

TOWN OF WATSON MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF WATSON IN THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN
HELD ON Wednesday February 14, 2024 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
LOCATED AT 300 MAIN STREET.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Norma Weber
Councillors: G. Pastl, M. Brost, A. Friesen,
Via Zoom: L. Sobchyshyn, R. Paszt
Regrets: Jeff Turchyn
Supervisor: Kelly Gerspacher
Public Works: James Dominey
CAO: Lani Best

CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being present, Mayor Weber called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

- 41/2024** **AGENDA: Pastl, Friesen**
THAT the agenda be adopted as amended. Carried
- 42/2024** **Supervisor Report: Brost, Pastl**
THAT Council accept the verbal report as given by the Supervisor. CARRIED
- 43/2024** **Fees & Charges Tipping Trees: Brost, Friesen**
THAT Council set a rate of \$135 per hour for chipping trees for residents. CARRIED
- 44/2024** **ASSISTANT Supervisor's REPORT: Pastl, Sobchyshyn**
THAT the assistant supervisor's written report be accepted as presented and filed
respectively. CARRIED
- 45/2024** **WATER REPORT: Brost, Sobchyshyn**
THAT the water reports be accepted as presented and filed respectively. CARRIED
- 46/2024** **VFD Replacement at WTP: Sobchyshyn, Pastl**
THAT Council approve the quote from Nixon Electric to replace and commission a
new VFD at the Water Treatment Plant for our distribution pump. CARRIED
- 47/2024** **Minutes: Brost, Friesen**
That the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 11, 2024 be adopted as
presented. CARRIED

- 48/2024** **FINANCIAL STATEMENT/BANK REC: Pastl, Brost**
 THAT Council acknowledge the January 2024 Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliations for the Max 2, and Recreation Fund accounts as presented and filed respectively. CARRIED
- 49/2024** **Bills to be Paid: Sobchyshyn, Paszt**
 That the list of accounts for payment totalling \$152795.94 paid by Cheques No. 30985 to 31022, and online payments No. 652 to 662, Payroll totalling \$31,355.63 be approved. CARRIED
- 50/2024** **List of Lands with Arrears: Brost, Pastl**
 THAT Council acknowledge the 2023 list of lands with arrears. CARRIED
- 51/2024** **Tax Enforcement: Sobchyshyn, Paszt**
 THAT Council approve moving forward with tax enforcement on all arrears over \$500.00. CARRIED
- 52/2024** **Purchase Agreement: Friesen, Brost**
 THAT Council approve the purchase of the OK tire building to be used for a Fire Hall from GL Landscapes Inc for \$750,000 plus GST to be financed through a loan, fundraising and postponing some capital budget items. CARRIED
- 53/2024** **Engineer Study: Pastl, Sobchyshyn**
 THAT Council acknowledge the Civic Center Building Assessment with Associated Engineering, but postpone hiring until later in the year if our budget permits. CARRIED
- 54/2024** **Firehall Loan: Friesen, Brost**
 That application be made to the Local Government Committee for permission to borrow the sum of \$575,000 in 2024 repayable over a period of five years, for the purpose of purchasing a building to be used for a fire hall;
 AND that the amount of the debt shall be payable in 60 installments of \$11007.07, in years 2024 to 2029 inclusive, with interest at a rate of 5.59% per annum, payable monthly.
- 55/2024** **Canada Building Fund IIP Paszt, Pastl**
 THAT Council approve the application of an IIP for Fire Hall Building through the Canada Building Fund (previously Gas Tax) annual grant. CARRIED
- 56/2024** **Commercial Lot Sale: Paszt, Friesen**
 THAT council acknowledge the interest in commercial lots and provide them with options for purchase. CARRIED
- 57/2024** **Molle: Sobchyshyn, Pastl**
 THAT Council acknowledge that Skip's Plumbing and Heating could not say for certain that the sewer line blockage was on the town property, therefore we are not responsible for any portion of the costs.

- 58/2024 **2024 Assessment and Tax Estimate: Friesen, Brost**
 THAT council acknowledge the 2024 assessment and tax estimate. CARRIED
- 59/2024 **Banking Agreement: Pastl, Friesen**
 THAT council approve the annual banking agreement with affinity credit union. CARRIED
- 60/2024 **Education: Friesen, Brost**
 That council approve the education bill for Financial Accounting 1 as submitted by
 Melissa Chegus and will pay annually per our policy. CARRIED
- 61/2024 **Election Wages: Brost, Paszt**
 THAT Council approve remuneration for elections at \$25.00 per hour for a poll clerk
 if needed, provide meals to election workers, and close the office election day so
 Lani and Melissa can work at the election. Melissa will receive 5 hours overtime for
 that day. CARRIED
- 62/2024 **Sask Power: Friesen, Paszt**
 THAT Council approve Sask Power’s suggested line improvements. CARRIED
- 63/2024 **Cannabis Stores: Friesen, Brost**
 THAT Council approve the policy to only allow one cannabis store in Watson. CARRIED
- 64/2024 **Development Grant: Friesen, Pastl**
 THAT Council acknowledge that Canadian Organic will qualify for our development
 grant if they so apply. CARRIED
- 65/2024 **Interest Rates: Brost, Friesen**
 THAT Council acknowledge interest rates for investing. CARRIED
- 66/2024 **ARO (Asset Retirement Obligations): Friesen, Pastl**
 THAT Council approve our list of ARO is as accurate as we are able to estimate at this
 time, and will move forward with continued planning and better costing. CARRIED
- 67/2024 **SAMA AGM: Pastl, Brost**
 THAT Council approve up to 2 councilors to attend the SAMA AGM in Saskatoon. CARRIED
- 68/2024 **Annual Objectives: Paszt, Friesen**
 THAT Council acknowledge they need to review their annual objectives for our next
 meeting. CARRIED
- 69/2024 **Lot Consolidation: Brost, Friesen**
 THAT Council approve the consolidation of the four lots on Main Street South. CARRIED
- 70/2024 **Donation Receipts: Paszt, Sobchyshyn**

That council reply to the Playschools request with the options for providing receipts, as well as suggest they form their own non profit.

CARRIED

71/2024 **Lazerbeam Painting: Pastl, Brost**

THAT Council waive a commercial business license for Lazerbeam Paining.

CARRIED

72/2024 **Canva Pro: Paszt, Sobchyshyn**

THAT Council approve the purchase of Canva Pro to be used for the Town, acknowledging we can sell the use of the program to other community groups, and any poster made for another group will be charged at a rate of \$200.00 per hour.

CARRIED

73/2024 **Reports: Pastl, Brost**

THAT Council acknowledge the verbal reports as presented.

CARRIED

74/2024 **Written Reports: Sobchyshyn, Paszt**

THAT Council acknowledge the written reports on the Library, OCP, EQWL, Caravan, and Arena as presented and filed respectively.

CARRIED

75/2024 **MAYOR'S REPORT: Friesen, Brost**

THAT the Mayor's verbal report be acknowledged as presented.

CARRIED

76/2024 **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Friesen, Pastl**

THAT the Administrator's written report be acknowledged as presented and filed respectively.

CARRIED

77/2024 **Thrift Store: Sobchyshyn, Brost**

THAT Council approve the allocation of funds received through the EQWL Thrift store towards our Health Care Foundation obligation.

CARRIED

78/2024 **BYLAW NO. 2024 – 02: Brost, Sobchyshyn**

THAT Bylaw No. 2024-2 being a Bylaw to provide for borrowing be given a first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

79/2024 **BYLAW NO. 2024 – 02: Pastl, Friesen**

THAT Bylaw No. 2024-02 being a Bylaw to provide for borrowing have a second reading at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

80/2024 **BYLAW NO. 2024 – 02: Paszt, Friesen**

THAT council Bylaw 2024-02 being a Bylaw to provide for borrowing have a third reading at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

81/2024 **BYLAW NO. 2024 – 02: Pastl, Brost**

THAT council pass Bylaw 2024-02 at this meeting by reading it for a third time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

82/2024 **Council Members Guide: Paszt, Sobchyshyn**
THAT council acknowledge the guide to review for our next meeting. CARRIED

83/2024 **First Meeting of Council Policy: Friesen, Brost**
THAT Council approve the policy for the first meeting of council after an election to
be informational only. CARRIED

84/2024 **Correspondence: Sobchyshyn, Brost**
THAT Council acknowledge the correspondence as presented. CARRIED

85/2024 **ADJOURN: Brost**
THAT we adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM. CARRIED

MAYOR *Norma Weber*

ADMINISTRATOR *Janis Best*