



**Town of Faro
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers**

PRESENT:

Mayor	Jack Bowers	CAO	Kimberly Ballance
Councillors	Gary Jones	Ops Manager	Mark Vainio
	Michelle Vainio	Rec. Manager	Tina Freake
	Neil Yee	Executive Assistant/ Financial Assistant	Trudy Amos

Delegation: Jackie Bellemare, Jodi-Lyn Newnham, Stantec

Public Present: 8 Public on Zoom: 7

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 25-310

Jones, Vainio

THAT the agenda for the September 16, 2025, Meeting of Council be adopted as presented with the amendment of adding 11.5 Leave of Absence of Councillor Michell-Larocque.

Carried

3. DELEGATION

Resolution 25-311

Vainio, Jones

THAT Council do now move into Committee of the Whole for the Stantec presentation.

Carried

3.1 Stantec, Jackie Bellemare, Civil Lead in Buildings, Jodi-Lyn Newnham, Senior Strategic Advisor, and Lynne Burrell, Architect, NWTAA.

- Stantec's Engineering and Architectural Services

Jodi-Lyn introduced Stantec as a regional service provider of engineering services and thanked Council for their time. Jackie introduced the team from Stantec to Council. The company has been in the Yukon since 1973, starting as Stanley Consulting Whitehorse (SCW) and now operating as Stantec. There

are over 40 employees working in the Whitehorse office, but we have other offices all over Canada to draw resources from when needed.

Provided an overview of the types of architectural, civil, water/wastewater, and many other projects. They have been involved in projects in Faro, including work at the Health Centre, as well as archaeological work and HVAC work at the mine site.

Lynne Burrell provided an overview of other regional projects, including the Dawson design-build Recreation Centre, Mayo Fire Hall, and Pelly Crossing Pool. These projects used specialists drawn from other areas of the country as well as the Whitehorse Office. Watson Lake and Old Crow building condition assessments have also been completed. She also provided an overview of their ability to act as an Owner's Representative to verify that construction projects are completed correctly and meet costing requirements.

Jackie advised that Stantec can tailor their level of involvement to the needs of the Town of Faro. She thanked Council for the opportunity to speak on this.

Mayor Bowers thanked Stantec for their presentation.

Resolution 25-312

Vainio, Jones

THAT Council do now revert into Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATION

Nothing Presented.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the September 2, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council

Resolution 25-313

Jones, Yee

THAT the minutes of the September 2, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented with the amendments of spelling correction of McCloud to McLeod, Fun to Fund, and corrections to Councillor Yee's verbal report.

Carried

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nothing Presented.

7. FINANCIAL

7.1 Finance Report

Resolution 25-314

Jones, Vainio

THAT Council receive for information the Finance Officer's report, including the Payment Register Summary, and acknowledge the Cheque Register for the period August 28 – September 10, 2025.

Clarification was requested regarding cheques #2940, #2951, #2953, and #2970.
Carried

8. REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Bowers gave a verbal report.

Spoke with Constable Kristin and was told the new RCMP sergeant, Cedric Proulx, will be here on September 22, 2025.

Over the years, the Anglican Church has contributed a lot financially. Mayor Bowers would like to see the Anglican & Catholic Church share the Church of Apostles building rather than using the Recreation Centre for services.

Council Reports

Councillor Jones had nothing to report.

Councillor Vainio gave a verbal report.

Attended the Seniors' trip to Whitehorse, which was a fabulous trip, and everyone enjoyed it.

The Chief Superintendent of the RCMP M Division will be attending the AYC Board meeting this weekend with some of her senior staff. This would be a good time for the people attending to talk about the RCMP situation in Faro.

Councillor Yee summarized his written report.

Administration's Reports

Chief Administrative Officer

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

Operations Manager

Acting Manager Vainio summarized his written Report and responded to questions by Council.

Fire Smart job advertisement has been posted in advance of, but in preparation for funding approval.

The area between the old and new shop has been cleaned up and is ready for fencing. It may not happen this year. Winterizing key water infrastructure is the first priority.

General Manager of Recreation and Culture

Manager Freake summarized her written Report and responded to questions by Council.

Council requested clarification on the Pool report re: page 7 Campbell Region Training Fund no longer exists. Manager Freake advised that there is a different training fund available. Council also requested clarification about structural concerns raised for the deck under the chemical room.

The CRIC report was also good and nice to see staff recommendations. These will be reviewed as part of the budget process. Some of the concerns raised were with the shower costs and use after hours. Perhaps a door code can be updated weekly and distributed for RV Park users. This will be reviewed with the annual review of Fees.

9. BYLAWS

9.1 Zoning Bylaw – First Reading.

Resolution 25-315

Jones, Vainio

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council provide **First Reading** of Bylaw 2025-07 – Town of Faro Zoning Bylaw.

Councillor Vainio read the bylaw.

Vote called on Bylaw 2025-07 (Resolution 25-315)

Three in Favour
Councillor Yee Opposed
Carried

"Bylaw #2025-07, I now declare having been read a First Time this 16th day of September 2025."

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 Canada Communities Building Fund Approval – Secondary Security Network (2025-002)

Resolution 25-###

Jones, Vainio

THAT Council accepts the Canada Community Building Fund Project Approval re: the Town of Faro's Project Proposal, 2025-002, Secondary Security Network; and,

FURTHER THAT Administration is authorized and directed to implement the project.

Council requested a presentation from Total North about the secondary security network and requested information about alternative service providers.

Tabled

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Report from Elevator Yukon re: Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) – Town of Faro Servicing Standards Policy – Cost Sharing Arrangement

Resolution 25-316

Vainio, Yee

THAT Council accepts the Report prepared by Elevator Yukon dated September 5, 2025, re: Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) – Town of Faro Servicing Standards Policy – Cost Sharing Arrangement; and,

FURTHER THAT Council waives the Bidding Process, as set out in Section 5 of the Town's Purchasing Policy, and authorizes the execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the Town of Watson Lake for the development of a Servicing Standards Policy with services to be provided by WSP Canada.

Defeated

Council requested that Administration consider alternative methods for developing a Servicing Standards Policy using existing standards and adapting them for the Town of Faro.

11.2 Request for Approval re: Faro Cemetery Bylaw 80-15, Section 26, Plot 11B, 11D, and 12A.

Resolution 25-317

Jones, Yee

WHEREAS Bylaw 80-15, adopted on September 10, 1980, provides for the control and regulation of the Faro Cemetery; and,

WHEREAS Section 26 of the Bylaw requires the written consent of Council for the installation of a plot marker or border; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Faro has received a written request for permission to:

- Install a border around Cemetery Plots: 11B, 11D, and 12 A; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves the request for the installation of a border around each of the following plots: 11B, 11D, and 12A.

Carried

11.3 Report to Council from CAO, dated September 8, 2025, re: Request to Waive Fees for Diocese of Yukon, Anglican Church.

Resolution 25-318

Yee, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council waives rental fees for the Diocese of Yukon, Anglican Church, as follows:

- Fees will be waived for up to 6 hours/month for use of the Sportsman's Lounge within the Recreation Centre's Regular Hours of Operation,
- Standard booking processes will be followed, and
- This will be effective for a 6-month trial period ending February 28, 2026.

Carried

11.4 Report to Council from CAO, dated September 12, 2025, re: Airport Fuel Tanks.

Resolution 25-319

Yee, Jones

RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the Report to Council re: Airport Fuel Tanks, dated September 12, 2025, and directs the CAO to initiate a public bid process for their sale; and,

FURTHER THAT Council directs CAO to proceed with an Environmental Site Assessment for the eventual termination or transfer of the Lease associated with

Carried

11.5 Leave of Absence

Resolution 25-320

Jones, Yee

THAT Council grant a leave of absence for Councillor Wendy Michell-Larocque, for the Regular Council Meeting held on September 16, 2025.

Carried

12. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION (OUT & IN)

12.1 AYC Lobbying:

- a) Response letter from the Yukon Utilities Board to the Association of Yukon Communities re: Request for the Establishment of a Municipal Rate Class in Yukon's Utility Rate Design

Councillor Vainio left the meeting at this point.

Council discussed the letter and the impact on other ratepayers.

Councillor Vainio returned to the meeting at this point.

- b) Response letter from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to the Association of Yukon Communities re: RCMP Staffing in Yukon Communities
- c) Response letter from the Minister of Justice and Attorney General to the Association of Yukon Communities re: RCMP Staffing Duration in Yukon Communities

Council discussed RCMP staffing levels in the communities and requested that Councillor Jones and CAO Ballance to raise the need for an increase to the municipal comprehensive grant at the AYC Meeting this weekend.

- ### 12.2 Letter from Minister of Community Services, Richard Mostyn, dated September 10, 2025, re: Faro Petition for Inquiry per Section 337 of the Municipal Act

Mayor Bowers noted that Paragraph 7.2 of the Code of Conduct identifies that the Mayor is the spokesperson and will be retaking this role as the person responsible for making comments on behalf of the Town of Faro.

Councillor Yee read a statement noting his disappointment in the response made by the Minister and the failure of the Ministry to fully examine the request made by a significant portion of the community, as evidenced by the number of petition signers.

- ### 12.3 Letter from Minister of Community Services, Richard Mostyn, dated September 11, 2025, re: Faro Water, Sewer and Road Upgrades – Phase 3A (Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP))

Council discussed this letter and the need for Council to consider this option as part of strategic planning moving forward. There are several infrastructure upgrades needed, and the methodology to implement them will need to be considered. Council discussed the scope of the Phase 3A work and requested Administration to provide the Phase descriptions for Council to review.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Resolution 25-321

Vainio, Jones

THAT Council do now move into Committee of the Whole for public questions.

Carried

Council responded to questions from the gallery.

Resolution 25-322

Vainio, Jones

THAT Council do now revert into Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

14. IN CAMERA

Resolution 25-323 Time: 9:03 p.m.

Vainio, Jones

THAT Council do now recess for five minutes and reconvene *in-camera*.

Carried

In camera discussion

Resolution 25-324

Vainio, Yee

THAT Council do now revert into Regular Meeting of Council.

Carried

15. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 25-325

Vainio, Yee

THAT the 16th day of September 2025, Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Carried

Approved at the Regular Meeting of
Council held on October 7, 2025, by
Resolution # 25-___



Jack Bowers, Mayor

Kimerly Ballance, CAO