

CITY OF IQALUIT
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING #02
March 19, 2013 at 6:00 PM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT FROM COUNCIL

Mayor John Graham
Deputy Mayor Mary Wilman
Councillor Romeyn Stevenson
Councillor Kenneth Bell
Councillor Mark Morrissey
Councillor Joanasie Akumalik
Councillor Simon Nattaq

ABSENT

Councillor Jimmy Kilabuk
Councillor Terry Dobbin

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION

John Mabberi-Mudonyi, A/Chief Administrative Officer
Tracy Cooke, City Clerk
Arif Sayani, Director, Planning and Development
Valerie Collin, Recorder
Jeanie Eeseemailee, Senior Interpreter/Translator

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion PL13-03

Moved by: Councillor Stevenson
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Wilman

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

Unanimously Carried

1. **MINUTES**

None

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None

3. DELEGATIONS

None

4. DEFERRED BUSINESS AND TABLED ITEMS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Request for Decision – Development Permit Application No. 13-005
Arif Sayani, Director, Planning and Development

Administration noted that the request was discussed during the Council meeting of March 12th and Council deferred the matter to be discussed during a Planning and Development Committee of the Whole meeting with hopes that representatives from the Government of Nunavut would be in attendance to answer questions they may have.

Councillor Nattaq stated that he has not yet seen a design for the new interim correctional facility and would be interested to see what it would include; residents and previous inmates often suggested how the current facility should be different. He noted that residents are often invited to the current correctional facility and can visit often; he hopes that this will remain when the interim facility is developed. There should be meeting space provided in the new facility so that family, friends and other visitors can privately meet with inmates and the facility should be warm and welcoming. He noted that the new airport will be developed near the existing and new correctional facility and the access road needs to be considered and discussed further; the road is in horrible condition and this should be addressed.

Mr. Jean-Pierre Deroy, Director of Corrections, thanked Council for inviting him and his team to speak on the matter and introduced his team to Council. He apologized for not presenting this project to Council sooner and noted that they have been very busy trying to secure funding for the project as well as a solution to their emergency.

The issues relating to corrections are not often discussed in public as residents are often not interested to hear negative comments; there are several issues that need to be addressed as soon as possible. The current facility is too old and no longer safe for inmates and staff and is too small to accommodate the number of inmates; it is estimated, based on their studies, that three hundred (300) beds would be needed in order to accommodate the increasing number of inmates each year.

He noted that residents often make discouraging and negative comments on the internet after reading news articles relating to incidents occurring at the facility or relating to the development of a new facility; they do not believe that inmates deserve a new facility. The facility is currently overcrowded by approximately one hundred (100) inmates and some are sleeping on the floor, without a proper bed, or cell as others have. There are often fires, riots, assaults and other dangerous issues occurring at the facility and this is not pleasant or safe for inmates or staff.

Deputy Mayor Wilman thanked Mr. Deroy for his presentation and asked how big the new interim facility would be.

Mr. Deroy advised that the facility will have twenty four (24) double bed cells; forty eight (48) beds in total. Twenty four (24) will be kept for the low risk offenders and the others will be kept for inmates with mental health issues. He noted that the interim facility will only be a temporary solution to address the overcrowding and that they hope to be able to develop a much larger facility with approximately three hundred (300) beds in the future.

Councillor Akumalik thanked Mr. Deroy for his presentation and believed that Council very much benefited from the information as they originally had several questions regarding the proposal when presented to Council on March 12th. He expressed his concern with the fact that the new airport would be developed close to the existing correctional facility and believed that there should be better communication between the government departments.

Councillor Stevenson agreed with Councillor Akumalik and did not understand why the Government of Nunavut would decide to build the new airport in that location. The access road is in horrible condition and the area is filled with industrial development; it will not be very welcoming to visitors. He did not believe that the proposed correctional facility would be interim since the development will cost a significant amount of money and the facility will not be easily removable. The new facility would not accommodate the additional beds required since it will only have forty eight (48) and the current facility currently has approximately sixty (60) beds and it was noted that the facility is overcrowded by approximately one hundred (100) inmates. He asked if the Government of Nunavut considered fencing the block since there will now be four correctional facilities located together.

Mr. Deroy advised that they can only develop this size of facility with the amount of funding provided for the project. The project team also discussed the possibility of fencing the block but it has not yet been decided or included as part of this project.

Motion PL13-04

Moved by: Mayor Graham
Seconded by: Councillor Stevenson

Committee recommends approving Development Permit Application No. 13-005 for Lot 200 Remainder, Plan 74085 to permit an interim correctional facility.

**For – Bell, Stevenson, Graham, Morrissey
Against – Wilman, Akumalik, Nattaq
Carried**

6. IN CAMERA SESSION

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion PL13-05

Moved by: Councillor Stevenson
Seconded by: Mayor Graham

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:20pm.

Unanimously Carried

Councillor Kenneth Bell
Chairperson

Arif Sayani
Director, Planning and Development

Approved by City Council on the **14** day of **May**, 2013, AD.