

Minutes of a Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: M. Farrington, Vice Chair
N. Aubrey
J. Bancarz (via teleconference)
K. McGrath, Councillor
M. Giles
K. Jenkins
A. Vinni, Councillor

Absent: K. Fleury
S. Germain, Councillor

Administration: D. Woodworth, Team Lead, Recovery Task Force
A. Rogers, Chief Legislative Officer
S. Soutter, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Vice Chair M. Farrington called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m., and sent regrets on behalf of K. Fleury and Councillor S. Germain.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by M. Giles that the agenda be adopted as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes of Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Meeting - April 19, 2017

Moved by K. Jenkins that the minutes of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee meeting held on April 19, 2017 be approved as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Entrance

N. Aubrey and Councillor A. Vinni entered the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Reports

Before moving into the 2017 Capital Budget Amendment – Waterways Slope Stability, M. Farrington, Vice Chair, disclosed that her former employer, Athabasca Tribal Council, owns the property at 7413 Cliff Avenue.

**2. 2017 Capital Budget Amendment - Waterways Slope Stability
(6:09 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.)**

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee recommend to Council that:

1. the Municipality proceed with acquisition, at pre-fire value, and mitigation of the following properties identified in the Waterways Slope Stability Assessment Report dated March 10, 2017:
 - All 15 properties located within Zone 3A;
 - One privately held lot in Zone 4 (being 7119 Cliff Avenue); and
 - Five selected properties within Zone 3 (being 7308, 7310 and 7312 High Avenue; 7211 and 7213 Cliff Avenue); and
2. the 2017 Capital Budget be amended as outlined in Attachment 3 (Capital Budget Amendment – Waterways Slope Stability Land Acquisition and Regrading, dated May 11, 2017) be approved.

Erin O’Neil, Operations Manager, Recovery Task Force, provided an overview of the report noting that the Waterways Area Slope Stability Assessment revealed constraints to redevelopment within the study area. It was proposed that 21 properties be acquired to mitigate slope stability concerns. It was also indicated that a capital budget amendment is required in order to move the recommendation forward.

Colin Furber, resident, addressed the Committee with concerns relative to rebuilding.

Najwa Karamujic, resident, addressed the Committee regarding the reluctance of the home builders relative to rebuilding in the Waterways area due to the risks associated with the slope movement.

Ron McGill, resident, spoke in favour the recommendation.

Margo Firman, resident, supported the recommendation and acquisition of her property. It was noted that consideration should be given to the concerns raised by residents that do not benefit from this acquisition.

Kunal Nagpal, home builder, indicated that it would be beneficial to know the anticipated timelines for the rebuild of the remaining properties not included in the acquisition as many residents are reaching their limit for additional living expenses provided by their insurance companies. Concerns were also noted regarding obtaining construction insurance and the requirement to “build in-place” on insurance policies.

Monica Thompson, resident, noted concerns regarding the value of her property.

Voting then occurred on the motion presented by Councillor K. McGrath.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following motion was then presented by Committee Member, M. Giles. With the consent

of the Committee, delegations were heard with respect to the motion.

Moved by M. Giles that administration prepare a report to be presented at the June 7, 2017 Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee meeting or sooner at a special meeting, which addresses the potential acquisition of the remaining Zone 3 properties by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

Monica Thompson, resident, spoke in favour of the recommendation.

Najwa Karamujic, resident, spoke in support of the recommendation.

Colin Furber, Waterways resident, spoke in favour of the recommendation.

Tom Holland, Waterways resident, spoke in favour of the recommendation.

Jim Rogers, Waterways resident, spoke to benefits of the recommendation.

Margo Firman, resident, sought clarity on the recommendation.

Brittany McCormick, resident, raised concerns with regard to rebuilding.

Voting then occurred on the motion presented by M. Giles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Exit

N. Aubrey exited the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Recess

A brief recess occurred between 7:41 p.m. and 7:59 p.m.

Presentations

3. [Bonnah Carey and Laura Serrano; Fuse Social re: Results of the 3rd Social Profit Sector Wildfire Impact Survey](#)
(8:00 p.m. to 8:16 p.m.)

Bonnah Carey and Laura Serrano; Fuse Social, presented the results of the third Social Profit Sector Wildfire Impact survey that was conducted to identify challenges and needs of social profit organizations.

4. [Dan Stuckless, McMurray Metis and Harvey Sykes re: Rebuild of Metis Historic Site, Recovery of Indigenous People and Reconciliation](#)

(8:17 p.m. to 8:55 p.m.)

Peter Fortna, Dan Stuckless, McMurray Métis, and Harvey Sykes addressed the Committee asking for consideration to work with Administration on to explore a formal lease agreement that would assist in the recovery of the indigenous community by rebuilding a Metis Historic Site that was lost during the wildfire. It was noted that McMurray Métis Elder and Board Member, Harvey Sykes, lost his home which served as a touchstone to the indigenous community.

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee recommend to Council:

That the request be referred to Council with a view to having the McMurray Metis work collaboratively with Administration to bring forward a recommendation for Council's consideration no later than June 13, 2017.

Jay Telegdi, resident, spoke in favour of the recommendation.

Brian Fayant, resident, spoke in favour of the recommendation.

Voting then occurred on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Exit and Return

Councillor M. McGrath exited the Chamber at 8:55 p.m. and returned at 9:08 p.m.

5. [Guy Choquet, Director of Operations, Canadian Red Cross re: One-Year Update: Alberta Fire Recovery](#)

(8:56 p.m. to 9:12 p.m.)

Guy Choquet, Director of Operations, Canadian Red Cross, provided an update on their one year report highlighting the support that has been provided to the community and small businesses.

6. [Erin O'Neil, Operations Manager, Recovery Task Force re: Soil Stockpile Management](#)

(9:13 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.)

Erin O'Neil, Operations Manager, Recovery Task Force, provided an updated on Soil Stockpile Management, indicating that a site has been located in the rear west corner of Abrams landing. The contract has been awarded to CLH contracting and discussions have been held to ensure that the existing uses on the site are not impacted by the stockpiling.

7. [Dennis Warr, Mitigation Supervisor and Stephen Fudge, FireSmart Specialist, Recovery Task Force re: Releaf Canada Update](#)

(9:16 p.m. to 9:23 p.m.)

Dennis Warr, Mitigation Supervisor, and Stephen Fudge, FireSmart Specialist, Recovery

Task Force, provided an update on Releaf Canada and upcoming reforestation projects, indicating that a ceremonial tree planting program will be held on May 23, 2017.

New and Unfinished Business

8. [Impacts of Life Cycle of Municipal Landfill - 2016 Wildfire](#)
(9:24 p.m. to 9:35 p.m.)

Dawny George, Director, Engineering and Environmental Services and Fred Brown, Manager, Environmental Services, reported on the impacts to the lifecycle of the Municipal Landfill as a result of disposal of debris and materials from the wildfire affected areas, as well as the financial impacts to the landfill.

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the report titled “Impacts to Life Cycle of Life Cycle of Municipal Landfill – 2016 Wildfire” be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. [Sub-Committee Reports](#)
(9:36 p.m. to 9:40 p.m.)

Councillor A. Vinni, Environment Sub-Committee, provided an update on progress to date.

K. Jenkins, Rebuild Sub-Committee, provided an update on the rebuild progress to date.

M. Giles, Economy and Mitigate Sub-Committees, provided an update on initiatives to date.

10. [Wildfire Recovery Team Update](#)
(9:41 p.m. to 9:43 p.m.)

Dana Woodworth, Recovery Team Leader, provided an update on the tasks of Wood Buffalo Recovery Task Force to date.

Adjournment

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Vice Chair M. Farrington declared the meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Chair

Chief Legislative Officer