



**Minutes
Special Meeting
July 9, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers**

PRESENT:

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

Delegations: The Honourable Cory Bellmore, Minister of Community Services and Minister responsible for the Yukon Lotteries Commission, Damien Burns, Deputy Minister, Amanda Janssens, Community Services, Community Advisor

Public Present: 3

Public on Zoom: 0

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bowers called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Council Meeting Agenda

Resolution 26-277

Jones, Yee

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the July 9, 2026, Special Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

Resolution 26-278

Vainio, Yee

RESOLVED THAT Council move into Committee of the Whole

Carried

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Topics for discussion with the Honourable Cory Bellmore, Minister of Community Services & Minister responsible for the Yukon Lottery Commission

Minister Bellmore thanked Council for their hospitality and the opportunity to meet today.

3.1.1. Comprehensive Municipal Grant (CMG)

Faro had a small CMG decrease this year for the first time in recent history. Council understands that the Government of Yukon is in a tough financial situation, but there are a lot of pressures including infrastructure maintenance and electricity costs that drive the cost of operating the municipality and the CMG is an important part of municipal operating funding. Discussed the statistical information that forms the basis of the grant formula.

3.1.2. Infrastructure Replacement (Water/Sewer/Road) Phase 2 & 3A

The completion of this project is important to the community and will likely require more funding than what was originally approved. This will probably result in a scope reduction to meet the cost that was approved under the ICIP program.

The incomplete nature of Phase 2 and the need for BST in 2027 is important but it may not be in the best interest of the Town to undertake the balance of the work if it required the Town to accept the responsibility for the incomplete nature of the work.

The Town is interested in taking on Phase 3A in its entirety but are working on this implementation through a Transfer Payment Agreement with Infrastructure Development Branch. Any assistance in getting a TPA completed for the engineering works would be helpful.

Completion of road resurfacing would be useful in the Town, even in the absence of underground infrastructure works. This was restricted under some of the prior funding programs.

3.1.3. Municipal Act Review

There is an unofficial Municipal Act Review committee that is working on gathering information and identifying matters that are important to update. Once the Legislative Review process is formalized there will be a full consultation process that will be undertaken.

Council discussed some matters for review including Code of Conduct minimum standards and external oversight. This is an ongoing discussion, and a wider jurisdictional review is underway.

Another matter of interest for review is Section 236 of the Act which allows municipalities to have a lower level of transparency than other jurisdictions, although the section is permissive enough to allow Councils to provide a higher level of transparency. The Minister recommended that Council discuss this matter further with other municipalities to determine the best path forward.

3.1.4. Faro Solid Waste Facility – Regionalization & Chateau Jomini Demolition
Discussed Faro's landfill and identified that while it is not part of a regional landfill agreement, there may be some benefits to being part of that agreement and discussion. The Town is currently taking waste from outside of its boundary and remains interested in having a regionalization agreement conversation.

3.1.5. Arena Ice Plant Funding

There is a great opportunity to increase arena programming and community development through the installation of an artificial ice plant. The Town would be looking for support on this through Federal and Territorial governments and understands that there are some options for funding federally. Looking for support from the Territorial Government. Minister Bellmore noted that funding might be available through Community Development Fund (CDF) and Yukon Lotteries Capital funding programs but strongly recommended that the Town complete its due diligence on considering the costs of operating and maintaining this type of infrastructure. The group also discussed options for private funders such as the mining companies, and the cost of operations.

3.1.6. Community Development Fund

Minister Bellmore congratulated the Town of Faro on the award of the CDF funding for the Weight Room Equipment for \$73,800 and also announced funding for the Town's Wildfire Protection Plan in the amount of \$45,000 to complete the implementation of this work.

3.1.7. Other

Discussed concerns locally about the lack of return transportation following Medivac trips to Whitehorse from Faro. This has been raised with the Minister of Health but no update at this time. Additional information will follow.

Discussed medical transportation and appointment coordination for those who live in the communities. There is a need to be creative and find solutions to ensure community members can access health services. There may be some funding opportunities coming forward to assist in health related and inter-community transportation.

Council offered its appreciation and thanks to Community Services for the assistance they provide to the community. There is also a lot of good work completed by the Department of Highways on the 4-season maintenance on the Robert Campbell Highway. Council appreciates their effort.

Resolution 26-279

Jones, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT Council revert into the Special Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Carried

4. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 26-280

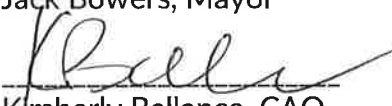
Jones, Vainio

RESOLVED THAT the July 9, 2026, Special Meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Carried

Approved at the Regular Meeting
Council held on July 28, 2026, by
Resolution # 26-285



Jack Bowers, Mayor


Kimberly Ballance, CAO