

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, September 13, 2017, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
C. Tatum, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor
C. Voyageur, Councillor

Administration: A. Antoniak, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
A. Rogers, Chief Legislative Officer
L. Ollivier, A/Chief Financial Officer
R. Billard, Director
C. Bouchard, Director
J. Doyle, Director
D. George, Director
D. Leflar, Director
A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Mayor M. Blake called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Regular Council Meeting - August 22, 2017

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on August 22, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recognition

2. Proclamations

Mayor Blake recognized the following proclamations:

- Muscular Dystrophy Awareness - Month September, 2017
- Take Back the Night March – September 15, 2017
- Breastfeeding Week – September 30 – October 6, 2017
- World Cerebral Palsy Day – October 30, 2017

Arrival

Councillor L. Bussieres joined the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Ms. Brandi Frame, on behalf of the late Andy Frame, was presented with a sign commemorating the naming of “A Frame Road”.

Exit and Return

Councillor S. Germain exited the meeting at 6:17 p.m. and returned at 6:18 p.m.

Mr. Sonny Flett was presented with a sign commemorating the naming of the Sonny Flett Aquatic Centre in Fort Chipewyan.

Pecuniary Interest

Councillor T. Ault declared a potential pecuniary interest in the upcoming agenda item due to a employment relationship and exited the Chamber at 6:18 p.m.

Presentations

- 3. Linda Ollivier, Financial Services; Philip Schofield, Assessment and Taxation and Karim Zariffa, Oil Sands Community Alliance (OSCA) re: Bill 21 Transition Plan to 5:1 Ratio**
(6:18 p.m. – 7:52 p.m.)

Annette Antoniak, Interim Chief Administrative Officer provided opening remarks on the matter thanking Council and industry leaders for their individual involvement in this regard.

Karim Zariffa, Executive Director, Oil Sands Community Alliance (OSCA) spoke to OSCA’s involvement in the development of the plan being presented this evening as well as confirming the group’s support with the recommendation brought forward.

Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the Chamber at 6:22 p.m. and returned at 6:23 p.m.

Linda Ollivier, Acting Chief Financial Officer, and Philip Schofield, Regional Assessor, provided background information on how the transition plan was developed.

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud:

- that Council endorse a 10-year transition plan to achieve a 5:1 ratio between the highest rate of non-residential property tax and the lowest rate of residential property tax; and
- that the Municipality and industry partners make a joint submission to the Government of Alberta recommending that a regulation be enacted to approve the 10-year transition plan and to extend to January 1, 2028 the Municipality's compliance date for achieving the 5:1 tax ratio that is now required pursuant to recent amendments to the *Municipal Government Act*.

Tany Yao, MLA for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo, came forward and thanked the Steering Committee for all the work done on this project.

Don Scott, resident, spoke to the subject matter suggesting that Council defer the decision to the incoming Council.

Exit and Return

Councillor C. Tatum exited the Chamber at 6:43 p.m. and returned at 6:46 p.m.

Pradeep Metha, resident, spoke in opposition, suggesting that Council defer the decision on this matter to the incoming Council.

Bryce Kumka, President, Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce, questioned how the proposal can be supported without reducing services currently being provided by local businesses.

Dogar Mohammad Shafiq, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed transition plan .

Andrew Manyevere, Fort McMurray African Canadian Association, questioned the information provided tonight, suggesting that the matter be deferred until the next Council comes into place and further opportunities are provided for public input.

Assuming and resuming of Chair

Mayor M. Blake exited the meeting at 7:11 p.m. at which time Councillor S. Germain assumed the Chair.

Mayor M. Blake returned at 7:12 p.m. and resumed the Chair at that time.

Voting then occurred on Councillor J. Stroud's motion.

CARRIED

For: M. Blake, T. Ault, L. Bussieres, J. Cardinal, S. Germain, P. Meagher, K. McGrath, J. Stroud, C. Tatum, C. Voyageur

Opposed: A. Vinni

Recess and Return

A break occurred between 7:52 p.m. and 8:05 p.m., at which time Councillor T. Ault rejoined the meeting.

Bylaws

4. Rural Committee Recommendation: Bylaw No. 17/022 – Fort McKay Area Structure Plan

(8:05 p.m. – 8:06 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Bylaw No. 17/022, being a bylaw to designate Fort McKay as a hamlet, specify its boundaries and adopt the Fort McKay Area Structure Plan, be read a first time and that the Public Hearing be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Return

Councillor K. McGrath returned to the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Reports

5. Community Identification Committee Recommendation Naming Roads in Parsons Creek Phase 2

(8:10 p.m. – 8:19 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the roads in Parsons Creek Phase 2 be named Killick Drive, Neil Costello Drive, Shemko Road, Routhier Drive, Gauthier Road, Strandberg Road and K. Sawatzky Boulevard.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. 2017 Capital Budget Amendments - New Projects

Linda Ollivier, Acting Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the 2017 capital budget amendments resulting in two new projects.

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher

- that the 2017 Capital Budget Amendments as summarized on Attachment 1 (2017 Capital Budget Amendments – New Projects, dated September 13, 2017) be approved; and
- that the revised Cash Flow of Capital Projects as summarized on Attachment 2 (2017 Capital Budget Amendments – New Projects - Cash Flow Summary, dated September 13, 2017) be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Accountability, Integrity and Transparency Audit Final Report
(8:19 p.m. – 8:26 p.m.)

Annette Antoniak, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the report noting that all recommendations arising from this Audit is now complete.

Dogar Mohammad Shafiq, resident, spoke to unrelated matters.

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the Accountability, Integrity and
Transparency Audit Final Report be received as information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer