



Minutes
Town of Faro Regular Council Meeting
January 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Mayor	Jack Bowers	CAO	Kimberly Ballance
Councillors	Gary Jones	Executive Assistant/	Trudy Amos
	Wendy Michell-Larocque	Finance Assistant	
	Michelle Vainio		
	Neil Yee		

Public Present: 8

Public on Zoom: 2

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bowers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Council Meeting Agenda

Resolution 26-07

Vainio, Michell-Larocque

RESOLVED THAT the Agenda for the January 20, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

Carried

Resolution 26-08

Jones, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council do now move into Committee of the Whole to hear from the delegations.

Carried

3. DELEGATIONS & HEARINGS

3.1 Sgt Cedric Proulx, RCMP Ross River/Faro Detachment Commander and Constable Kristin Larton,

Sgt Proulx provided an overview of his written report, including a slight increase in calls over the holiday season, which is typical for that time of year. The RCMP participated in some good community visits during the month. They noted there is no update on staffing information at this point but are hopeful for additional updates soon.

Council requested clarification on statistical trend differences from 2024 to 2025, discussed participation by the RCMP at a future Council Open House, and asked if there were any concerns that stood out in the community during the extreme temperatures in December.

Resolution 26-09

Michell-Larocque, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council do now revert into Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS & HEARINGS

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the December 16, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council

Resolution 26-10

Jones, Michell-Larocque

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the December 16, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

Carried

5.2 Minutes of the January 12, 2026, Special Meeting of Council

Resolution 26-11

Jones, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the January 12, 2026, Special Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

Carried

5.3 Minutes of the January 16, 2026, Special Meeting of Council

Resolution 26-12

Vainio, Michell-Larocque

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the January 16, 2026, Special Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

Carried

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7. FINANCIAL

7.1 Finance Report

Council requested clarification of Cheque Nos. 3119, 3150, 3159, 3160 and 3176.

Resolution 26-13

Jones, Yee

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information the Finance Manager's report, including the Payment Register Summary and acknowledge the Cheque Register for the period December 11, 2025 – January 14, 2026.

Carried

7.2 Change in Travel Reimbursement

Council members noted that the rate seemed high, but is based on Canada Revenue Agency's rates.

Resolution 26-14

Michell-Larocque, Jones

WHEREAS Canada Revenue Agency has amended the reasonable per-kilometre allowance from \$0.76 to \$0.78 for the first 5,000 kms driven, and from \$0.70 to \$0.72 after 5,000 kms driven;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2026 rates on Expense Account Claim - Schedule "A", Bylaw 2014-10, change to \$0.78 for the first 5,000 kms driven and \$0.72 after 5,000 km driven.

Carried

8. REPORTS

8.1 Mayor's Report

- Noted that during the extreme cold conditions in December, there were several people in the community who maintained important frontline services, including Atilla Heipel and Jordie Amos, the Yukon Energy Staff who sustained electricity production. The community is thankful for their effort. He also thanked the North of 60 drivers who hauled fuel to keep the energy generation capacity running locally and throughout the region.
- Thanked Patti McLeod, MLA for Watson Lake-Ross River-Faro, for being a strong advocate for Faro, demonstrated by her many visits to the community and assisting the Town of Faro to advocate for the importance of Health Centre operations and firewood security.
- Advised that Council's Special Meeting held on January 16, 2026, was to repeal resolution 25-477, initially passed on December 16, 2025. This resolution's purpose was to put in place sanctions against Councillor Yee, which were initially imposed by a majority of Council in April 2025 and formally adopted by resolution in December 2025 due to unacceptable behaviour by Councillor Yee at the January 14, 2025, Council Meeting, as well as for his refusal to sign the Code of Conduct. The ongoing conflict has hampered the ability of Council to do the important work of the Town, and therefore Council has repealed the sanctions unanimously. Mayor Bowers made a commitment to abide by the bylaws and policies of the Town and to provide leadership at Council Meetings, moving forward.

8.2 Council Reports Councillor Vainio

- Thanked the many frontline workers who helped keep the community safe during the cold snap, including our municipal employees.

- Thanked Patti McLeod, MLA for Watson Lake-Ross River-Faro, for her advocacy on the health care front.
- Extended a welcome to the Town's new Management Employees, Akram Shah, Manager of Finance and Danny Granberg, Manager of Operations.
- Noted that while the Yukon Quest will not be happening this year, the Arctic Ultra will be again ending their race in Faro. There has been a lot of work done by Adam Minder to open and groom the trail for the Arctic Ultra, which deserves recognition and thanks.

Councillor Jones

- Advised that the AYC Conference will be held in May and that Council's proposed resolutions will need to be brought forward for submission.
- Thanks to Patti McLeod, MLA for Watson Lake-Ross River-Faro, and Minister Brad Cathers and Council Members for their work on the health care front.

Councillor Yee

- Nice to see the Arena has opened and has had good participation at public skating and hockey so far.
- Would like to reschedule the Council Open House, following its cancellation in December.
- Responded to the fire at the Ball Field's Gazebo in late December.
- Thanked the front-line Yukon Energy workers for their effort during the cold snap. Remains unsatisfied with the lack of noise mitigation measures associated with the generators. Advised that he thinks the Town should take action to address noise mitigation measures.
- Provided an update about his court case against Yukon Energy for charging users for activities that were not approved in their permit, since he has now received notice that he has won. This matter will now be returned to the Energy Board for direction on rebates for customers. He advised that the letter in S. 12.4 on today's agenda includes incorrect information, such as the reference to the Supreme Court instead of the Court of Appeal.
- Distributed a document relating to the information presented in the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw about the population in Faro for consideration prior to the Bylaw receiving final approval.
- Noted that he was happy to see that the public question period has been added to the updated draft, but would like to see it widened to include any matter of interest to the public, including not only questions but also any comments on a matter.
- Council has been discussing the potable water/septic project at the Faro Mine Site, but he would like to see additional research to better

identify a solution that reflects the interests of the community and local businesses. This potable water/septic portion of the project has been part of the project plan from the outset, however when the Town was consulted through the YESAB process on the overall project, it does not appear to have been responding to these requests for input. This will be a challenging issue to pursue given the lack of participation by the Town in the process, but if we are going to proceed, the Town should undertake research to quantify the impacts on the Town and the local economy.

- The sanctions that were apparently put against me did not comply with the Code of Conduct. Noted that he has been following, and will continue to follow, the Code of Conduct. There have been ongoing issues that have happened and since the January 14, 2025, Council Meeting, that have demonstrated non-compliance with the Code of Conduct by Council Members. Noted that since the retribution has ended, he hopes that apologies will be made and Council can move forward.
- Advised that he has submitted a few resolutions for consideration later in the agenda to address his concerns about the implementation of the apparent sanctions that were provided to him at his property in April 2025. He identified that Council Members' attendance at his property was an inappropriate method of delivering information, and he hopes that the retribution will end and that Council can move forward.

Councillor Michell-Larocque

- Really appreciate the hard work completed by everyone to reopen the Health Centre. There is currently one nurse on duty, with various nurses cycling through the community. Requested patience from the community and support in moving forward in a positive manner.
- Have been working with the Junior Canadian Rangers at their shooting practices at the Recreation Centre. They are looking to send some members to competitions.

8.3 Administration's Reports

8.3.1. Chief Administrative Officer

CAO Ballance summarized her written report and responded to questions from Council.

8.3.2. Manager of Operations

CAO Ballance responded to questions from Council.

8.3.3. Manager of Recreation and Culture

CAO Ballance responded to questions from Council.

9. BYLAWS

- 9.1 Bylaw No. 2025-06 – Lot 42 Property Acquisition Bylaw – Third Reading
Resolution 26-15 Michell-Larocque, Yee
RESOLVED THAT Council provide Third Reading of Bylaw 2025-06 – Lot 42
Property Acquisition Bylaw.
Carried
- 9.2 Bylaw No. 2025-10 – Municipal Auditor Bylaw – Third Reading
Resolution 26-16 Yee, Michell-Larocque
RESOLVED THAT Council provide Third Reading of Bylaw 2025-10 –
Municipal Auditor Bylaw.
Carried
- 9.3 Bylaw No. 2025-07 – Zoning Bylaw – Second Reading
Resolution 26-17 Jones, Michell-Larocque
RESOLVED THAT Council provide Second Reading of Bylaw 2025-07 –
Zoning Bylaw.
Carried

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 10.1 Amend Workplace Violence, Discrimination and Harassment Policy
Resolution 26-18 Michell-Larocque, Jones
RESOLVED THAT Council amend the Town of Faro's Workplace Violence,
Discrimination and Harassment Policy as presented.
Carried
- 10.2 Recycling Agreement Termination & Disposition of Balers
Resolution 26-19 Jones, Michell-Larocque
RESOLVED THAT Council hereby terminates the Memorandum of
Understanding with Faro Woodwork & Bottle Depot for Non-Refundable
Recycling Services.
Carried
- Resolution 26-20 Jones, Vainio
RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes and directs the CAO to take the
necessary action to dispose of two (2) balers to Tintina Ventures Ltd Yukon
Inc 845243 as outlined in the Recommendation to Council dated January 5,
2026, re: Termination of Recycling MOU and Disposition of Balers.
Carried

- 10.3 Bylaw 2025-08 – Amendments proposed for Procedural Bylaw

Council discussed the addition of the Public Question period and discussed the draft rules. Amendments will be made to allow a person to ask a question or provide a comment about anything related to the municipality. Council also discussed the inclusion of Section 7.5 which allows the Chair to permit a member of the public to speak during the meeting without having to go into Committee of the Whole.

Two members of Council identified that they would prefer not to move to a Consent agenda as it appeared that it may be onerous for the Chair to manage and may not improve the efficiency of the Meetings.

Council discussed whether there should be Procedural Rules added for the Council Reports section related to content including limitations based on matters related to municipal jurisdiction / community relevancy as well as the addition of a 10-minute time limit, subject to extension by Council. A draft will be returned to Council at a forthcoming meeting for consideration.

Council discussed differences between meetings and training events, such as the Annual Association of Yukon Communities (AYC) Conference. Local training sessions and workshops, such as the strategic planning workshop, should be held as public meetings, but may be held in-camera if the topic is in accordance with the Municipal Act provisions for this purpose.

Council discussed the Reconsideration rules and definition of what would constitute reconsideration.

Resolution 26-21

Jones, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council recess at 9:00 p.m. for five minutes.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- 11.1 Proposed MOU – Town of Faro and Del Van Gorder School
Council concurred with the inclusion of the Recreation Centre, including the pool, and the Arena as part of this MOU.

Resolution 26-22

Vainio, Michell-Larocque

RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes and directs the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Faro and Del Van Gorder School as presented.

Carried

11.2 Safe Sport Policy (2026-02)

Council discussed the policy as presented, including the provisions for sanctions identified.

Resolution 26-23

Jones, Michell-Larocque

WHEREAS the adoption of a Safe Sport Policy is a funding requirement for the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the Town of Faro's Safe Sport Policy as presented.

Carried

- 11.3 Draft Plan for Residential Lots on Rose Crescent and Ladue Drive
Council concurred that the two lots closest to the course should not be developed due to their proximity to the course and potential for damage. The plan will be amended prior to submitting it.

Resolution 26-24

Michell-Larocque, Yee

WHEREAS the Yukon Government's Land Development Branch has requested Council approval of its draft plan prior to initiating its detailed design;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the draft plan for the Residential Lots on Rose Crescent and Ladue Drive (dated October 31, 2025) as amended.

Carried

- 11.4 Proposed Motion Concerning Questions for MP Dr Hanley
Council discussed the procedure for Item Nos. 11.4, 11.5 and 11.6 due to their length, content and because copies of the Proposed Motions were included in the Agenda Package for Council and the Public's review.

Resolution 26-25

Bowers, Jones

RESOLVED THAT Council approves that the Proposed Motions for Item 11.4, 11.5 and 11.6 be read only if they have a mover and a seconder.

Carried

Michell-Larocque and Yee opposed

Councillor Yee moved the Proposed Motion. There was no seconder.

- 11.5 Proposed Motion Concerning Sanctions Letters
Councillor Yee moved the Proposed Motion. There was no seconder.

- 11.6 Proposed Motion Concerning Mayor and Council Visits to Private Residences
Councillor Yee moved the Proposed Motion. There was no seconder.

- 11.7 Housing Accelerator Fund - Draft Residential Conversion Grant Policy
Council provided direction to Administration on the draft policy. A final version will be forthcoming for Council's approval.

12. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION (OUT & IN)

- 12.1 Letter from Transport Canada, dated December 12, 2025, re: Proposed Regulation to Repeal Various Obsolete Airport Zoning Regulations
Additional information was requested and will be provided to Council upon receipt.
- 12.2 Letter from YG Department of Environment, dated January 2, 2026, re: Yukon Extended Producer Responsibility
Council discussed this letter as presented.
- 12.3 Email from Yukon Energy, dated December 31, 2025, re: Follow-up to Town of Faro questions
Council discussed the email as presented.

Councillor Vainio left the meeting at this point.

The Air Emissions Permit has been issued and requires the completion of a sound modelling report by June 30, 2026, and a Noise Management Plan following the completion of the report.

Resolution 26-26

Bowers, Jones

RESOLVED THAT Council extend the Regular Meeting of Council past 10:00 p.m.

Carried

Councillor Vainio returned to the meeting at this time.

- 12.4 Letter from Premier Dixon, dated January 2, 2026, re: Mandate Letters for Cabinet
Council reviewed the letter as presented, noting that these are issues that are facing all the communities.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Resolution 26-27

Vainio, Michell-Larocque

RESOLVED THAT Council do now move into Committee of the Whole to hear from the delegations.

Carried

Council responded to questions from the public.

Resolution 26-28

Michell-Larocque, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council do now revert into Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

Resolution 26-29

Jones, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council recess at 10:13 p.m. for five minutes and reconvene in-camera.

Carried

14. IN-CAMERA

14.1 Employment Matter - in accordance with Municipal Act Section 213 (3)(c & d)
re: Employment Matter

Resolution 26-30

Jones, Yee

RESOLVED THAT Council revert into the Regular Meeting of Council at 10:51 p.m.

Carried

15. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 26-31

Jones, Michell-Larocque

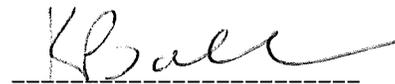
RESOLVED THAT the January 20, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Carried

Approved at the Regular Meeting of
Council held on February 3, 2026, by
Resolution # 26-~~33~~



Michelle Vainio, Deputy Mayor



Kimberly Ballance, CAO