



Council Minutes

Tuesday, April 20, 2021: On-Line Teams Meeting: 7:30 pm

Present: Chief Scott McLeod  
A/Deputy-Chief Rick Stevens  
Councillors Brian Couchie  
Corey Goulais  
Jane Commanda  
June Commanda  
Michael Sawyer  
Chief Executive Officer Brendan Huston  
Recorder/Dir of Admin Freda Martel

1. Meeting commenced at 7:24 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda:

Moved by Jane Commanda

Seconded by Rick Stevens to approve the Council Agenda of April 20, 2021 as presented.  
Carried.

3. Disclosures of Conflict:

None.

4. Council Travel:

Due to Covid-19 travel is not permitted at this time.

5. Adoption of Council Minutes of April 20, 2021:

Moved by Brian Couchie

Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the Council Minutes of April 20, 2021 as presented.

Carried.

6. Delegations / Presentations:

None.

7. Reports:

(a) Chief's Report

Covid-19 - Chief Scott McLeod informed Council that he has been attending daily meetings to get updates on Covid.

Laurentian University – Chief McLeod informed Council that he has been meeting with the Union of Ontario Indians and Laurentian University to discuss the possibility of an acquisition of a charter under the Anishinabek Education Institute.

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Algonquin Land Claim – Chief McLeod informed Council that meetings have been taking place with the Ministry and Provincial government on the Algonquin Land Claim. He informed Council that Nipissing First Nation has stated their position on this matter with regards to the infringement in our traditional territory as well as the Robinson Huron treaty area.

Band Member Issues – Chief McLeod informed Council that he has been dealing with band member issues, the majority concerning housing. Housing Policies are in place to address these issues.

(b) Chief Executive Officers Report

Brendan Huston, Chief Executive Officer provided a written report to Council that provided an update on Covid-19 and vaccine update. He also informed Council that in regard to the Economic Development that he and Dwayne Nashkawa presented to Council in the strategic session, the posting for a Business Operations Manager is ready to be posted. This position will focus on managing business operations and oversee NFN joint ventures and business partnerships. Council was informed more economic development opportunities will be presented to Council in the upcoming weeks. Brendan informed Council that community engagement sessions on the Outreach Program design will be taking place on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm and 6 pm.

Discussion took place regarding communications and billboard signs in the community.

(c) Special Council Minutes of March 30, 2021

Moved by Jane Commanda

Seconded by Brian Couchie to approve the Special Council Minutes of March 30, 2021 as presented.

Carried.

Brendan and Dwayne will be working on a Trust Income strategy and Brendan will provide a copy of the Trust Income Budget to Council for their information.

(d) Special Council Minutes of March 31, 2021

Moved by Brian Couchie

Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the Council Minutes of March 31, 2021 as presented.

Carried.

(e) Special Council Minutes of April 6, 2021

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Moved by Jane Commanda

Seconded by Michael Sawyer to approve the Special Council Minutes of April 6, 2021 as amended.

Carried.

(f) Culture & Pow Wow Committee Minutes of March 17, 2021

Moved by Brian Couchie  
Seconded by Michael Sawyer to approve the Culture & Pow Wow Committee  
Minutes of March 17, 2021 as presented.  
Carried.

(g) Culture & Pow Wow Committee Minutes of April 14, 2021

Brendan Huston to confirm that the recommendations in the minutes are within an  
approved budget for pow wow expenses. Deferred.

9. New Business:

(a) BCR's Signed:

Moved by Jane Commanda  
Seconded by Rick Stevens to approve Council Resolution #1930 to approve the  
appointment of the Electoral Officer and Appeal Committee for NFN Election.  
Carried.

(b) National Drinking Water Class Action

Council was provided with a Briefing Note regarding the National Drinking Water  
Class Action to address Canada's failure to ensure First Nations access to clean  
drinking water on reserve. The request was brought forward to First Nations to  
consider joining this Class Action. Brendan Huston and Dwayne Nashkawa will  
provide a Briefing Note and recommendation for the next Council meeting.

10. Standing Items:

(a) Annuities Claim - Chief Scott McLeod informed Council that court sessions are in  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> day where the case is being argued.

(b) Cannabis Agreement – Council was informed that Dwayne is working on the  
draft agreement.

(c) Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement Implementation – No update.

11. Information Items:

(a) Upcoming Events

(b) Managers Reports

(c) Staffing HR Report

(d) Business Arising from Previous Meetings Report

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(e) Dokis First Nation Support Letter

Chief Scott McLeod informed Council that Dokis First Nation requested a letter of support for a work permit for the removal of an underwater restriction upstream of the Okikendawt hydro facility. Council was informed that this would increase water flow and benefit Lake Nipissing and waterflows.

Moved by Brian Couchie

Seconded by Jane Commanda to provide a letter of support to Dokis First Nation for a work permit.

Carried.

12. Adjournment:

Moved by June Commanda

Seconded by Michael Sawyer to adjourn this meeting.

Carried.

\*\* Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm \*\*