

FORT WILLIAM FIRST NATION
SPECIAL CHIEF and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

CHAIR: Michele Solomon

COUNCILLORS: Leo Bannon Sr., Leo Bannon Jr., Jennelle Charlie, Kyle Maclaurin, Valerie Chapman, Cathy McKenzie, Yvette Greenwald, Sherry Pelletier, Tony Collins

REGRETS: Murray Pelletier, Phil Pelletier

STAFF: CEO – Ken Ogima; Communications – Kristy Boucher; Human Resources Manager – Michael Pelletier Jr., Director of Lands & Property – Ian Bannon, Director of Finance – Jeff Busniuk, Director of Economic Development – Michael Pelletier Sr., Director of Health – Karen Bannon, Cheryl Szyja, Amanda Collins, Tina Morriseau

RECORDER: Courtney Lee

GOVERNANCE: - Meeting Called to Order at 9:40 a.m. Ian opened the meeting with prayer.

AGENDA ITEM 1a. – MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

MOTION #1 – Moved by Yvette Greenwald and seconded by _____ to accept the agenda of Wednesday February 13th, 2019 with one addition from Karen; Old Police Building Facility. ***All in favour. Motion carried.***

AGENDA ITEM 3. LTC Building Land Designation

Adam Rose Presenting on Long Term Care Facility and Land Designation. Providing an update. Going through the report that has been provided. Going over the 3 possible sites that were looked at and evaluated. (Purple circles on the map in the report) Mountain Rd. site, Little Lake Rd. site, Anemki site. Took into

consideration accessibility for emergency response services. Giving an overview on site evaluation criteria. The Anemki Site was the overall recommendation. Environmental Survey, Legal Survey and an Appraisal will be done. This would be about 70 to 75-day process. From there it will go to a vote.

A BCR has been prepared by Ian for the land designation. Would be lobbying with INAC to offset some costs for the various surveys. Should not be an issue for Chief to secure funds needed. When all said and done FWFN will own the building.

Once we get through Land Designation then we will start to look at the details for who will be occupying the space available. Will be run for FWFN and Dilico.

MOTION #2 – *Moved by Leo Bannon Sr. and seconded by Yvette Greenwald to move forward with the Long Term Care Facility recommendations for Anemki site. All in favour. Motion carried.*

ACTION ITEM: Adam Rose – should be invited to next council meeting to address the issue of the culvert on mission road and the snow on the reserve. To assist with flooding on the reserve.

AGENDA ITEM 3a. THUNDER GROW

CBC Interview with Green Relief. Going over presentation on Thunder Grow. Looking for partnership with FWFN on the building and the operations. The building is located in Oliver Paipoonge, not on First Nation territory. Green Relief is the only company who does aquaponics.

Keith Hobbs leading discussion as representative of Thunder Grow. Fort William First Nation council will be the deciders who the board member will be. Discussion on where the profits would go, what they would look like. Discussion on dividends. Jobs would also be created. Keith going over the agreements. 20 000 kgs or 20 million grams of medical marijuana to be produced. This is for a 20 year agreement.

Looking for 2.6 million from FWFN on the investment side with a 9% return. Another couple of companies looking to raise/invest more funds. Minimum investment required \$50 000. Shares sold at 1\$/share.

This would also be for a sustainable grow-up beyond medical marijuana including fruits and vegetables.

Will have separate conversation with Economic Development board but would like to know there is support from Chief and Council.

Chief and Council needs to be supportive that the 2.6-million-dollar investment is beneficial.

A full presentation will be presented to community. Details will be clearly outlined.

MOTION #3 – Moved by Cathy and seconded by Yvette as Fort William First Nation Chief and Council to support the Thunder Grow mortgage proposal to therefore authorize administration to proceed with community consultation. Majority in favour. Leo Bannon Sr. abstained due to last minute nature of coming to council. Motion carried.

Consultation with community to be done over Saturday February the 23^rd 2019, and Monday February the 25th 2019.

Break begins at 12:25 for lunch.

Meeting resume at 12:51 pm

AGENDA ITEM 3b. BUBBA POT SHOP

Council has been informed that no decision can be made today based on the moratorium in place.

Tim Bannon and Steven Lalonde to make their presentation on Bubba's Pot Shop. Both are FWFN band members. They have provided briefing note for Chief and Council. They would like to move forward with re-opening their marijuana shop. Would also like a land allocation to move the shop. This venture would provide 17 jobs with preference given to Fort William First Nation community members. They

are willing to put funds forward to FWFN events and activities such as Christmas Party and Pow Wow's.

\$10 000 cheque is circulating council table from Tim Lalonde. Tim states that it is an honorarium for council. Council has stated that they will not entertain the idea of accepting a \$10 000 cheque to move forward with this process. This needs to go to the community for a decision on how the community would like this handled.

The product would be coming from a controlled environment. There is a licensed doctor who would be assisting with ensuring the product is safe. This is health Canada approved cannabis. A permit was obtained to be able to work with the movement of the cannabis. Tim and Steve are also willing to consider working with various nations who have properly set-up and maintained systems for cannabis. They would like to have open-transparency with FWFN and ensure the cannabis is grown in a safe manner.

There are a number of community members looking to have this type of venture. Tim is supportive of other members also pursuing the same type of business.

The main point is there is a moratorium in place not allowing this to happen until the community makes a decision on what they would like to see happen. The moratorium is to ensure there are proper policies and procedures in place. From an administrative perspective we are not prepared to agree to have this shop re-opened.

Ken states he would like to put together a committee to build policies and procedures around this. This would be put together by the end of April has per the time line with the moratorium. Need to take into consideration that elections are coming up in April. Would also like Council and Admin to look into the policies and procedures that are being utilized currently by other communities. **Ken will meet with Rob Pierre tomorrow (Feb 14th) to look into starting a committee or setting up what will happen next.**

Ken would like Tim and Steve to be a part of the building policies and procedures for this type of venture.

On Feb 23 and 25th there will be consultation with the community, would like Tim and Steve to be present for this. The community meetings will be significant with how we move forward. Other community members will be invited to speak on their own behalf related to the cannabis industry. The members who show up to the meeting will be the ones who are apart of making the final decisions regardless of how many members are present.

AGENDA ADDITION – by Karen Bannon - OLD POLICE BUILDING FACILITY

Making formal request for Old Police Station Building. To be utilized for health programming needs.

MOTION #4 – Moved by Cathy McKenzie and seconded by Jennelle Charlie to move forward with transferring the building to the Health Department to assist with facilitating community programming. All in favour. Motion carried.

Agenda items come to end at 1:56 PM

One In-Camera Item.

Meeting end