

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held via Electronic Communication, a combination of video conferencing and teleconferencing, in the Council Chamber at the Syncrude Athletic Park Clubhouse in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, commencing at 4:00 PM.

Present:

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

Absent:

Bruce Inglis, Councillor
Keith McGrath, Councillor

Administration:

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community Services
Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief
Chris Davis, Acting Director, Legal Services
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development
Matthew Harrison, Acting Director, Communications and Stakeholder Relations
Linda Ollivier, Director, Financial Services
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering Services
Kari Westhaver, Director, Human Resources
Darlene Soucy, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor D. Scott called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

2. In-Camera Session

MOTION:

THAT Council close agenda items 2.1 and 2.2 to the public pursuant to sections 17(1) and 19(1) and 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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

2.1. **Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy/Confidential Evaluations – Committee Appointments**

(in camera pursuant to sections 17(1) and 19(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Confidential Evaluation #1

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Deanne Bergey	Director, Community Services
Sonia Soutter	Legislative Advice/Clerk

Confidential Evaluation #2

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Sonia Soutter	Legislative Advice/Clerk

Entrance

Councillor M. Allen joined the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

2.2. Advice from Officials – Information Briefing

(in camera pursuant to section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Information Briefing #1

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Jody Butz	Regional Fire Chief

Information Briefing #2

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk

Entrance

Councillor K. Balsom joined the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Recess and Disconnect

A recess occurred between 3:53 p.m. and 4:05 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public and Councillor C. Voyageur did not reconnect to the meeting.

MOTION:

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

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

3. Adoption of Agenda**MOTION:**

That the Agenda be adopted as presented.

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

4. **Consent Agenda**

THAT the recommendations contained in items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 be approved.

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

4.1. **Minutes of Council Meeting - July 14, 2020**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on July 14, 2020 be approved as presented.

4.2. **Minutes of Special Council Meeting - July 28, 2020**

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on July 28, 2020 be approved as presented.

4.3. **Council Appointed Advisory Board/Committee Meeting Minutes**

THAT the Minutes from Council Appointed Advisory Board/Committee meetings, as outlined in Attachments 1-11, be accepted as information

4.4. **Bylaw No. 20/021 - Election Bylaw**

THAT Bylaw No. 20/021, being the Election Bylaw be read a first time.

5. **Recognition**

5.1. **Proclamation – Think Pink Week**

Mayor D. Scott recognized Think Pink Week from September 14 - 19, 2020.

6. Presentations

6.1. Jim Peacock, Integrity Commissioner Annual Report 2019 - 2020

Jim Peacock, Integrity Commissioner, provided an overview of the Annual Report for 2019 - 2020, which summarized the Integrity Commissioner's activities since his appointment on April 1, 2019 and provided recommendations regarding amendments to the Integrity Commissioner Bylaw No. 19/005 in relation to the formal complaint procedure.

6.2. Leah Nelson Guay, Len Savoy, Jason Heisler, Tyran Ault, Suncor Energy, re: Base Mine Extension

Tracey Wolsey, Director, Len Savoy, Manager, Leah Nelson Guay, Senior Advisor, Indigenous and Community Relations, Tim Dreger, Senior Mining Engineer, and Jason Heisler, Specialist, Regulatory, Suncor Energy, presented on the proposed project to extend operations at Suncor's Base Mine, with construction anticipated to begin in 2026 and oil production in 2031.

6.3. Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee re: Affordable Housing

Val Quintal, Margaret Quintal, Yvonne McCallum, and Stacey Atkinson, Board Members, along with Jeffrey O'Donnell, Chief Executive Officer, and Verna Quintal-Janvier, Finance Director, Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee (CRDAC), provided an overview of the project to develop affordable community housing in Conklin with the assistance of Cenovus, and requested that the sale of 4 Hamlet Residential lots in Conklin be approved for a nominal fee rather than fair market value, which was previously approved by Council at the October 4, 2016 Council Meeting.

Business Arising: Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee Request

MOTION:

THAT Council approve the sale of 4 residential lots in Conklin to the Conklin Resource Development Advisory Committee for a nominal fee.

Mayor D. Scott proposed a friendly amendment to include "and affirm the previous disposition" following the word fee; however, Mayor D. Scott withdrew the friendly amendment as in essence this was affirming the sale of the residential lots for fair market value.

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

6.4. Ronald Quintal, Fort McKay Métis re: Mandatory Masks in Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

President Ron Quintal, Fort McKay Métis, provided an overview of their request to implement a mandatory mask bylaw in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) due to increased COVID-19 cases in the RMWB, noting that the Province has implemented mandatory mask wearing in schools for students in grades 4 to 12, including when they are utilizing municipal transit to travel to and from school.

MOTION:

THAT a Special Council Meeting be scheduled for Monday September 14, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. to bring forward a mandatory mask bylaw for consideration at that meeting.

Point of Order

Councillor V. Murphy called a Point of Order on Councillor J. Stroud during voting, noting that debate on the motion was concluded. Mayor D. Scott upheld the Point of Order and voting on the motion continued.

RESULT:	CARRIED [7 TO 1]
MOVER:	Jeff Peddle, Councillor
SECONDER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud
AGAINST:	Lalonde
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath, Voyageur

7. Unfinished Business

7.1. Public Hearing Bylaw 20/020 Road Closure – Fairway Drive – Subdivision Plan 1897TR (Land Transfer McMurray Métis)

Mayor D. Scott declared the public hearing open at 5:53 p.m.

Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development, and Michael Ircandia, Manager, Land Administration, provided an overview of the proposed road closure to facilitate construction of the Métis Cultural Centre, noting that the subject road is undeveloped and does not provide physical access to any public utilities or serve as public access.

Mayor D. Scott noted for the record that there were no written or verbal presentations submitted.

Mayor D. Scott declared the public hearing closed at 5:58 p.m.

7.2. Bylaw No. 20/020 - Road Closure - Fairway Drive - Subdivision Plan 1897TR

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 20/020, being a Road Closure Bylaw, be read a second time.

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

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 20/020 be read a third and final time.

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

7.3. Bear Safety

Matthew Hough, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the Alberta BearSmart Program, which is intended to be used as a tool to empower Albertans to make safe decisions in bear territory, reduce property damage caused by bears, and help bear populations survive, It was noted that the Program focuses on education, public awareness, identifying bear deterrents, preparing people for potential bear encounters and reinforcing safe BearSmart practices.

Valerie Quintal, Conklin resident, indicated that there is increased bear activity in Conklin, and noted that it would be beneficial to residents to have the Conklin Waste Transfer Station open 5 days a week with reduced hours during bear season to potentially deter bears from entering the community in search of food.

MOTION:

THAT Administration pursue an official BearSmart Community designation.

RESULT:	CARRIED [6 TO 2]
MOVER:	Phil Meagher, Councillor
SECONDER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Meagher, Peddle, Stroud
AGAINST:	Lalonde, Murphy
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath, Voyageur

Councillor J. Stroud then put forward the following supplemental motion:

MOTION:

THAT Administration be directed to review the operations of the Waste Transfer Stations in Conklin and Janvier and bring forward to Council during the 2021 budget meetings, a report on whether the stations can be fully operational 5 days a week during bear season in anticipation of Spring 2021.

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

8. New Business**8.1. Request for Tax Relief for Plan: 1521610 Block: 1 Lot: 1 (Moosehaven Lodge)**

Linda Ollivier, Director, Financial Services, provided an overview of the request for the cancellation of penalties on the tax account for Moosehaven Lodge.

MOTION:

THAT the penalties on 2019 taxes for the property legally described as Plan: 1521610 Block: 1 Lot: 1, in the amount of \$18,821.54 be written off.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [1 TO 7]
MOVER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
SECONDER:	Krista Balsom, Councillor
FOR:	Stroud
AGAINST:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath, Voyageur

8.2. The Critical Importance of Keeping Regional Emergency Services' EMS Dispatch within Wood Buffalo

Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief, and Kelly Roberts, Deputy Chief of Operations; Regional Emergency Services (RES), provided a summary of the critical importance of keeping Regional Emergency Services' Emergency Medical Services (EMS) dispatch within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB), noting that the Government of Alberta intends to reduce the number of EMS dispatch centres in the Province from 6 to 2, and to remove emergency medical dispatch from the RMWB. It was indicated that any expected savings, would be offset by significant reductions in the quality of service, including that changes to the EMS dispatch model will result in longer response times to medical emergencies, which is likely to drastically impact patient outcomes in certain emergencies.

It was noted that Council, stakeholders and residents are urged to continue to advocate for the continuation of RES coordinated EMS dispatch services in the RMWB, including sending letters to Government of Alberta Officials in opposition to the Alberta Health Services' (AHS) changes to EMS dispatch.

Rob Van Hecke, President, International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2494, spoke in support of keeping emergency medical dispatch within the RMWB and the continued efforts to advocate in opposition to AHS changes to EMS dispatch. It was noted that the RMWB EMS dispatchers are professionals, who make fast and efficient critical decisions when dispatching emergency response, especially when the caller uses local terminology and landmarks to identify the location of an emergency, which would be unfamiliar to a dispatcher located in another area of the province and may cause delays in response times.

Disconnect and Reconnect

Councillor J. Peddle disconnected from the meeting at 7:16 p.m. and reconnected at 7:18 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred at 7:19 p.m. due to technical issues, and at 8:05 p.m. it was determined that the technical issues were unable to be resolved, requiring the remainder of the Council meeting to be deferred.

MOTION:

THAT the September 8, 2020 Council Meeting Agenda Item Numbers 8.2 to 8.6 inclusive be deferred to the September 14, 2020 Special Council Meeting.

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

8.3. Q2 2020 Financial Performance Report

This item has been deferred to the September 14, 2020 Special Council Meeting.

8.4. Q2 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update

This item has been deferred to the September 14, 2020 Special Council Meeting.

8.5. Heart of Wood Buffalo Excellence Awards

This item has been deferred to the September 14, 2020 Special Council Meeting.

8.6. Nomination for the Canadian Federation of Municipalities Board of Directors

This item has been deferred to the September 14, 2020 Special Council Meeting.

9. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates

With no objections of Council, Councillor Reporting/Information Updates was omitted.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer