

Wahta Mohawks Community Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

Present: Chief Philip Franks, Councillor Stuart Lane, Councillor Lawrence Schell, Councillor Mike DeCaire and members.

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Moved by Councillor DeCaire, Seconded, by Councillor Schell. Carried.
- III. **Adoption of April 28th, 2015 Minutes:** Deferred, incomplete minutes.
- IV. **Actions Arising:** The newsletter will again have the word Atenhros: sera, it was lost during the redesign of the newsletter when staff were not in the building, although the months had remained in the Mohawk language. The next newsletter will contain Atenhros: sera on the front page and will continue from now on.

Old Business / Follow Up

Ontario Hydro Update: Chief Franks gave an update regarding the meeting with Hydro One that took place on May 6th, and with Wahta's written response on May 14th. There was discussion pertaining to the transmission line. Chief and Council have asked Hydro One to provide copies of past records confirming the agreements for payment to individual land owners and community property, they have not yet received the documents from Hydro. Some individuals have received cheques, the band has also received annual cheques, Chief and Council would like to review the actual contract. They also discussed the appraisal/ value of land and the distribution blanket permit. A permit was issued long ago for the smaller feeder lines, there is no real agreement or value on this. Ragged Rapids was appropriated by the government during the development of the dams, there was some discussion about regaining ownership of the land that the road is on.

The 1.5 million that was put aside for in kind payment outlined in the 2013 section 6 Addendum is not funds for which Wahta can preference, in the agreement it identifies items that these funds would be used for, one being a distribution bay which would run power to the middle of the community. At this time it seems Hydro is sticking to this but the discussions are not done.

There was an outstanding invoice from the mediators, Wahta has asked Hydro to pay this invoice.

There was a signed relationship agreement with Hydro One but in light of Hydro One selling there are certain items that have to be looked in to, Hydro One did not have much information about this at the meeting. Chief Franks said that the contracts with Hydro could not be transferred to a privately owned company, Wahta will follow up on this matter.

Chiefs Franks read a letter that is being sent to Kathleen Wynne, a copy of the letter to be attached to the minutes.

Muskoka Health Hub: The grand opening was well attended. A meeting occurred with CCHH to review the agreement with Wahta, some changes are to be made. In the agreement Wahta will be responsible for the building, CCHH will take responsibility for staff. There was an item that was brought up, the agreement had a section that stated that Wahta will provide a harassment free workplace, it is suggested that that is an HR issue therefore it should be the CCHH responsibility, there will be another meeting. Chief Franks clarified that they are taking new patients, there was some talk that they weren't. The Health Hub will now work under their system, the advisory committee will continue to give presence in the community.

Land Claim: There hasn't been much activity in the last 3 weeks, Council is waiting for itemized accounting list. Councillor Lane called him last week and he will make himself available to meet, Councillor Lane will arrange that and ask that he bring an itemized list. The case has been put off for a year now, Council would like a definitive plan schedule and what he is going to do.

New Business

AIAI- Elders Conference: In mid-August the conference will be held at Wahta for 3 days, 140 people are expected from all the AIAI communities.

ALI: Wahta Education had applied for 100,000.00 from Heritage Canada Aboriginal Language Fund. Wahta was approved for 70,000.00. On June 5th, the federal representative Tony Clement will come for a formal presentation. Amos Key from WCC will MC the event.

Iroquois Caucus: IC will be meeting on July 29th and 30th. Wahta will be hosting the meeting.

ADM: Chief Franks met with the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs at an AIAI meeting and would like to secure a meeting with the MAA to express Wahta's concerns regarding lands and the duty to consult. There was discussion about the environmental assessment of the dam and the possible effects that may be seen over a period of time. There was further discussion and examples of the lack of duty to consult in the past.

Long Term Care- CCAC: The Ministry of Health seems to have been eluding the CCAC which provides case management for elders and it appears that the Health Hub may take over this role. There is concern that funds for aboriginal health could be used for this, there has been a letter drafted voicing Wahta's interests in this matter.

South Muskoka Hospital Foundation: In the past a donation of \$1000.00 was given to the Bracebridge foundation, because it is close to Parry Sound there was talk about splitting the donation for next year.

Letter from AANDC- Status Cards: Chief Franks received a letter from AANDC with their response regarding the issue of status cards. The letter is attached to these minutes.

Rogers Tower: Councillor Lane asked for an update regarding the potential installation of a Rogers tower, Chief Franks said that Councillor Greasely was handling this but was not present at this meeting to provide an update.

Next Meeting: There is a general meeting on June 27th, the regular community will be on June 30th, 2015.


Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Chief Franks. Seconded by Councillor Lane. Carried

Adoption of the Minutes of May 19th, 2015

Community Meeting

Chief Philip Franks


Councillor Teresa Greasely


Councillor Lawrence Schell

Councillor Mike DeCaire



Councillor Stuart Lane

