

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held via electronic communications, a combination of video conference and teleconference, in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 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:

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 Westhaver, Director, Human Resources
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Business Initiatives
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement
Linda Ollivier, Director, Financial Services
Rachel Orser, Director, Supply Chain Management
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering
Anita Hawkins, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor D. Scott called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. In-Camera Session

MOTION:

THAT Council close item 2.1 to the public pursuant to section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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

2.1. Advice from Officials - CAO Operational Briefing (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
Jody Butz	Regional Fire Chief
Scott Davis	Director of Emergency Management
Chris Davis	Senior Manager, Legal Services

Recess

A recess occurred between 3:42 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public via electronic communications.

MOTION:

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

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

3. Adoption of Agenda

Councillor J. Stroud served notice of her intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the May 11, 2021 Council Meeting:

"THAT Administration bring forward for Council's consideration, an amendment to the *Backyard Hen Bylaw No. 21/006*, to allow for more than four (4) Hens in all the rural hamlets, with the number of Hens on a Parcel to be capped at a ratio of one (1) Hen per 100 square meters of Parcel area, to a maximum of ten (10) Hens."

Councillor J. Stroud served notice of her intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the May 11, 2021 Council Meeting:

"THAT the Mayor be authorized on behalf of Council to send a letter to Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Transportation, and the Region's MLA's Laila Goodridge and Tany Yao, requesting that a meeting be held by June 2021 with Alberta Transportation, Industry and the Municipality to discuss the impacts of the Keyera Project on Highway 881."

Councillor V. Murphy served notice of her intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the May 25, 2021 Council Meeting:

"THAT the Mayor be authorized on behalf of Council to send a letter to Honourable Doug Schweitzer, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation, and Premier Jason Kenney supporting the concept of enacting a cap of no more than 15% on delivery fees on all third-party delivery apps in Alberta and urging the Government of Alberta to consider enacting legislation that focuses on these third-party apps thereby supporting independent restaurants."

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be amended to include the report "RMWB - Declaration of a State of Local Emergency (SOLE)" as part of agenda item 6.1 and that the notice provisions be waived to include this report for Council's consideration this evening;

THAT the Agenda be further amended by adding item 9.2 - "Amendment to Sanitary Sewer Backwater Prevention Program Policy - OPE-050";

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:	Mike Allen, Councillor
SECONDER:	Sheila Lalonde, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Allen, Balsom, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud
ABSENT:	Voyageur

4. Consent Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the recommendations contained in items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 be approved.

4.1. Minutes of Council Meeting - April 13, 2021

THAT the minutes of the regular Council Meeting held on April 13, 2021 be approved as presented.

4.2. Minutes of Special Council Meeting - April 25, 2021

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on April 25, 2021 be approved as presented.

4.3. Bylaw No. 21/009 - 2021 Property Tax Rate Bylaw

THAT Bylaw No. 21/009, being the 2021 Property Tax Rate Bylaw, be read a first time.

4.4. Bylaw No. 21/010 - Community Standards Bylaw

THAT Bylaw No. 21/010, being the Community Standards Bylaw, be read a first time.

4.5. Council Appointed Advisory Board/Committee Meeting Minutes

THAT the Minutes from Council Appointed Advisory Board/Committee meetings, as outlined in Attachments 1-8, be accepted as information.

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

5. Recognition

5.1. Proclamations

Mayor D. Scott proclaimed the month of May 2021 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month.

Reconnect

Councillor C. Voyageur reconnected to the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Mayor D. Scott proclaimed May 5, 2021 as National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People.

6. Presentations

6.1. Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer, re: COVID-19 Public Briefing

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an update on the COVID-19 Pandemic, highlighting the current number of cases in the Municipality. It was noted that the State of Local Emergency (SOLE) was declared on April 26, 2021, following a Special Council meeting. It was noted that no further restrictions specific to the State of Local Emergency is being enacted at this time.

Mayor D. Scott provided an update on advocacy efforts undertaken by Council with both the Provincial and Federal Governments to address the current COVID-19 situation within the Region.

MOTION:

THAT Council receive the RMWB - Declaration of a State of Local Emergency (SOLE) Report as information.

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 4:57 p.m. to 5:12 p.m.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1. Public Hearing - Bylaw No. 21/003 Land Use Bylaw

Mayor D. Scott declared the Public Hearing open at 5:12 p.m.

Christopher Booth, Manager, Community Development Planning, introduced the matter, noting that the purpose of the upcoming presentation is to provide an overview of the proposed Land Use Bylaw No. 21/003 and to highlight the key changes. An overview of public engagements which have taken place to date was also provided.

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Development Control and Permitting, explained that Council can request changes to the proposed Bylaw based on the feedback received during the Public Hearing. If passed, Land Use Bylaw No. 21/003 will come into effect on January 1, 2022, which would allow Administration to review and communicate any changes to internal processes.

Written submissions

The following written submissions were acknowledged for the record:

- Ann Marie Eisentraut, support or opposition undetermined
- Michel Sauvé - in opposition;
- Dale Cooper - in opposition;
- Sylvie Ethier - in opposition;
- Sandra Bautz, Paragon Capital Corporation Inc. - in opposition;
- Cindy Archer - in opposition;
- Wayne Woodhouse - in opposition;
- Brandon Howse - in opposition;
- Fort McKay First Nation - in opposition;
- Sheri Gaunt - in opposition;
- Will Adam, Camgill Development Corporation - in opposition;
- Chuck and Meridel Graves - in opposition; and
- Tina and Tony Piche - in opposition.

Verbal Presentations

Ronald Campoli, did not join the meeting.

Jennele Giong, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw, specifically with respect to the districts identified for Draper and lack of community engagement.

Michel Sauvé, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw, in relation to the provisions related to livestock in the Draper flood plain.

Marie Cheecham, withdrew the request to present.

Dino De Martin, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw, as it relates to livestock in the Draper flood plain.

Shane Kidd, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed bylaw, in relation to the restrictive number of trailers allowed in the Draper area, the proposed land uses for Draper and the lack of notice about the Public Hearing.

Cherlyn Byrne, business owner, Sign Guru Fort McMurray, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw, specifically with respect to the proposed portable sign provisions.

Jeffrey O'Donnell, sent his regrets as he was unable to join the meeting to present.

Jeromy Laporte, business owner, Nextraction Media Inc., spoke to the lack of engagement with media companies within the Municipality as it relates to the proposed sign provisions.

Will Adam, representing Camgill Development Corporation and Quarry Ridge Development, spoke in opposition to the proposed bylaw, specifically with respect to the proposed district changes which would apply to their property and the need for further engagement with the community.

Brianne Shacklady, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw, specifically in relation to non-residential uses being eliminated from the Draper area, and the changes to definitions.

Brian Jean, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw, specifically in relation to the removal of all land uses in the Draper area and the need for additional public consultation.

Point of Order

Councillor P. Meagher called a Point of Order based on the discussion steering away from information gathering. The Point of Order was upheld by the Chair.

Point of Order

Councillor V. Murphy called a Point of Order based on the discussion being off topic. The Point of Order was upheld by the Chair.

Robbie Picard, was not available to present.

Written submissions received during the Public Hearing

The following written submissions were read into the record:

- Danica Kalashniko - in opposition;
- Steve Perry - in opposition;
- Tracy Holland - in opposition;
- Silvano Munilla - in opposition;
- Attila Raba - in opposition;
- Tessa Vesak - in opposition; and
- Tylor Cooper - in opposition

Recess

A recess occurred from 8:50 p.m. to 9:16 p.m.

Prior to closing the Public Hearing, Administration responded to questions of Council based on concerns raised through the verbal and written presentations.

Exit and Return

Councillor M. Allen disconnected from the meeting at 10:30 p.m. and reconnected at 10:32 p.m.

Mayor D. Scott declared the Public Hearing closed at 10:34 p.m.

Vacating and Assuming of Chair

Mayor D. Scott vacated the Chair at 10:35 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor K. Balsom assumed the Chair.

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

“That Council direct Administration to re-engage with the community and bring forward an updated Land Use Bylaw for first reading before the 2021 Council Elect.”

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

“That Council direct Administration to re-engage with the community and bring forward an updated Land Use Bylaw for first reading for consideration before the 2021-2025 Council.

Exit

Councillor C. Voyageur disconnected from the meeting at 11: 25 p.m.

Councillor B. Inglis proposed a friendly amendment to add the words “that the Public Hearing for Land Use Bylaw No. 21/003 be closed” at the beginning of the motion. Mayor D. Scott accepted the friendly amendment.

MOTION:

That the Public Hearing for Land Use Bylaw No. 21/003 be closed; and

That Council direct Administration to re-engage with the community and bring forward an updated Land Use Bylaw for first reading for consideration before the 2021-2025 Council.

RESULT:	CARRIED [6 TO 4]
MOVER:	Don Scott, Mayor
SECONDER:	Keith McGrath, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Inglis, Lalonde, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy
AGAINST:	Allen, Balsom, Peddle, Stroud
ABSENT:	Voyageur

Resuming of Chair

Mayor D. Scott resumed the Chair at 11:31 p.m.

7.2. Ptarmigan Court Residence Flood Mitigation Program

Dennis Vroom, Policy and Program Analyst, Planning and Development, presented available options for Council's consideration in relation to the Ptarmigan Court Residence Flood Mitigation Program, while identifying the financial impacts of the individual options.

Natasha Beech, resident, raised concern that the proposed options have been developed only from a financial perspective.

Exit

Councillor B. Inglis exited the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

The following written submission was acknowledged for the record:

- Tracy Holland - in opposition

MOTION:

THAT the Ptarmigan Court Residence Flood Mitigation Program FIN-340, Option 4, as outlined in Attachment 4, be approved to come into effect May 4, 2021 and that the deadline to apply for the program be extended to June 30, 2021.

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

Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath disconnected from the meeting at 12:10 a.m. and reconnected at 12:12 a.m.

MOTION:

THAT Council recess the meeting and reconvene at 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 12:15 a.m. on Wednesday April 28, 2021 to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday May 4, 2021

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 and Director, Emergency Management
Kari Westhaver, Director, Human Resources
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Business Initiatives
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement
Linda Ollivier, Director, Financial Services
Rachel Orser, Director, Supply Chain Management
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering
Caitlin Sheaves, Clerk, Legislative Services

Reconvene

Mayor D. Scott reconvened the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

COVID-19 Update

With Consensus of Council, Mayor D. Scott invited Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer and Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director of Emergency Management to provide an update on the COVID-19 Pandemic.

A brief update was provided highlighting the current number of cases in the Municipality. It was also indicated that vaccine clinics have extended hours and residents are encouraged to get vaccinated. It was further noted that Administration continues to work closely with Alberta Health Services on several initiatives to improve the response to the

rapid spread of the virus in our Region.

Entrance:

Councillor C. Voyageur connected to the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Councillor K. McGrath connected to the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

8. New Business

8.1. Tax Relief Request - 10019 Fraser Ave.

With consensus of Council the Administrative presentation for this item was waived.

MOTION:

THAT the request for tax relief, in the amount of \$2,663.82 comprising of municipal tax, education tax and seniors requisition, for the property located at 10019 Fraser Avenue in Fort McMurray, be approved.

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

8.2. Treaty 8 and Unceded Métis Territory Recognition Signs

Dennis Fraser, Director, and Koralee Samaroden, Supervisor, Indigenous and Rural Relations, presented an update on the design and installation of signs on Highway 63 to recognize Treaty 8 and Unceded Métis Territory, noting that Indigenous engagement would occur on the design elements and wording.

Exit and Return

Councillor P. Meagher disconnected from the meeting at 4:31 p.m. and reconnected at 4:32 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT up to \$34,000 be allocated from the Capital Infrastructure Reserve for design and installation of up to \$17,000 per sign; and

THAT Administration conduct Indigenous engagement that would ensure the inclusion of design elements and wording that respectfully acknowledges Treaty 8 and Unceded Métis Territory and install at earliest convenience.

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

8.3. Rural Egress Roads - Anzac and Janvier

With consensus of Council the Administrative presentation for this item was waived.

Through questions and discussion, it was suggested that further engagement be held with the residents in these communities to consult on the delay of the Rural Egress Roads.

MOTION:

THAT the Rural Egress Roads for Anzac and Janvier Report be accepted as information.

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

Vacating and Assuming of Chair:

Mayor D. Scott vacated the Chair at 4:53 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor J. Stroud assumed the Chair.

9. Councillors' Motions

9.1. Local Economy Relief and Recovery (Mayor D. Scott)

Mayor D. Scott provided background information on the recommendation to bring forward a series of measures that would offer economic relief and jumpstart recovery of the local economy.

The following written submission was read into the record:

- Kevin Weidlich, President and Chief Financial Officer, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism

MOTION:

THAT Administration bring forward for Council's consideration a series of actionable measures that will offer economic relief and jumpstart the recovery of the local economy including but not limited to consideration of a municipal property tax freeze for residents and businesses and such other economic relief or stimulus measures designed to benefit the residents and businesses of our Region.

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

Resuming of Chair:

Mayor D. Scott resumed the Chair at 5:06 p.m.

9.2. Amendment to Sanitary Sewer Backwater Prevention Program Policy - OPE-050

Councillor M. Allen provided background information on the proposed recommendation to amend the Sanitary Sewer and Backwater Prevention Program Policy OPE-050, to expand the eligibility criteria of the program.

MOTION:

THAT Administration be directed to bring forward an amendment on May 11, 2021, to the Sanitary Sewer Backwater Prevention Program Policy OPE-050, to expand the eligibility criteria (section 3.6.5.1.) to include anyone who has entered into a tax repayment plan and is in good standing.

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

10. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates

Council Members provided updates on various initiatives in the Region.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer