

CITY OF IQALUIT
EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING #23
OCTOBER 12, 2021 at 5:45 p.m.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Kenny Bell
Deputy Mayor Solomon Awa
Councillor Romeyn Stevenson
Councillor Sheila Flaherty
Councillor Kyle Sheppard
Councillor John Fawcett

ABSENT

Councillor Simon Nattaq

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION

Amy Elgersma, Chief Administrative Officer
Tammy Ernst-Doiron, City Clerk
Katrina Sarmiento, Executive Assistant
Alison Drummond, Senior Director of Corporate Services
Geoffrey Byrne, Economic Development Officer
Cameron McDonald, Project Manager

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Bell opened the meeting at 5:45 p.m. with a moment of silence.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion #21-306

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard
Seconded by: Councillor Fawcett

Adoption of agenda as presented.

Unanimously Carried

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

2. NEW BUSINESS

None

3. **IN CAMERA SESSION**

(1) as per Section 22 (2) (a) CTV Act and By-law 526 Section 67

- Legal

Motion #21-307

Moved by: Councillor Stevenson
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council goes In Camera at 5:46 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

Motion #21-308

Moved by: Councillor Stevenson
Seconded by: Councillor Sheppard

Council returns to Regular Session at 6:21 p.m.

Unanimously Carried

Amy Elgersma, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that effective immediately, the Government of Nunavut's Department of Public Health has issued a Do Not Drink Water notice. As part of the City's efforts to investigate concerns from residents regarding reports of a fuel odour in the drinking water, the City has implemented a water investigation and it has located concentrated odours in a section of the water treatment plant and distribution system. Samples are being collected by Public Health and the City, and it is anticipated additional test results with more information will be received in approximately five business days.

Ms. Elgersma explained that a Do Not Drink Water notice must be used when a risk is identified in an associated water consumption that cannot be adequately addressed by boiling the water or issuing a water quality advisory. This may include, for example, a chemical spill near a water intake or where a water system may have been subject to vandalism, or an event that could not be resolved through additional disinfection practices. In this case, it is suspected that some type of petroleum product has entered the water system.

Ms. Elgersma directed residents on trucked water to empty their tanks until all the water is used, which can be done by running water taps and flushing toilets.

Ms. Elgersma advised that tap water not be used for drinking or cooking, and residents must avoid swallowing the water. Tap water can be used for laundry, cleaning and bathing. Pregnant women, newborns and infants should not bathe in tap water at this

time. The water can be used for showering, and pregnant women can use the water for showering.

Ms. Elgersma advised that the City would have chlorinated treated water available for residents. Residents on trucked water will receive water in their tanks. Residents who are not on trucked water are asked to bring their own jugs to fill at the water depot stations located at the Arctic Winter Games Arena and next to the library, which are available tonight starting at 6:30 p.m. Those who do not have jugs, can call the City during regular business hours. A drinking water hotline is available for questions and additional assistance at 979-5603 and will be answered during business hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Elgersma noted that residents have been collecting water at the river, and the City is reminding residents that this water is not treated and the water should be boiled for one minute before consuming.

Ms. Elgersma advised that the City would have additional information available once the results are received. She noted that a Public Service Announcement has just been posted with all of the information and will be updated when more information becomes available.

Motion #21-309

Moved by: Councillor Sheppard

Seconded by: Councillor Stevenson

That Iqaluit City Council declares a State of Local Emergency due to the potential of hydrocarbons in the municipal water supply and to call on the Government of Nunavut and federal government to fund a bypass of the affected Water Treatment Plant, all reclamation efforts to ensure a safe and adequate municipal water supply in Iqaluit, and to facilitate any and all temporary measures required in the interim.

Unanimously Carried

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion #21-310

Moved by: Councillor Fawcett

Seconded by: Councillor Flaherty

Council adjourns at 6:26 p.m.

Unanimously Carried



Kenny Bell
Mayor

Tammy Ernst-Doiron
City Clerk

Approved by City Council on the 26th day of October 2021.