

**CITY OF IQALUIT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING #14
MAY 12, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT FROM COUNCIL – Via Teleconference

Mayor Kenny Bell
Deputy Mayor Janet Brewster
Councillor Joanasi Akumalik
Councillor Sheila Flaherty
Councillor Simon Nattaq
Councillor Malaiya Lucassie
Councillor Kyle Sheppard
Councillor Solomon Awa

ABSENT

Councillor Romeyn Stevenson

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION – Via Teleconference

Amy Elgersma, Chief Administrative Officer
Tammy Ernst-Doiron, City Clerk
Geoff Byrne, Economic Development Officer
Jennifer Jarvis, City Planner

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Bell opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion #20-120

Moved by: Councillor Akumalik
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Adoption of agenda as presented.

Unanimously Carried

1. MINUTES.

- a. Planning and Development Meeting Minutes #01 dated February 4, 2020**

Motion #20-121

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Councillor Akumalik

Planning and Development Meeting Minutes #01 dated February 4, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

b. Emergency City Council Meeting Minutes #08 dated March 15, 2020

Motion #20-122

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Emergency City Council Meeting Minutes #08 dated March 15, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

c. Planning and Development Meeting Minutes #02 dated April 21, 2020

Motion #20-123

Moved by: Councillor Akumalik

Seconded by: Councillor Flaherty

Planning and Development Meeting Minutes #02 dated April 21, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

d. Special City Council Meeting Minutes #13 dated May 1, 2020

Motion #20-124

Moved by: Councillor Awa

Seconded by: Councillor Nattaq

Special City Council Meeting Minutes #13 dated May 1, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

e. City Council Meeting Minutes #11 dated April 14, 2020

Motion #20-125

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

City Council Meeting Minutes #11 dated April 14, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

f. Special City Council Meeting Minutes #09 dated April 3, 2020

Motion #20-126

Moved by: Councillor Akumalik

Seconded by: Councillor Awa

Special City Council Meeting Minutes #09 dated April 3, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

g. Special City Council Meeting Minutes #10 dated April 6, 2020

Motion #20-127

Moved by: Councillor Flaherty

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Special City Council Meeting Minutes #10 dated April 6, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

h. Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes #01 dated May 5, 2020

Motion #20-128

Moved by: Councillor Nattaq

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes #01 dated May 5, 2020.

Unanimously Carried

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

3. DELEGATIONS

None

4. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

None

5. STATEMENTS

Councillor Flaherty acknowledged that today is International Nurses Day. She noted nurses are at the forefront and are providing an invaluable service on the front lines in this worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

Councillor Flaherty also spoke about the economics of COVID-19. She noted that employees who have stopped working due to COVID-19 can apply for the Canadian Emergency Relief Benefit (CERB). The available benefit needs to be examined and take into account the cost of living in Nunavut. She expressed concern that many Nunavummiut do not qualify for the benefit based on the income threshold, which creates food insecurities and other issues. She asked that Council discuss this matter at the next Council meeting so that the Canadian government can be lobbied to adjust the benefit amount and income threshold to be more in line with Nunavummiut cost of living.

6. DEFERRED BUSINESS AND TABLED ITEMS

None

7. BY-LAWS**a) First Reading of By-law(s)**

None

b) Second Reading of By-laws(s)

None

c) Third and Final Reading of By-law(s)

i) Taxi By-law 590 Amendment No. 893

Motion #20-129

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Akumalik

Third and Final Reading of By-law No. 893 Amendment to Taxi By-law No. 590.

Unanimously Carried

8. OLD BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS**a) Request for Decision – Support for Funding Application – Akilliq Drive**

Geoff Byrne, Economic Development Officer, explained that 3.5 kilometers of Akilliq Drive is being proposed to upgrade from the deep sea port to the city centre. Akilliq Drive is the primary access and is not suited for large payloads from the sealift cargo and anticipated additional marine traffic. Staff is requesting Council to approve a Funding Application under the Government of Nunavut's Community Transportation Initiative Programs.

Amy Elgersma, Chief Administrative Officer, explained that the proposal is to approve the Economic Development and Transportation Funding Application for \$300,000 for drainage work for the Akilliq Drive upgrade. She noted the cost of the entire project is \$6.8 million. Included in the Development Agreement with Community and Government Services is an agreement that there would be a one-time payment towards the upgrade of the road. Additional funds will be required to complete the project next year.

Motion #20-130

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council supports the Economic Development and Transportation Funding Application in the amount of \$300,000 to complete drainage work for the Akilliq Drive upgrade.
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Unanimously Carried

A question was raised asking if the upgrade will widen the road to three lanes.

Ms. Elgersma advised that the design was completed last year, which included road widening, however, she was unsure if there were three lanes, but staff will look into it and report their findings.

b) Request for Decision – Permafrost Study on City of Iqaluit Utilidor Infrastructure

Geoff Byrne, Economic Development Officer, presented a request for a Permafrost Study to investigate the impacts of permafrost degradation on the underground lineage infrastructure for water and sanitary services. Each year, there are utilidor issues, and this study will provide long-term alternatives to help reduce the risk of loss of drinking

water and surcharges to sanitary sewer systems. Mr. Byrne noted that funding for the study is available through Can-Nor in the amount of \$300,000.

Motion #20-131

Moved by: Councillor Awa

Seconded by: Councillor Lucassie

Council supports the Can-Nor Funding Application for \$300,000 for a Permafrost Study on the City's utilidor infrastructure.

Unanimously Carried

c) Request for Decision – City of Iqaluit Tourism Signage Application

Geoff Byrne, Economic Development Officer, presented a request for funding for tourism signage that would enhance the tourism industry in the City of Iqaluit. Four signs would be erected – Road to Nowhere sign, Welcome to Iqaluit sign, and signs for both the Apex and Tarr Inlet trail heads.

Motion #20-132

Moved by: Councillor Akumalik

Seconded by: Councillor Flaherty

Council supports the Can-Nor Funding Application for City of Iqaluit Tourism Signage.

Unanimously Carried

Councillor Nattaq suggested that consideration be given that the project include the removal of the old boat that is located on the MOT beach next to the sealift.

Councillor Akumalik suggested that once the deep sea port is completed, a welcome sign be erected on the site.

d) Request for Decision – Support for Funding Application – Climate Change Impacts to Long-term Water Supply

Geoff Byrne, Economic Development Officer, noted there is a long-term water supply and storage mandate to ensure that a new water supply and storage source has been identified and implement for use by 2026 when the City's current Water License expires. He explained that funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available through Can-Nor.

Motion #20-133

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Lucassie

Council supports the Can-Nor Funding Application for \$200,000 for the development of a new long-term water solution for the City of Iqaluit.

Unanimously Carried

e) Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store

Mayor Bell noted that the Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store was a three-year pilot project which ends on September 30th. Mayor Bell is requesting a motion to request the Government of Nunavut keep the beer and wine store open as a regular store following the pilot project.

Motion #20-134

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Council indicates to the Government of Nunavut their support for the continued operation of the Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store at the end of the pilot project.

For – Sheppard, Lucassie, Brewster, Bell

Opposed – Nattaq, Awa, Akumalik

Abstained – Flaherty

Carried

Councillor Flaherty abstained from voting. Her reason was that she did not realize the agenda item carried a motion, as the agenda item indicated a verbal report. Councillor Flaherty wants to see the motion in writing and reflect her comments reiterating positive messages respecting responsible alcohol consumption.

The following comments were made:

- There has been no confirmation from regulatory agencies, but there have been a number of deaths caused by alcohol since the opening of the beer and wine store.
 - Mayor Bell noted that the RCMP support the beer and wine store and have indicated that the criminal activity is basically the same compared to the time prior to the opening of the beer and wine store.
- The bootlegging activity is far more detrimental and causing more harm in the community.
- People's well-being is important and drinking in moderation should be emphasised, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, as it is a trying time for households.
- The purpose of the pilot project was to overtake the illegal liquor sales, but it is not known if the pilot project was successful in reducing the amount of bootlegging. Would it be possible to obtain an analysis on the effect the pilot project has made on the community?

- Mayor Bell noted that media reports have indicated there have not been any major increases in crime or hospital visits. The hard liquor consumption has dropped significantly. Mayor Bell can request the Government of Nunavut to provide statistics relating to alcohol consumption. Mayor Bell noted that a major problem is the illegal hard liquor in Nunavut. In some instances, the beer and wine store has alleviated some of the illegal hard liquor.
- It was pointed out that alcohol abuse is an issue in all parts of the world and not just in Nunavut.
- The Government of Nunavut have results on the pilot project.
- The Government of Nunavut have opened a shelter, as more people are consuming more alcohol in this community. This also affects the smaller communities as residents visit Iqaluit and they have no place to go, so they stay in the shelter. This matter should be taken into consideration.
- The regulatory agencies do not want to confirm alcohol related deaths and/or assaults unless there is a drastic situation.
- It would be beneficial that the City's website should link all mental health support numbers so they can be easily found by residents in the event they are in need of the information.
- A survey was carried out the end of March and early April, which also appeared as a CBC story on April 22, 2020, where 75 percent of over 800 respondents support the continued operation of the Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store. Over half of the respondents indicated that it led to improvements in the community and there was a significant decrease in reported use of bootleggers.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Coordinated Community Response Committee (COVID-19)

Deputy Mayor Brewster provided the following report on the Coordinated Community Response Committee:

- Committee was formed with the purpose of identifying needs and addressing gaps in services.
- Sharing information and connecting service organizations with resources.
- First meeting was held on March 18 and weekly thereafter.
- Meetings will continue until there is no need for a COVID-19 response.
- There are representatives from a number of departments, local organizations and agencies.
- Helping to access various COVID-19 funding programs.
- Obtained funding under the Reaching Home Program to open a second shelter.
- Food security impacts 70 percent of households, and with the huge influx of food programs, for the first-time organizations have indicated there is enough food.
- Provides a means of networking for committee members.
- Emerging issues of family violence. Less people are accessing shelters and are not reaching out for help due to isolation.

- Be aware that families are more at risk to violence.
- Housing gaps are still an issue.
- To-date, this has been a useful and successful committee meeting its goals.

Councillor Lucassie left the meeting at this time.

b) Youth Task Force

Deputy Mayor Brewster provided the following update on the Youth Task Force:

- The matter of addressing gaps in youth support was discussed at the Coordinated Community Response Committee, and it was agreed that a Youth Task Force be formed.
- The group started meeting on April 21 and has meet weekly thereafter.
- There are representatives from a number of organizations, agencies, non-profit and private organizations which all relate to youth.
- The purpose is to pull together a community network to better serve the youth.
- To discuss youth related issues and solutions.
- Share resources and best practices
- Raise awareness of youth initiatives and develop strong connections.
- It is hoped that this will better serve children and youth now during COVID-19 and hopefully beyond.
- There has been a good response to support children and youth who have mental health needs.
- Group provides information on available funding and programs.
- There is a gap in accessing educational resources due to lack of technology.
- This is a very productive working group, learning and sharing information, and working towards the needs of children and youth.

Mayor Bell advised that a motion is required to extend the meeting past two hours with no break.

Motion #20-135

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Brewster

Council agrees to extend the meeting past two hours with no break.

Unanimously Carried

A question was raised regarding the requirements of social distancing for the meetings. Mayor Bell explained that meetings are held via teleconference. He noted that between the Coordinated Community Response Committee and Youth Task Force, there have been 29 meetings to-date.

c) Finance Committee of the Whole Report – May 5, 2020

i.) 2019 Audited Financial Statements

Motion #20-136

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Akumalik

Council accepts the 2019 Audited Financial Statements.

Unanimously Carried

ii.) 2020 Capital Spending Plan Amendment

Motion #20-137

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Nattaq

Council approves the amended 2020 Capital Spending Plan.

Unanimously Carried

11. CORRESPONDENCE

None

12. IN CAMERA SESSION

() as per Section 22 (2) (a) CTV Act and By-law 526 Section 67

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion #20-138

Moved by: Councillor Nattaq

Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council adjourns at 2:15 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

Kenny Bell
Mayor

Tammy Ernst-Doiron
City Clerk

Approved by City Council on the 26 th day of May, 2020.