thereby extending to the whole Council, and indeed this community, the corporate memory that should maintain the momentum the previous Council achieved in moving some challenging issues forward.

I want to be clear that serving on Council can be very gratifying, but it is also hard work, and you will find yourselves challenged in ways that you may never have been challenged before.

As elected representatives of your community, you are now “politicians”, and it is vitally important that, if there was any doubt in your mind, that you clearly understand the sole purpose of a politician is to set policy within the parameters established by mandate.

If I have one piece of advice for you, it is this: Clearly understand what your mandate, as municipally elected officials, allows... and clearly understand that aside from a lobbying effort, you must not get embroiled in jurisdictions that belong to other levels of government.

It is your role to develop the vision as to what is important to the community and scope out the policy require to enable actualizing that vision. It is also your role to authorize the resources required, both human and financial, to enable achieving that vision.

Let me caution, it is not your role to implement it. You have a very capable staff person to do the implementing. Remember that you, Council, have only one employee – that is, your Chief Administrative Officer. The municipal staff are her employees, not yours, and if you want to accomplish your vision, you will need to communicate with your CAO very clearly and frequently but refrain from being “hands-on” and never direct staff! Allow your CAO to do her job.

When I and the outgoing Council were first elected, we had a number of challenges, not the least of which was getting through the process of coalescing as a group. Remember, that group is not only comprised of elected officials but staff as well. As a group coalesces it goes through four distinct phases, as I expect you all know:

- Forming: as you come together for the very first time as at Council tonight, you have embarked on the forming;
- Storming: this phase sees you working through together how you are going to work together before you really get started;
- Norming; and, then
- Performing.

The sooner you can get through the forming and storming phases, the more productive you will be earlier in your term.

You have a good staff in place, a clear and articulated future direction with respect to your legislated responsibilities, you are on sound financial footing, and the corporation is functioning well. We are more than halfway through a \$55 million infrastructure program which, when complete, should see the majority of our assets serviceable for another sixty years. You also have a good handle on asset management. The previous Council had identified a number of strategic priorities which we moved to implement in measured and directed steps, and that momentum will continue as evidenced by the progression of the Official Community Plan.

I think I would have to say that, although serving as mayor taught me a lot about the Village, it taught me more about myself and my fellow human beings.

We, sometimes, have an unfortunate tendency to personalize misunderstandings or disagreements, which is truly unfortunate because it is so counter productive. We as elected officials need to look at the needs of our constituents from their perspectives, but they in turn have a responsibility to look at our decisions from the perspective of the constraints within which we are legally required to operate.

Neither of us, elected or constituent, should assume that the other knows what the opposite is thinking or what they do or don't know... pick up the phone and call each other! Don't create personal animosity by going on the attack before you have even tried to talk with each other about your concern. It is not insignificant, and a fact which should not be lost on the electorate, that 13 out of 21 mayors in the Greater Vancouver Area - 66% - chose not to run again!

On the lighter side, I am reminded of the famous quote by George Burns who remarked that it is really "Too bad that all the people who know how to run the country are busy driving taxicabs and cutting hair!" Perhaps whimsical, but each of us has the responsibility to thoroughly understand all the issues before we have the right to express gratuitous opinion!

A number of people shared their opinion with me that they disagreed with some of my decisions.

Decisions may not always be popular, but they should be made in the best interests of the whole community, responsibly, transparently and defensively; if they pass those tests, you can always look yourself in the mirror in the morning regardless of what others may say!

I believe that our Council made some of the tough but necessary decisions to maintain the sustainability of this community into the future, but I also acknowledge that there may be some "younger and more progressive perspectives" than mine, and I am happy to step aside and allow others the opportunity to serve.

I want to end by thanking the outgoing Council for their efforts and hard work, and Cathy and the staff for keeping everything running so smoothly.

I am proud of the legacy we, the outgoing Council, leave and wish the new Council every success as they go about their business. In closing, allow me to quote Horace: "Sapere aude!" - Dare to be prudent!