



KITSELAS BAND COUNCIL

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING – March 12, 2024 Minutes

Present: Chief Glenn Bennett, Councillors Gerald Nyce, Ken McDames Jr., Cyril Bennett-Nabess (virtual), Jericho Collison (virtual), Victor Wright, Geneva Mason (virtual), Cheryl Campbell, Linda Morven, Matilda Henry, Dr. David Try

Observers: George & Angeline Chinn

Other – Maggie Hall, Michael Pucci, City of Terrace, Darrin McCormack, KDC

1. Call Meeting to Order & Opening Prayer – The meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm. Opening prayer – Dr. Try.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 2024-03-12 (ONE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the agenda for March 12, 2024.

Moved by: Gerald Nyce

Seconded by: Victor Wright

Carried

3. Minutes, February 27, 2024

MOTION 2023-03-12 (TWO)

That Kitselas Band Council approves the minutes of February 27, 2024 as presented.

Moved by: Gerald Nyce

Seconded by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Peeling will review the Local Education Agreement, and will be provided Council's comments.
- The letter was sent to Northern Health, and cc'ed Minister Adrian Dix, City of Terrace, and Kitimat-Stikine Regional District on the naming of the hospital.

KDC & City of Terrace

5. SIDP Update – 3:30 pm

Darrin - Joint venture with the City of Terrace. Both Agreements in effect although expired. Establishes a 50-50 ownership - Skeena Industrial Development Park. The other agreement – Revenue Share Agreement - formula is built into it on property tax shares. Relationship exists for 13 years now. Maggie and I have redlined how to reframe it.

Mike Pucci – Just recently, JV re-obtained ownership of the land. We have to figure out what we want. What are the fits that are going to work with the assets Kitselas and Terrace have? We kind of landed on power. Have to achieve net zero – it's mandated.

Shared opportunity = shared revenue. Like the term about generational wealth. We've had a few people call, but we turned them away as it did not allow for other things to happen. We're looking at recruiting companies that make sense. A company coming in, and will produce about 500-600 trucks per year. What are we going to do with this slash, the biomass stuff. The first step may not see the revenue, but the next step and the one after will generate revenue. This is 1200 acres. There are limitations – biggest is water. 120 drill sites for water – 3 had water, and 1 water well below. Get power and water set up, and will have the best property with the transmission line, and sub-station. We have to figure out water. Airport needs water as well. Can make a case for it. There's potential for water there. Transmission line targeted to 2028. We have time to get everything in place.

Maggie – Management Committee, Mike is the leader of committee, and Darrin represents the Kitselas voice at the table. JV, manager have appointed Mike Pucci, and representation by KDC and City of Terrace, and Lori Greenlaw for the financing.

Kitselas First Nation is the partner with the City, not KDC.

Gerald – I like the idea of a Wind Farm. Green energy is the way to go.

Victor – Having different kind of ventures in there with the City of Terrace is a great opportunity for us.

Glenn – We're interested in business development and opportunities we can both work on.

Community Centre (Public Works) – Ulyses Venegas

6. Community Centre Flooring – 4:00 pm

Christian G., and Devan to provide some information on the flooring. Been asked to change flooring to wood flooring. Know it was a conversation on this table. Wood flooring is good for basketball and some sports, but not all sports such as indoor hockey. Wood flooring is costly to maintain, and the flooring recommended has a longer life span, good for basketball and other sports. \$675 k over 50 years, and vs hard wood significant cost. Cement already poured, and looking at additional costs. Hard wood floor does look beautiful and primarily for basketball. Have to cover it for any events. It may be hard wood, but it doesn't take much to damage it.

Ken – Talked about various sports. Whatever floor gets put down, each border for sports, all lines on the floor. We're not building it for all sports at this time.

Ulyses – If we want all sports, it won't be for all sports. The wood floor isn't recommended for all sports.

Ken – Talked about other events, how is it going to look at the flooring recommended and how it would look with hard floor.

Christian – Synthetic flooring, at end of the day, wouldn't even notice at the end of the day.

Devan – Pros and cons between the 2 systems. 1st system, synthetic floor, is what was initially approved. It's a great all around system designed for the hard wood and ideal for a range of sports. A hard wood floor can use for all activities. The main difference is the ongoing maintenance of the system – coated annually, re-sanded. Synthetic floor, not susceptible to weather. Can use auto scrubber, and keep it clean easily. Tables and chairs – if dragged on any type of floor – there's potential for damage. Still need use and care. Still suggest using floor cover. Repairs on synthetic floor is easily fixed. Daily maintenance is critical regardless of what product it is.

Victor – What is actually going to be used for this centre? That way, can identify what type of flooring will be used. We're looking at sports. What else? Gitsegukla took a year and a half to change the floor to synthetic.

Cyril – Initial numbers provided by Ulyses – all the costs. Other than that, I appreciate the background, so I appreciate the opportunity to have this discussion. Total cost to install hardwood.

Ulyses – Need information within 2 weeks. We'll have to adjust the flooring. Already have to do some changes to the stage and doors.

Glenn – \$23 million is a significant cost that Kitselas is investing. These decisions should have been made awhile ago. To come back now is presenting challenges. Contractor is recommending this synthetic flooring.

Gerald – First time seeing this flooring. I'm a strong advocate for hard wood. If we were going to make a decision, I would vote for a wood floor. I'm looking at teaching soccer, and volleyball. These are the 3 main sports I'm looking at now. I understand that maintenance is going to be expensive.

Cyril – With regard to the voice of Council, we supported the hard wood floor. Projects of this size need an oversight committee to help provide rationale with major purchases and design aspects.

Glenn – To retract that decision, it's complicated, and we will proceed with the hard wood floor.

7. Community Centre Mortgage

First Nation's Financial Authority - Kitselas is eligible to borrow up to \$50,000,000.00. Looked at the Gaming Revenue funding to make that decision on what we're eligible for. Would Kitselas put capital investment in this project?

Gerald – I already thought about how much we need to pay for everything that's going in the gym. Do we need to borrow money for that?

Ulyses – All of the furniture isn't all covered. Last week, when we were at the Best Western, received a call from the province, awarded \$3.4 million. Total - \$10.5 million. Need \$13 million. Let's keep some money in the bank.

Glenn – Can confirm with the financial management board to proceed with the mortgage for \$13 million.

8. Proposed Committee, Community Hall (Events Coordinator)

We need to look at hiring an events coordinator at least part time. Seating capacity with no tables is 1000 people. With tables and chairs, 750 people. Doesn't count the bleachers (retractable). We need to have a committee to work with Ulyses. We need somebody to work on marketing the community centre. LNG – potential funding for operational costs. They want to come to Kitselas to do their events. Daycare can align with their social events.

Communications

9. DRAFT Communications Flow Chart, Matilda Henry

Mattie reviewed the Kitselas Communications Plan. It's actual bullet points from our Plan. Shows how communication has to flow.

Gerald – Interviews, have to get approval on what we want to say.

Mattie – Band Council blurbs, what we discussed, and can go on the Kitselas Connects.

Glenn – Always important to have a template to send out to Terrace Standard. Public meetings have to be public, and in news print. Taking steps to ensure sufficient notice is provided. All community notices have to be in the Terrace Standard. Have people not tied to social media. For HR, need a back-up when you're away. Train someone who can fill in when you're away. If we're going down Treaty, need to justify that we've done everything we can to inform our members.

New Business

10. Board Representation – Linda reviewed the board representation and some changes made.

11. Organizational Chart, Governance Policy – Need to be flexible with the organization and make changes. Linda to review the organization and make recommendations on changes/improvements. Cyril – Having knowledge of our organization, and a CAO to carry out the work now.

Cyril – Have a framework to amend policy. It's a huge document – policy to amend policy. In saying that, it's onerous. Bring back to the community, and what governance looks like our community to them. Linda to put a posting out for Judy's position on an interim position.

12. Fish Wheel – Fast approaching in March. Fish season starts in May. We need to narrow it down who is responsible for the fish wheel. Linda provided an overview of the funding application with Lands and Resources and K5T. Will follow-up on the proposal, and will be a collaboration between K5T and KFN.

Ken – Need to start training people now – 1st aid, safety, boat operating, experience.

Cyril – We had a brief conversation on this at the Strategic Planning. It had to do with the former program. Is the Band ready to carry out the same financial contributions?

March 31st is fast approaching, and planning for the budgets for 2024-25 have already been carried out.

Glenn – Look at former documentation and come back with recommendations and funding implications.

Victor – Monitoring your own lands and fishing grounds.

13. Electric Vehicle

Kitselas needs to consider purchasing an electric vehicle. Administration and health could potentially cost-share on an electric vehicle. Ford has vehicles that are electric. Think we have to go electric, and a dealership that can service. Also need to look at a charging station.

Glenn – Believe Ulyses is factoring that in with the community centre.

Treaty

14. TSL Lands Ownership

Trusts & Treaty Financial \$\$ settlement

Post Treaty Election process

Committee Membership - E&E (4), E&E Appeals (1-2), Ratification (1), Trustees (5), Law Review Committee (open)

Survey will be put out on websites and social media platforms. Whatever we choose will have to go in the constitution. We have to make up our mind in the next 2-3 months.

Gerald – We have CoP currently. Government owns the land, and member owns the house. In Treaty, member would own the land and the house. IR#4 – anyone can apply for a house. Who is eligible to apply for land?

CAO Report

15. Budgets & Workplan, 2024/25

Linda provided an overview of the 24/25 budget and work plans. We'll need to look at a community meeting to present.

16. In-Camera Meeting

MOTION 2024-03-12 (THREE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council moves to go in-camera (6:48 pm).

Moved by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Seconded by: Victor Wright

Carried

In-Camera discussion is held.

MOTION 2024-03-12 (FOUR)

THAT Kitselas Band Council moves out of the in-camera session (7:06 pm).

Moved by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Seconded by: Victor Wright

Carried

17. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment – March 26, 2024, (virtual, 6:00 pm or reschedule) – Cyril to help another Councillor chair the meeting.

MOTION 2024-03-12 (FIVE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council adjourns the meeting.

Moved by: Ken McDames

Seconded by: Geneva Mason

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Other Dates:

- Nation to Nation, March 13-14, 2024, Prince Rupert
- BC Hydro Open House, Terrace Sportsplex, March 14, 2024, 4:00-7:00 pm
- K5T Expo, March 26-27, 2024, Land Blessing, March 27, 2024
- Great Bear Sea Project Finance for Permanence Leadership Meeting, March 26, 2025, 9:00 am-5:00 pm (Chief Glenn Bennett, CAO Linda Morven)
- Policing and Public Safety, March 27, 2024, 12:00 pm (Geneva Mason + elder opening), Best Western
- 15 Year Anniversary of the Tsawwassen Final Agreement, April 3, 2024, 4:00-7:00 pm, Longhouse
- K'uul Power, April 4, 2024, Prince George
- Land Acknowledgement, BC Freemasons, June 21, 2024
- Truth & Reconciliation – “Every Child Matters: Welcoming our Residential School Survivors Home”, October 1 & 2, 2024
- 2024 AGM – October 18-19, 2024 (KDC, K5T, Tourism inclusive)