

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 Tuesday, March 9, 2021, commencing at 4:00 PM.

Present:

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

Absent:

Keith McGrath, 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
Scott Davis, Director, Emergency Management
Kari Donnelly-Westhaver, Director, Human Resources
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Business Initiatives
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and 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
Susan Trylinski, Director, Legal Services
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering
Darlene Soucy, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor D. Scott called the meeting to order at 2:35 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 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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

2.1. **Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy - Committee Appointments - Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee**

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

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

2.2. **Advice from Officials - Chief Administrative Officer Operational Briefing and Updates**

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

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

Entrance

Councillor K. Balsom joined the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred between 3:54 p.m. and 4:06 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:	Krista Balsom, Councillor
SECONDER:	Bruce Inglis, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur
ABSENT:	McGrath

3. Adoption of Agenda

Councillor J. Peddle served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 23, 2021 Council Meeting:

THAT Administration develop a Land Disposition Policy (and accompanying Administrative Procedure) to clarify and provide a framework for the management of disposing of land by the Municipality. This policy is to be returned to Council for consideration with an accompanying report on or before the Council meeting of Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

Councillor J. Peddle served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 23, 2021 Council Meeting:

THAT Administration review and bring forward a report on May 11, 2021 that addresses the current Municipal for-profit leases and for-profit leasing procedures with a recommendation or options that can be considered by Council. Such report to consider the option of selling facilities to remove the Municipality from landlord - lessee relationships.

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

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

4. Consent Agenda

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

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

4.1. Minutes of Council Meeting - February 23, 2021

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on February 23, 2021 be approved as presented.

4.2. Appointment of Chair - Assessment Review Boards

THAT Alex McKenzie be appointed as Chair of the Assessments Review Boards, effective immediately to December 31, 2022; and

THAT Alex McKenzie's term of appointment to the Assessment Review Boards be extended to December 31, 2022.

5. Recognition

5.1. Proclamation - Mandla's Day - March 22, 2021

Mayor D. Scott proclaimed March 22, 2021 as Mandla's Day.

6. Presentations

6.1. Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer, COVID-19 Public Briefing (Verbal)

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an update on COVID-19, noting that the one-year anniversary of the first case of COVID-19 within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo is March 20, 2021, Alberta Health Services is taking steps for safe reopening, and a phased approach for the vaccination of priority groups continues.

7. New Business and Unfinished Business

7.1. River Breakup 2021 Preparedness

Matthew Hough, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Scott Davis, Director, Emergency Management, Elliot White, Senior Manager, Environmental Services, James Semple, Tactical Plans Lead, Recovery Program Management Team, and Maureen

Nakonechny, Project Manager, Engineering, provided a presentation on 2021 river breakup preparedness measures, including updates on active and passive mitigation measures to manage ice jam floods, Emergency Management, river monitoring, and the financial investments to date for the flood mitigation program and temporary mitigation measures.

Disconnect and Reconnect

Councillor C. Voyageur disconnected from the meeting at 5:13 p.m. and reconnected at 5:15 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the River Breakup 2021 Preparedness report be accepted as information.

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

7.2. Flood Mitigation and Community Resiliency Update - Ptarmigan Court

Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development, presented an update on flood mitigation efforts and community resiliency for Ptarmigan Court, including an overview of recent Disaster Recovery Program changes announced in the Government of Alberta's 2021 Budget.

MOTION:

THAT the Flood Mitigation and Community Resiliency Update - Ptarmigan Court report be accepted as information.

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 5:54 p.m. to 6:10 p.m.

7.3. Flood Mitigation and Community Resiliency Update - Draper

Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering, provided an update on flood mitigation efforts and community resiliency for the community of Draper.

A written submission received from Brandon Howse, Draper Resident, citing concerns with the proposed flood mitigation efforts for Draper was read in for the record.

Exit, Disconnects and Reconnects

Councillor B. Inglis exited the meeting at 6:40 p.m. due to technical issues.

Councillor J. Peddle disconnected from the meeting at 6:48 p.m. and reconnected at 6:49 p.m.

Councillor J. Peddle disconnected from the meeting at 6:50 p.m. and reconnected at 6:51 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the Flood Mitigation and Community Resiliency Update – Draper report be accepted as information.

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

Exit

Councillor C. Voyageur exited the meeting at 6:53 p.m. due to technical issues.

Vacating and Assuming of Chair

Mayor D. Scott vacated the Chair at 6:53 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor K. Balsom assumed the Chair.

Mayor D. Scott put forward the following motion for consideration:

THAT the Mayor be authorized, on behalf of Council, to send a letter to the Premier of Alberta, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the region's two Members of Legislative Assembly and Member of Parliament, as well as the Government of Canada, expressing dissatisfaction with the Government of Alberta's recent policy changes to its Disaster Recovery Program (DRP), the future financial implications for home and business owners, including potential negative impacts to property valuations in the region and across Alberta; and

THAT the letter also outline the lack of communication between the Province of Alberta and impacted residents, businesses and property owners, understanding the DRP

changes do not accompany an overall provincial strategy to work together with municipalities and Albertans on flood and disaster mitigation, access to flood insurance and other disaster preparedness-related matters.

Point of Order

Councillor P. Meagher called a Point of Order with respect to the motion being unrelated to any of the agenda items and questioned if it was appropriate for Council to vote on a motion put forward without advance notice. Deputy Mayor K. Balsom overruled the Point of Order, noting that an overview of the recent changes to the Disaster Recovery Program were highlighted during Item No. 7.2 Flood Mitigation and Community Resiliency Update - Ptarmigan Court. Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, noted that the requirement for advance notice could be waived.

Deputy Mayor K. Balsom proposed a friendly amendment to add at the end of the motion “and that the required notice provisions be waived relative to this motion”, which was accepted by Mayor. D. Scott.

Deputy Mayor K. Balsom proposed a further friendly amendment to add “Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA), and Alberta Mid-sized Mayors’ Caucus” following “the Government of Canada” in the first part of the motion, which was accepted by Mayor D. Scott.

Voting then occurred on the motion as amended.

MOTION:

THAT the Mayor be authorized, on behalf of Council, to send a letter to the Premier of Alberta, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the region’s two Members of Legislative Assembly and Member of Parliament, as well as the Government of Canada, Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA), and Alberta Mid-sized Mayors’ Caucus, expressing dissatisfaction with the Government of Alberta’s recent policy changes to its Disaster Recovery Program (DRP), the future financial implications for home and business owners, including potential negative impacts to property valuations in the region and across Alberta;

THAT the letter also outline the lack of communication between the Province of Alberta and impacted residents, businesses and property owners, understanding the DRP changes do not accompany an overall provincial strategy to work together with municipalities and Albertans on flood and disaster mitigation, access to flood insurance and other disaster preparedness-related matters; and

THAT the required notice provisions be waived relative to this motion.

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

8. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates

Council Members provided updates on various initiatives in the region.

Exit

Councillor J. Peddle exited the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer