



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

## **ADOPTED COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Monday, October 28, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mayor R. Alty,  
Councillor S. Arden-Smith,  
Councillor R. Fequet, (via teleconference)  
Councillor B. Hendriksen,  
Councillor C. McGurk,  
Councillor T. McLennan,  
Councillor S. Payne, and  
Councillor R. Warburton.

**City Staff:** S. Van Dine,  
D. Gillard,  
C. MacLean,  
W. Newton,  
K. Pandoo,  
K. Thistle,  
C. White,  
G. White, and  
S. Jovic.

1. Councillor Warburton read the Opening Statement.

### **AWARDS, CEREMONIES AND PRESENTATIONS**

2. There were no awards, ceremonies or presentations.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

- #0191-24
3. Councillor Warburton moved,  
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

**That the Minutes of Council for the regular meeting of Tuesday,  
October 15, 2024 be adopted as amended.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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**DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

4. Councillor McGurk declared a conflict of interest with Item No. 15 on the agenda, a memorandum regarding the Integrity Commissioner Investigation Report dated October 10, 2024.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS**

5. There was no correspondence nor were there any petitions.

**STATUTORY PUBLIC HEARINGS**

6. Mayor Alty declared open a Statutory Public Hearing regarding By-law No. 5095, a by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to add two new Residential Intensification zones (RI and RI- 1) and associated changes. There were no written submissions and one (1) oral submission in opposition.
7. Council heard a presentation from Mr. Mike Byrne in opposition to By-law No. 5095. Mr. Byrne expressed concerns with infill and densification development and requested amendments to this by-law to remove densification; especially within long standing neighbourhoods. Mr. Byrne further noted that, while the City needs more housing options, not all existing neighbourhoods can accommodate a mix of housing options or be compatible with higher-density developments. Mr. Byrne noted that there are a number of vacant multi-family lots in the city and stated that the City should have incentives to spur development of those lots.
8. As there were no further submission, Mayor Alty declared the Statutory Public Hearing with regard to By-law No. 5095 closed.

- #0192-24
9. Councillor Payne moved,  
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

**That Council proceed with Second and Third Reading of By-law No. 5095.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**DELEGATIONS PERTAINING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

10. Council heard a presentation from Becca Denley, a representative of the NWT Recreation and Parks, regarding the 2025 budget. Ms. Denley noted that she seeks funding for a bike signage program, installation of three (3)



bike counters, traffic calming measures on Range Lake Road and art crosswalks.

- #0193-24      11.      Councillor Arden-Smith moved,  
                 Councillor Henderson seconded,

**That, pursuant to s.53(3) of Council Procedures By-law No. 4975, the time allowed for the presenter be extended by up to two minutes.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

12.      Ms. Denley continued her presentation regarding the 2025 budget.
13.      Council heard a presentation from Adam Denley regarding the 2025 budget. Mr. Denley spoke about transportation and noted that we need to reduce our car dependency. Mr. Denley encouraged Council to support budget allocation for 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue bike path improvement; raised crosswalk at Finlayson Drive & Tees Court and Frame Lake Trail Extension.
14.      Council heard a presentation from Aida Nciri regarding the 2025 budget. Ms. Nciri spoke about climate change and cycling/pedestrian infrastructure. Ms. Nciri noted that improvements need to be made to the active transportation network to encourage people to shift from private motor vehicle trips to active modes of transportation.
15.      Council heard a presentation from Craig Scott a representative of Communities in Motion, regarding Frame Lake Trail Extension. Mr. Scott encouraged Council to support the budget allocation for Frame Lake Trail Extension.
16.      Council heard a presentation from Simon Toogood regarding the 2025 budget. Mr. Toogood spoke about cycling. Mr. Toogood asked Council to make Yellowknife more liveable by improving active transportation including walking and cycling infrastructure for all ages and abilities.
17.      Council heard a presentation from Maia Lepage and Kayla Cooper, representatives of Folk on the Rocks, regarding a proposal for loan forgiveness for the remaining \$60,000 on their \$100,000 loan, toward reinvestment in the Folk on the Rocks site.
18.      In response to a question from Councillor McGurk, Administration undertook to provide information regarding how loan forgiveness is reflected in the budget.



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**MEMBER STATEMENTS**

19. There were no member statement for the agenda.

**INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Governance and Priorities Committee Report for October 15, 2024**

20. Councillor Warburton read a report of a meeting held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.
21. There was no business arising from this meeting.
22. Council recessed at 8:31 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

**Governance and Priorities Committee Report for October 21, 2024**

23. Councillor Warburton read a report of a meeting held on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.
- #0194-24 24. Councillor Warburton moved,  
Councillor Payne seconded,

**That Council adopt the following recommendations presented by the Human Resource Compensation Committee (HRCC) for the 2024 City Manager Performance Evaluation Process:**

- 1. October 29: Mayor Alty to send Council and the City Manager the year end performance review template;**
- 2. November 15: Deadline for Council members and the City Manager to complete the template and send back to Mayor Alty; and**
- 3. November 25 (GPC): Year End Performance Review (In Camera).**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**NEW BUSINESS**

25. Council read a memorandum regarding the Integrity Commissioner Investigation Report dated October 10, 2024.
26. Councillor McGurk provided the following response to the report:



“This issue has repeatedly brought me back to last summer, and my involvement with the wildfire response. It was an experience that nearly brought me to my breaking point several times. My actions and responses were clouded by grief and trauma, I overlooked things that I should have understood to be important.

This is not an excuse, it is a fact. I was indignant in my certainty that I was acting appropriately. While last year’s events may have informed my conduct, they do not justify it. After I first spoke with the City Manager, I should have proceeded by contacting the Integrity Commissioner.

I was not acting in any formal capacity during last year’s fire, I had no contract, I was not compensated for the work I did. And without any formal contract, information is disputable and needs to be corroborated. That’s why we have explicit policies and bylaws, to maintain accountability. In this case, the undisputed evidence is that I borrowed an item from an individual, and no other party was formally involved.

When I understood that I might be crossing a line, I immediately took pause and contacted the Integrity Commissioner. It was, however, too late. I had already acted inappropriately and the complaint had been filed. While I am grateful to have found the sense to halt what I was doing, the reflection stopped there, and I continued to believe my actions were justified. Until I received the report, I didn’t understand how this was in any way a private matter.

I have put in a significant amount of consideration throughout this experience, I’ve come to understand that I was never acting on behalf of any party but myself. As the Integrity Commissioner has expressed in this report, I should have understood how my responsibilities as a councillor played a role in this situation. Responsibilities I committed to upholding for the length of my term when I was sworn in.

My only hope is that it is understood through my fulsome cooperation with this process that I have maintained transparency of my behavior, am invested in due process, and serious about upholding my duty. It was never my intent to abuse my role as a councillor, but I neglected to consider that my actions might not match my intentions.

In short, I am willing to accept responsibility for this contravention, and am deeply sorry to my constituents and fellow council members, to whom I owe my position and the privilege of being in this role.”

27. Councillor McGurk declared a conflict of interest and excused herself from the meeting at 8:45 p.m.



28. Council determined that it will add this matter to the Governance and Priorities Committee meeting of November 12, 2024 to discuss how to proceed with this matter.
29. Councillor McGurk returned to the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

### **ENACTMENT OF BY-LAWS**

30. By-law No. 5095 - A by-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 5045, as amended, to add two new Residential Intensification zones (RI and RI-1) and associated changes was presented for Second and Third Reading.

- #0195-24      31. Councillor Warburton moved,  
Councillor McGurk seconded,

#### **Second Reading of By-law No. 5095.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- #0196-24      32. Councillor Warburton moved,  
Councillor Arden-Smith seconded,

#### **Third Reading of By-law No. 5095.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **DEFERRED BUSINESS AND TABLED ITEMS**

33. There was no deferred business and there were no tabled items.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

34. There was no old business.

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

35. There were no notices of motion.

### **DELEGATIONS PERTAINING TO ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

36. There were no delegations pertaining to Items Not on the Agenda.



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**ADMINISTRATIVE ENQUIRIES**

37. There were no administrative enquiries for the agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- #0197-24 38. Councillor Arden-Smith moved,  
Councillor Payne seconded,

**That the Meeting be adjourned at 8:57 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

<Original signed by the Mayor>

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Mayor

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

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City Manager