
Hamlet of Enterprise

Special Meeting

Monday, March 12, 2012

Hamlet Office at 7:00 PM – 8:26 PM

Start Motions #2012-03-047

#1. Call to Order 7:00pm

#2. Members Present

Mayor Mike St Amour

Deputy Mayor Jim Dives

Councilor Mathew Gauthier

Councilor Craig McMaster

Councilor John Leskiw II

Councilor Heather Klassen

Absent

Councilor Tammy Neal

Community Gallery

Joe Warren

Anne Leskiw-Mueller

Craig Faulkner

Staff/Volunteers

Peter Groenen

Lori Warren

Delegates

Lorrain Tordiff

Perry Heath

#3. Acceptance of Agenda

Mayor Mike St Amour asked for acceptance of the Agenda.

Motion #2012-03-047

Motion to accept the agenda.

Moved by Councilor John Leskiw

Second by Councilor Heather Klassen

Carried

#4. Delegations

The Hamlet requested this meeting with the MACA representatives to discuss the options as a result of the completed water study.

Discussion with MACA reps:

Mike: Why is there such a problem in getting our water funding revised?

Perry: The funding is set up to ensure all communities are funded accordingly. The policy is that the community will be funded in accordance to the **most economical way to supply safe water** to the residence. The study shows that currently Enterprise's most economical way to delivery water is via truck and not build a WTP. This is the first case that a community has requested to go from a delivery service to a WTP.

Mike: We do not have control of our water rates, they are dictated by Hay River, we also have to endure boil water advisories every spring, which sometimes we don't know about until after the water has been delivered.

Perry: Can appreciate the concerns. However, there are many challenges and training issues associated with operating a WTP. Steps to be taken to help gain control over the pricing of the raw water from Hay River is to start an open dialogue with Hay River and consider purchasing a water delivery truck.

Jim: We were not advised of the last increase in rates, we were protected however because we are still under contract with Keith's. If the pellet plant does go in at the proposed site the community could see an influx of residence, this will increase our water costs, yet our funding will not change.

Peter: There has been an email sent to Hay River, with no response to date. The government is not funding us for the raw water or the cost to transport it to Enterprise. If we had a WTP locally we would still receive the same funding for delivery outlined in the formula. This does not seem to be fair. Hay River is charging us almost four times the rate their residence pay on the pipe system. Our contract with Keith's is up March 2013, we will see a significant increase in rates at that time. Plus there is the concern of our carbon foot print, given the distance the water is trucked.

John: Another option idea is sharing the cost of a WTP with Kakisa, each community could do its own delivery and the government would only have to fund one WTP.

Perry: The challenge is that the finances are not in favor of the WTP with a total cost of service over 20 year at \$5 million for trucked service from Hay River vs. \$8 million if a WTP were to be constructed. There are also many challenges to the operation and set up of a new WTP i.e. The water needs to be tested for four seasons and these tests must satisfy the health regulations before it can go ahead.

John: We currently do not have access to raw water, which is why we cannot deliver ourselves.

Lorraine: The first step is to talk to Hay River about the water access. There needs to be a formal request to meet and discuss with them.

Perry: The current funding policy is under revision. The current formula does not fund you for raw water, need to see that there is an open dialogue with Hay River; maybe Hay River could sell water to the GNWT and Enterprise could buy from them at the economic rate?

Craig: Council feels strongly on how Hay River has been treating Enterprise, and is looking for independence. We are working hard to get independence, however we should give Hay River the opportunity to respond.

Lorraine: Perry will need to have evidence that Enterprise has tried to work with Hay River on these two issues 1) will there be access to the raw water if Enterprise chooses to purchase a water truck. 2) the cost of the raw water, can it be stabilized at the economic rate.

Perry: Leave no stone unturned, council will have to show they have explored all avenues.

Mike: Has a problem with us spending our capital dollars to support an outsiders business. I.e. taking from CPI to fund shortfall in water & sewer funding.

Jim: Another option could be to drill a well on each property for every household.

Perry: Will check with Health on the regulation for personal wells.

Lorraine: Cannot make any commitments on behalf of the Legislature, however the next steps are to make formal requests to Hay River and to MACA in writing. Start a dialogue with Hay River, this may be an opportune time. The next step after that would be to have 4 seasons of water testing completed.

#5. Date of Next Meeting

Next Regular Meeting Monday April 2, 2012

#6. Adjournment

Motion #2012-03-048

Motion to adjourn at 8:25pm

Motion by Councilor Craig McMaster

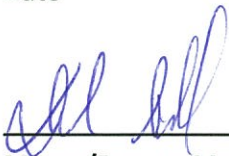
Second by Councilor John Leskiw

Carried

The Minutes of the above meeting are deemed to be correct.

April 2, 2012

Date



Mayor/Deputy Mayor



Senior Administrative Officer