



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

April 7, 2025

6:00 pm

Council Chambers of City Hall

1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

*We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh,
on whose land we live, work, and play.*

PRESENT: Mayor Simon Yu <Chair>
Councillor Tim Bennett
Councillor Garth Frizzell
Councillor Trudy Klassen
Councillor Ron Polillo
Councillor Cori Ramsay
Councillor Kyle Sampson
Councillor Susan Scott
Councillor Brian Skakun

IN ATTENDANCE: Walter Babicz, City Manager
Deanna Wasnik, Director of Planning and Development
Kris Dalio, Director of Finance and IT Services
Debbie Heywood, Manager of Event Services
Eric Depenau, Director of Administrative Services
Blake McIntosh, Director of Civic Operations
Ethan Anderson, Manager of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Leslie Kellett, Deputy Corporate Officer

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That the agenda for the regular meeting of Council scheduled for April 7, 2025, be amended by adding one new item of correspondence as agenda item G.4, and that the agenda, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried Unanimously

B. MINUTES

B.1 Adoption of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes – March 19 and 24, 2025

Moved By Councillor Scott
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That the minutes of the regular Council meetings held March 19 and March 24, 2025, BE ADOPTED as read on this day and that such minutes as read set out all of

the business before Council at those meetings and fully and properly record all of the resolutions passed by Council at those meetings.

Carried Unanimously

C. DELEGATION(S)

C.1 Violence Against Women in Relationships Committee (VAWIR)

Kendra Kurisu, Program Coordinator, Ministry of Women and Gender Equity, Métis Nation BC (VAWIR Co-Chair), Yvette Quinn, Women's Outreach, Elizabeth Fry Society (VAWIR Co-Chair), and Hannah S., Specialized Victim Services, Prince George Domestic Violence Unit, Elizabeth Fry Society, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding an overview of the Violence Against Women in Relationships Committee work to stem violence against women in relationships in Prince George.

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Scott

That Council REFERS to Administration the Violence Against Women in Relationships Committee (VAWIR) delegation to request information on how VAWIR believes the City can best support their efforts and to obtain their meeting schedule for Council's information.

Carried Unanimously

D. CONSENT AGENDA (FOR INFORMATION)

D.1 Corporate Work Plan Update

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated April 2, 2025 from the City Manager titled "Corporate Work Plan Update".

Carried Unanimously

E. REPORTS

CITY MANAGER – WALTER BABICZ

E.1 Review of Committee Recommendations to Improve Bear Awareness

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council DIRECTS Administration to continue to phase in bear-resistant solid waste receptacles in public spaces.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by Councillor Polillo

Seconded by Councillor Skakun

That Council CONSIDERS a new bylaw specific to wildlife attractants and solid waste. The proposed bylaw should:

- a. Use section 11 from "City of Prince George Property Maintenance Bylaw 8425, 2012", which addresses "Feeding Wildlife and Control of Wildlife Attractants."*
- b. Use Section 6 from City of Prince George Garbage Collection Regulation Bylaw 7661, 2004", which pertains to "Garbage Containers and Locations."*
- c. Implement a progressive increase in fines for infractions related to wildlife attractants and solid waste.*

- d. *Establish requirements for the maintenance of fruit trees and bushes, specifically the need to manage fruit before it falls to the ground.*
- e. *Mandate the securement and/or enclosure of wildlife attractants to prevent access by wildlife.*

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Polillo

Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council DIRECTS Administration to continue incorporating bear awareness information on the social media platforms, website, and other media sources where appropriate.

Moved By Councillor Ramsay

Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council AMENDS the main motion by adding the words “and DIRECTS Administration to include educational materials on human-bear interactions with the City’s utility bills for the spring and fall billing cycles.”

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Bennett

Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council AMENDS the main motion by adding the words “garbage collection schedules,” before the words “social media platforms”.

Carried Unanimously

Main motion as amended.

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Sampson

Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council DIRECTS Administration to amend the City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw No. 7850, 2007, and any other applicable bylaws, to permit electric fencing to secure wildlife attractants specifying requirements for voltage, installation, and maintenance.

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Bennett

Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council REFERS to the 2026 Budget deliberations, recommendations 1 and 2 as described in the report dated March 28, 2025 from the City Manager titled "Review of Committee Recommendations to Improve Bear Awareness."

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Ramsay

Seconded By Councillor Scott

That Council REFERS to Administration, recommendation 5 as described in the report dated March 28, 2025 from the City Manager titled "Review of Committee Recommendations to Improve Bear Awareness", to explore low-cost alternatives to secure garbage collection carts.

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Scott
Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council REFERS to the 2026 Budget, recommendation 3 as described in the report dated March 28, 2025 from the City Manager titled "Review of Committee Recommendations to Improve Bear Awareness."

Carried

Councillor Bennett opposed.

Moved By Councillor Bennett
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated March 28, 2025 from the City Manager titled "Review of Committee Recommendations to Improve Bear Awareness."

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF CIVIC OPERATIONS – BLAKE MCINTOSH

- E.2 **Downtown Renewable Energy System - Lakeland Energy Supply Agreement Bylaw No. 9542, 2025 and City of Prince George Energy System Bylaw No. 8471, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 9537, 2025**

City of Prince George Energy System Bylaw No. 8471, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 9537, 2025

Lakeland Energy Supply Agreement Bylaw No. 9542, 2025

Moved By Councillor Sampson
Seconded By Councillor Frizzell

That Council GIVES FIRST THREE READINGS of "City of Prince George Energy System Bylaw No. 8471, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 9537, 2025".

Carried Unanimously

Moved By Councillor Polillo
Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That Council GIVES FIRST THREE READINGS of "Lakeland Energy Supply Agreement Bylaw No. 9542, 2025."

Carried Unanimously

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND IT SERVICES – KRIS DAL IO

- E.2 **2025 – 2029 Financial Plan Bylaw and 2025 Tax Rates Bylaw**

City of Prince George 5-Year Operating and Capital Financial Plans Bylaw No. 9538, 2025

City of Prince George Tax Rates Bylaw No. 9539, 2025

Moved By Councillor Ramsay
Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council GIVES FIRST THREE READINGS of "City of Prince George 5-Year Operating and Capital Financial Plans Bylaw No. 9538, 2025".

Carried

Councillor Sampson opposed.

Moved By Councillor Ramsay
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council GIVES FIRST THREE READINGS of "City of Prince George Tax Rates Bylaw No. 9539, 2025."

Carried Unanimously

F. BYLAWS – FINAL READING AND ADOPTION

- F.1 City of Prince George Council Remuneration Bylaw No. 8414, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 9535, 2025**

Moved By Councillor Polillo
Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That Council GRANTS FINAL READING AND ADOPTION of "City of Prince George Council Remuneration Bylaw No. 8414, 2012, Amendment Bylaw No. 9535, 2025."

Carried Unanimously

G. CORRESPONDENCE

- G.1 Correspondence dated March 6, 2025 from Mark Karjaluoto and Chantelle Messier, Our Blood Counts: Support of a Blood Plasma Donor Centre in Northern BC**

Moved By Councillor Polillo
Seconded By Councillor Skakun

That Council PROVIDES a letter in support of a blood plasma donor centre in Northern BC, and REFERS the correspondence dated March 6, 2025 from Mark Karjaluoto and Chantelle Messier, Our Blood Counts, to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs for consideration of advocacy efforts regarding the development of a Blood Plasma Donor Centre in Northern British Columbia.

Carried Unanimously

- G.2 Correspondence dated March 21, 2025 from Mayor Simon Yu to the Prince George Airport Authority: Letter of Support for the Prince George Airport Authority's Application for British Columbia Air Access Program Funding**

- G.3 Correspondence dated March 20, 2025 from Food Systems North PG: Request for a Letter of Support to Aid in the Endorsement of the Food Systems North PG Project**

Moved By Councillor Ramsay
Seconded By Councillor Bennett

That Council PROVIDES a letter in support of the efforts of the Food Systems North PG Project to establish a food charter and food policy council.

Carried Unanimously

- G.4 Correspondence dated April 7, 2025 from Lisa Cran, Treasurer, Northern Bear Awareness Society, and Chair, 2024 Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness: Response to Administration's Recommendations on Improving Bear Awareness**

Moved By Councillor Bennett
Seconded By Councillor Polillo

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION Correspondence Items G.1 to G.4.

Carried Unanimously

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By Councillor Polillo

Seconded By Councillor Sampson

That there being no further business the Regular Council Meeting, BE ADJOURNED.

THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:40 P.M.

CHAIRPERSON

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