

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chamber at the Syncrude Athletic Park Clubhouse in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, commencing at 4:00 PM.

Present:

Don Scott, Mayor
Mike Allen, Councillor
Krista Balsom, Councillor
Bruce Inglis, Councillor
Sheila Lalonde, Councillor
Keith McGrath, Councillor
Phil Meagher, Councillor
Verna Murphy, Councillor
Jeff Peddle, Councillor
Jane Stroud, Councillor
Claris Voyageur, Councillor

Administration:

Annette Antoniak, Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Jamie Doyle, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community Services
Chris Davis, Acting Director, Legal Services
Lynda McLean, Director, Communications, Stakeholder, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development
Linda Ollivier, Director, Financial Services
Keith Smith, Acting Director, Public Works
Darlene Soucy, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order (at 3:00 p.m.)

Deputy Mayor K. Balsom called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Entrance and Assuming of Chair

Mayor D. Scott entered the meeting and assumed the Chair at 3:07 p.m.

2. In-Camera Session

MOTION

THAT Council close items 2.1 and 2.2 to the public pursuant to sections 17(1), 23(1) and 24(1) and 27 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
SECONDER:	Claris Voyageur, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

Pecuniary Interest and Exits

Councillor M. Allen declared a potential pecuniary interest in the next item and exited the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Administration exited the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

2.1 Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy / Local Public Body Confidences (in camera pursuant to sections 17(1) and 23(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Returns

Councillor M. Allen and Administration returned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

2.2 Advice from Officials – Land Matter (in camera pursuant to section 24(1) and 27 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Name	Reason for Attending
Annette Antoniak	Chief Administrative Officer
Jamie Doyle	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Lynda McLean	Director, Communications, Stakeholder, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Chris Davis	Acting Director, Legal Services
Brad McMurdo	Director, Planning and Development
Linda Ollivier	Director, Financial Services

Recess

A recess occurred between 3:55 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public in the Council Chamber.

MOTION:

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Phil Meagher, Councillor
SECONDER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

3. **Adoption of Agenda** (at 4:00 p.m.)

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be amended by adding the following:

- item #8.2 - Lobbying Initiative - Childcare Services;

THAT Council waive any requirement to serve notice relative to the proposed addition;
and

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeff Peddle, Councillor
SECONDER:	Krista Balsom, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

4. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

4.1. **Council Meeting - February 25, 2020**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on February 25, 2020 be approved as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Krista Balsom, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

5. Presentation

5.1. Sheri Pidhirney, Pamela Ramrup and Natasha Hartson, Business Support Network, re: 2019 Business Visitation Program Pilot

Natasha Hartson, Pamela Ramrup and Jennifer Warren, Business Support Network, presented on the 2019 Business Visitation Program Pilot to educate local businesses about resources that are available in the region, and to determine what other supports businesses may require.

6. Presentations and Business Arising

6.1. Dr. Trent Keough, Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee re Franklin and Main Park Project

Roy Williams, Vice Chair, Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee (WBDRAC), provided an overview of the WBDRAC's recommendation for the development of a park in the Franklin Avenue and Main Street area, and noted that public input into the park design and location would be gathered through a design charrette process.

6.2. Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee Recommendation - Franklin and Main Park Project

Jamie Doyle, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, and Monica Lance, Manager, Special Projects, provided an overview of the recommendation indicating that Administration supports the motion before Council, which would enable Administration to initiate park design through a public design charrette process and act in alignment with other approved downtown revitalization initiatives underway.

MOTION:

THAT Administration be directed to undertake a Franklin and Main park project in 2020, as recommended by the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee on February 18, 2020 and that the funding required for this project be assumed within the approved 2020 Downtown Revitalization project budget; and

THAT the exact location(s) of the Franklin and Main Park Project be confirmed through a public design charrette process and in partnership with the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee.

RESULT:	CARRIED [8 TO 3]
MOVER:	Mike Allen, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
FOR:	Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud
AGAINST:	Scott, McGrath, Voyageur

6.3. Liana Wheeldon, Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee re Year-Round Outdoor Designated Event Space

Liana Wheeldon, Chair, Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee (WBWAC), provided an overview of the WBWAC's recommendation for a year-round designated outdoor event space with supporting facilities and utilities, and noted that public input into the event space and location would be gathered through a design charrette process.

Exits and Returns

Councillor K. McGrath and Councillor K. Balsom exited the meeting at 5:19 p.m. and returned at 5:20 p.m.

6.4. Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee Recommendation - Year-Round Designated Outdoor Event Space

Jamie Doyle, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, and Monica Lance, Manager, Special Projects, provided an overview of the recommendation indicating that Administration supports the motion before Council, which would enable Administration to initiate a public design charrette process and work in alignment with other approved waterfront initiatives underway.

MOTION:

THAT Administration be directed to undertake a project in 2020 to incorporate a year-round designated outdoor event space, which includes supporting facilities with appropriate utilities, as recommended by the Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee on February 19, 2020 and that the funding required for this project be assumed within the approved 2020 Capital Budget for the Waterfront Park Project; and

THAT the exact location(s) of the year-round designated outdoor event space be confirmed through a public design charrette process and in partnership with the Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Krista Balsom, Councillor
SECONDER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

7. New Business

7.1. Committee Appointment - Oil Sands Engagement Committee

Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, provided an overview of the proposed appointment to the Oils Sands Engagement Committee, which has been established by the Government of Alberta to provide advice on the coordination of transportation planning in the Athabasca oil sands area.

MOTION:

THAT Councillor Jeff Peddle be appointed to the Oil Sands Engagement Committee, effective immediately; and

THAT costs associated with attendance at meetings for this Committee be expended from the approved 2020 Council Operating Budget.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sheila Lalonde, Councillor
SECONDER:	Phil Meagher, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

8. Councillors' Motions

8.1. Parking Enforcement Standards

Councillor K. McGrath provided an overview of his motion.

Exit and Return

Councillor M. Allen exited the meeting at 5:32 p.m. and returned at 5:34 p.m.

Exit and Vacating the Chair

Mayor D. Scott exited the meeting at 5:33 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor Balsom assumed the Chair.

Return and Resuming the Chair

Mayor D. Scott returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair at 5:36 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT Administration be directed to investigate and benchmark the current parking enforcement standards of other municipalities in Alberta and bring forward a report to Council identifying the appropriate value of parking penalties, including an early payment discount option for parking infractions issued in contravention of the Roads and Transportation Bylaw No. 02/079.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Keith McGrath, Councillor
SECONDER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

8.2 Lobbying Initiative - Childcare Services

Vacating the Chair

Mayor Scott vacated the Chair at 5:41 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor Balsom assumed the Chair.

Mayor D. Scott provided an overview of his motion.

Nancy King, Hope Moffatt, Kedra Abdurahman, Annalise Yuzda, and Holly Christopher, childcare service providers, spoke in support of the motion, noting that the proposed changes by the provincial government to the childcare profession will affect not only the childcare service providers but also residents who are dependent on childcare to attend work and school as there could be staff shortages within the childcare sector as a result.

MOTION:

THAT Council lobby the provincial government, our MLAs, and specifically the Honourable Rebecca Schulz Minister of Children's Services at Government of Alberta, about the crisis facing the childcare profession in Wood Buffalo. Specifically, we ask the provincial government to reassess the planned discontinuation of the Accreditation process across the province effective April 1, 2020, as well as the Northern Living Allowance for Wood Buffalo early childhood educators effective July 1, 2020; and

THAT the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo take the position that our region will be disproportionately negatively impacted by these changes and that these policies are critical to delivering effective, accessible, and affordable childcare in the region; and

THAT a letter be sent from the Office of the Mayor to the Minister with copies to our MLAs on this issue and that efforts be made to lobby the relevant government officials at the upcoming RMA, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, Spring Convention.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Scott, Mayor
SECONDER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

Resuming the Chair

Mayor Scott resumed the Chair at 6:08 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer