

Wahta Mohawks Community Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday March 29 2016

- I. Present:** Chief Philip Franks, Councillor Mike DeCaire, Councillor Teresa Greasley, Councillor Lane and members.
- II. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda:** Moved by Councillor Decaire, Seconded by Councillor Greasley. Carried.
- IV. Adoption of February 23, 2016, Minutes:** Moved by Councillor Decaire Seconded, by Councillor Greasley. Carried.
- V. Updates from February 2016 Minutes**

Names – Minutes will include names.

FNMHF – Councillor Lane expressed some concern that agreement templates need to be looked at not just by a lawyer but also by council for political angles, fees and that market housing should be properly defined by council and a lawyer. Chief Franks stated we did get a legal opinion from Falls Law firm (Jay Herbert) but it still needs to be reviewed nothing has been adopted yet. Areas we have identified are if someone is late but has not defaulted the Housing Fund can call in the loan immediately, the exact timing is unknown for when default has taken place.

ICG – Councillor Lane asked if anyone is receiving commissions for ICG, Councillor Greasley stated that there is a sales person (Toni Green) that works for ICG and is paid commission. Councillor Lane stated that the responsibility is on council to know the operations of ICG. David Stock asked how much the store makes here at the band hall, the exact figure is not known offhand but Chief Franks is able to get a break down of that number from Lance Decaire.

Conflict – Chief Franks asked if any councillor would like to declare a conflict of interest on any of the items on the agenda. Councillor Lane stated that he is only in a

conflict for the CP holder negotiations if he receives money from the action taken. No conflicts have been declared for this meeting.

Video taping – Councillor Greasley asked David Stock if he was video taping the council he confirmed he was. She stated she was not comfortable with this, Chief Franks asked him to just do sound instead of video.

VI. Old Business/Follow Up

Hydro Cheques – All cheques were signed today and should be received by March 31. Tim Thompson asked how it is determined who gets a cheque, it was stated by Chief Franks that anyone who got a cheque in 2014 will get a cheque again. There were no additions but some deletions have been made from people passing on.

The fee was reduced to \$10 000 less than 1% of total amount. Anyone who qualified in 2011 as a member and is now turning 18 will also get a cheque. Anyone that didn't get a cheque needs to contact admin.

Shirley Hay stated why the original list of cheques issued was not available. Chief Franks stated that there was no original master list and it had to be compiled once again as well it had to be cross referenced with the general ledger. The time and labour to investigate why a master list was not maintained is prohibitive.

Small Communities Fund – Council applied for infrastructure funding and have received final approval which included a support letter from District of Muskoka. This will be for the water treatment system that can serve the units as well as other plants that we have on reserve such as the band hall. The water treatment system can also be referred to as a plant. The main goal is to start infrastructure in the subdivision area. Chief Franks stated that a study was done in the 90's and concluded it was far too expensive for cost per litre due to rock blasting. INAC would not fund it at the time. Hopefully if the senior's unit's area is successful this can be expanded to other areas identified in our strategic plan.

Tim Thompson stated that the letter from the administrator to the District stated twice that it is an upgrade to our existing water treatment plant. Chief Franks stated that the letter to the district was drafted from an engineering firm and that we do have 3 actual plants, 2 in the units and one at the band hall, anything more than one household can be considered to be a plant technically speaking. He did state that the language should have been made more clear. The district did ask for clarification and it was provided. The engineering firm is also going to clarify the terms; he was not sure the name of the firm but they were previously referred to as Neegan Burnside.

Tim Thompson asked if Mervin Dewasha was working on this project, Chief Franks stated is not aware of this. Tim Thompson asked if a motion was made to support this water application and asked if council knew what they were applying for? Chief Franks was not sure if there was a motion back in Sept 2015 but stated at this time it is only in application form, it is part of the small communities' fund for water infrastructure and that yes it was agreed upon for a water system that would eliminate water contamination. Councillor Greasley stated that she believed there was a quorum of council that approved it to move ahead with the application.

VII. New Business

Glen Orchard Fundraising Trip – Lisa Smith made a request for Grade 7/8 class which includes 6 students from Wahta for an exchange program at the only Indigenous school in Calgary Canada. The end of the fiscal year sometimes has money left over so \$1000 will be donated. Chief Franks asked for a motion to approve this donation.

Motion - Council endorses a \$1000 donation to the Glen Orchard public school grade 7/8 class fundraising committee to support indigenous education and a cultural exchange with the Stoney Cree of Alberta. Moved by Councillor Lane, seconded by Councillor Decaire

Forestry Board – Forestry management plans were presented to council, it was explained what they are and how they harvest trees, how timber gets cut, where they need to plant and protect as well as protecting wildlife species. The plan is due for review, they would like representatives from Wahta to continue involvement in the committee working in conjunction with Westwind which are the stewards of the forest and responsible for the loggers. Our suggestion is that Scott Aubichon continue to be involved, Councillor Lane would also like to be involved.

Motion – Council appoints Councillor Lane and Scott Aubichon to the forestry management planning committee. Moved by Chief Franks, seconded by Councillor Decaire

Shirley Hay asked if we are going to get a Forestry management plan and if there is funding available. Scott Aubichon has been working on this with CORDA and the summer students. The planning committee is more involved in the lands surrounding us. Councillor Lane said he is impressed with how far they have come in terms of safe practices, mapping and species protection. The main concern is the spraying with the active ingredient called glyphosate to kill weeds, the spraying can be indiscriminate and possibly hurt other species as well as the risk of genetically modified trees being released into nature. It is similar to spraying Round Up in farm fields and water which could end up on our food, flour, beef, etc.

Upcoming Meeting Dates – Chief Franks announced general meeting dates are tentatively scheduled as April 30 2016, July 16 2016, Oct 29 2016, Jan 28 2017. Tim Thompson asked if the general meetings are in conjunction to reviewing of the membership code through the consultation plan. Chief Franks stated it will be.

CP Holder Agreements – Chief Franks stated it has come to council's attention that there were one-time payment agreements made with individual land owners and Hydro when the various lines came through Wahta. Wahta does also receive compensation for these hydro lines as a separate entity. In 2001 hydro came back to

the individual land owners asking for new agreements, there is some concern that the CP holders did not get the best deal from Hydro at that time. Wahta will sponsor an information session to discuss the rights of the agreements with Falls Law and if there are any options for improved or revised agreements. Shirley Hay asked how many land owners that are affected? Councillor Greasley stated approx. 25 people but some plots of land have multiple owners.

Tim Thompson asked if council have reviewed the agreements and what the CP holders agreed to, Chief Franks stated that the agreements have been reviewed and it was a lease right of way but land title was not given up, insurance is not covered for individual CP holders or with the agreements with Wahta.

Ongoing MRP/Membership/Election Regulations Updates

All issues are tied together particularly with the membership code and its various interpretations in the past. Funding has been allocated and we are following the consultation plan, facilitators have been accessed, surveys and ground work have been started. Some people have been identified such as Waneek Horn Millar and *Gerald* Taiaiake Alfred to assist in research and facilitating. One question to be considered is should there be blood quantum or is there another way. One recommendation from Bob Antone is to find out first where you are going as a community with regards to membership codes, election codes to determine how you want to operate as a community. One example may be a clan system although no positions have been made at this time, only consultation has started on a level 2 process through the consultation plan. Council would like to be able to get this completed within one year. Reports done by others such as Cory Boyd can also be considered.

MRP – There are preliminary results of the MRP survey posted in the last newsletter. 85% do not want the laws currently in place. 80% want mediation efforts provided for couples. 54% think that surviving spouses should reside here for a lifetime. 80% think we should draft our own law. Donna Commandant asked what the total response was of surveys submitted and is it a fair representation?

Chief Franks did not know the exact count although it is very preliminary, these numbers are not yet final. The facilitator will be important in this process.

Cultural Healing Centre – Chief Franks stated it is almost 100% complete, kitchen still needs some work. Programming has started, grand opening is in June. Tom Porter is coming for a community event. Costs are in line with expectations.

Tim Thompson asked what is the cost of the architect drawings, who the firm was and the cost of contribution of the maintenance staff as they have done quite a bit of work. Chief Franks stated they did do some finishing work and stated we can find out the costs and firm from finance.

VIII. Questions/Comments

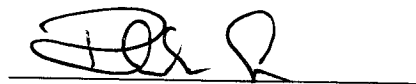
Chief Franks stated there are paper copies available tonight of the membership code, election regulations and consultation plan

Quarry – It is for Wahta roads first then will be available to members. It has not started yet. The cemetery road is getting bad and needs to be fixed.

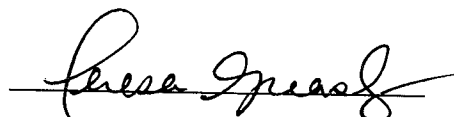
IX. Next Meeting: April 26 2016

X. Motion To Adjourn: Moved by Councillor Decaire, Seconded by Councillor Greasley. Carried.

Adoption of the Minutes of Community Meeting




Chief Philip Franks



Councillor Teresa Greasley

Councillor Lawrence Schell



Councillor Mike DeCaire

Councillor Stuart Lane