

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held via Electronic Communications, a combination of video conferencing and teleconference in the Council Chamber at the Syncrude Athletic Park Clubhouse in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, December 2, 2020, commencing at 9:00 AM.**

**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:**

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer  
Matthew Hough, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer  
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services  
Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief  
Chris Davis, Acting Director, Legal Services  
Scott Davis, Director, Emergency Management  
Kari Donnelly-Westhaver, Director, Human Resources  
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations  
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning & Business Initiatives  
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications & Engagement  
Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development  
Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer  
Rachel Orser, Director, Supply Chain Management  
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services  
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works  
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering  
Darlene Soucy, Legislative Officer

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor D. Scott reconvened the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

## **2. Public Delegations**

Dianna de Sousa, Executive Director, Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the overall budget, indicating that it should support building a future for residents, families and the community where local businesses can grow and thrive.

## **3. 2021 Operating Budget Presentations**

Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update on the revised total grant allocations resulting from the resolutions passed by Council during the December 1, 2020 Budget Meeting.

### **3.1. Community and Protective Services**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Community and Protective Services.

The following items were identified for follow up by Administration:

- Provide the operating budget amounts for arts and culture compared to recreation.
- Provide information and location details on the heritage plaques.

### **3.2. Public Works**

Keith Smith, Director, Public Works, Nina Caines, Senior Manager, Parks, Roads and Rural Operations, and Joel Trudell, Senior Manager, Transportation and Facilities, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Public Works.

The following items were identified for follow up by Administration:

- Review street lighting in Sapræe Creek Estates in the area of the community mail boxes and the entrance sign.
- Review the transit routes and ridership in the area of McMurray Metis (Local #1935) offices and Highway 63.
- Review the crosswalk and the lighting in the area of the Oil Sands Discovery Centre.

### **Recess**

A recess occurred from 11:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Councillor S. Lalonde put forward the following motion for consideration: “That funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 be allocated to the Public Works 2021 Operating Budget for the addition of a plaque on the sign located at the entrance of Sapræe Creek Estates

recognizing Olympians; and THAT the install of the plaque occurs prior to September 1, 2021”.

Councillor P. Meagher proposed a friendly amendment to change the date to “by June 2021”, which was accepted by Councillor S. Lalonde.

Voting then occurred on the motion.

**MOTION:**

THAT funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 be allocated to the Public Works 2021 Operating Budget for the addition of a plaque on the sign located at the entrance of Saprae Creek recognizing Olympians; and

THAT the installation of the plaque occur by June 2021.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Sheila Lalonde, Councillor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Verna Murphy, Councillor
<b>FOR:</b>	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

**3.3. Engineering**

Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Engineering.

Exit and Return

Councillor S. Lalonde exited the meeting at 11:42 a.m. and returned at 11:43 a.m.

**3.4. Environmental Services**

Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Environmental Services.

Vacating the Chair

Mayor D. Scott vacated the Chair at 12:32 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor V. Murphy assumed the Chair.

Exit and Return

Councillor S. Lalonde exited the meeting at 12:42 p.m. and returned at 12:43 p.m.

**MOTION:**

THAT funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 be included in the Environmental Services 2021 Operating Budget for the purchase of a 6-inch pump for dewatering the landfill site.

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

### Resuming the Chair

Mayor D. Scott resumed the Chair at 12:44 p.m.

### Recess and Return

A recess occurred from 12:45 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. and Councillor C. Voyageur returned to the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

## **3.5. Planning and Development**

Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Planning and Development.

The following items were identified for follow up by Administration:

- Provide the number of surveys and stakeholder engagements completed during the proposed Land Use Bylaw public engagement.
- Communicate to the Chamber of Commerce and the wider community the fast turnaround times for the permitting process from application to final approval.

## **3.6. Regional Emergency Services**

Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief, Kelly Roberts, Deputy Chief, Operations and Technical Services, and Scott Davis, Director, Emergency Management, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Regional Emergency Services.

### Pecuniary Interest and Exit

Councillor K. Balsom declared a pecuniary interest due to a contractual obligation in Item No. 3.7, Communications and Engagement, and Item No. 3.8, Indigenous and Rural Relations, and exited the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

## **3.7. Communications and Engagement**

Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Communications and Engagement.

### Exit and Return

Councillor S. Lalonde exited the meeting at 3:20 p.m. and returned at 3:21 p.m.

The following item was identified for follow up by Administration:

- Provide Pulse call and email volumes to Council on a regular reporting basis.

#### Recess

A recess occurred from 3:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### **3.8. Indigenous and Rural Relations**

Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Indigenous and Rural Relations.

The following item was identified for follow up by Administration:

- Provide information on the number of meetings with Indigenous Leaders and the outcomes regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action and items identified in the 2018 - 2021 Strategic Plan.

#### Return

Councillor K. Balsom returned to the meeting at 4:37 p.m.

### **3.9. Legal Services**

Council agreed to waive the presentation for Legal Services. Chris Davis, Acting Director, Legal Services was present to answer questions of Council.

### **3.10. Supply Chain Management**

Council agreed to waive the presentation for Supply Chain Management.

#### Exit and Return

Councillor J. Peddle exited the meeting at 4:40 p.m. and returned at 4:41 p.m.

### **3.11. Human Resources**

Kari Donnelly-Westhaver, Director, Human Resources, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Human Resources.

The following item was identified for follow up by Administration:

- Provide an overview of the virtual training sessions that are available for Council Members to participate in (e.g. Cultural Awareness).

#### Exit and Return

Councillor S. Lalonde exited the meeting at 5:15 p.m. and returned at 5:17 p.m.

### **3.12. Health and Safety**

Kari Donnelly-Westhaver, Director, Human Resources, presented the proposed 2021 Operating Budget for Health and Safety.

### **3.13. Executive Offices**

Council agreed to waive the presentation for the Executive Offices. Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, was present to answer questions of Council.

### **3.14. Financial Services**

Council agreed to waive the presentation for Financial Services. Linda Ollivier, Director Financial Services, and AnnMarie Hintz, Senior Manager, Information and Technology, were present to answer questions of Council.

The following item was identified for follow up by Administration:

- Provide information on the increase of wages and benefits in aggregate.

### Recess

The meeting recessed at 5:50 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. on December 3, 2020.