

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, May 25, 2021, 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 and Protective Services
Chris Davis, Acting Director, Legal Services
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
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering Services
Anita Hawkins, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor D. Scott called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. In-Camera Session

MOTION:

THAT Council close agenda 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, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath, Voyageur

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

Entrance

Councillor C. Voyageur joined the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred between 3:50 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public.

MOTION:

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

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

3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

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

4. Consent Agenda

Councillor S. Lalonde requested that Item No. 4.4 - 2021 Q1 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update, be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Councillor J. Stroud requested that Item No. 4.5 - 2021 Q1 Financial Performance Report, be removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION:

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

4.1. Minutes of Council Meeting - May 11, 2021

THAT the minutes of the Council meeting held on May 11, 2021 be approved as presented.

4.2. 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.

4.3. Bylaw No. 21/011 - Committees Bylaw No. 17/024 Amendment

THAT Bylaw No. 21/011, being an amendment to the Committees Bylaw No. 17/024, be read a first time.

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

With the consent of Council, it was noted that items 4.4 and 4.5, removed from the Consent Agenda, would be dealt with following item 9.1.

5. Recognition

5.1. Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Service Awards

Mayor D. Scott congratulated Councillor P. Meagher and Councillor J. Stroud as recipients of the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Long Service Award which recognized Councillor P. Meagher's 25 years and Councillor J. Stroud's 9 years of service.

5.2. Proclamations

Mayor D. Scott proclaimed the following:

- May 30, 2021 as The Walk to Make Cystic Fibrosis History;
- May 31 to June 6 as National AccessAbility Week;
- June 7 to 13, 2021, as Seniors' Week; and
- the month of June 2021, as National Indigenous History Month.

6. Presentations

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

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer, and Rob van Hecke, Deputy Chief, Regional Emergency Services, presented an update on the COVID-19 Pandemic in the Municipality, noting that although there has been a sustained decline of new cases, the active case count remains one of the highest in the Province and that the State of Local Emergency is still in effect. It was further noted that local vaccination rates are increasing but remain below the provincial vaccination levels. Residents were encouraged to obtain their vaccines.

Pecuniary Interest

Councillor M. Allen declared pecuniary interest in the following item and disconnected from the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1. 2021 Regional Food and Beverage Patio Support Program Policy FIN-360

Amanda Haitas, Senior Manager, Planning and Development, presented the 2021 Regional Food and Beverage Patio Support Program Policy, developed to assist with business recovery in response to COVID-19 restriction on indoor dining

Written Submissions

The following written submissions, not included in the Agenda package, were read into the record:

- Nate Catto, Bear and Buffalo Restaurant, Fort McMurray Golf Club – in support; and
- Stu Wigle, Earls Restaurant – in support.

MOTION:

THAT the 2021 Regional Food and Beverage Patio Support Program Policy – FIN-360, as outlined in Attachment 1, be approved; and

THAT \$400,000 be allocated from the Emerging Issues Reserve to administer the 2021 Regional Food and Beverage Patio Support Program Policy – FIN-360.

RESULT:	CARRIED [8 TO 0]
MOVER:	Sheila Lalonde, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Balsom, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur
PECUNIARY INTEREST:	Allen
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath

Return

Councillor M. Allen returned to the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

8. New Business**8.1. Advisory Committee on Aging Report and Age Friendly Work Plan**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, Henry Hunter, Chair, Linda Mywaart, Vice-Chair, and Luana Bussieres, Committee Member, Advisory Committee on Aging; presented the Wood Buffalo Age Friendly Work Plan which will be used as a guiding document for Age Friendly initiatives in the Region for 2021 to 2024.

MOTION:

THAT the Wood Buffalo Age Friendly Work Plan be accepted as information; and

THAT Administration work to implement the Wood Buffalo Age Friendly Work Plan and report annual progress to Council.

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

8.2. Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, and Sharon Heading, Chair, Public Art Committee, presented the Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan which is a guiding document that identifies priorities and strategies that will support and enhance public art in the Region.

Written Submissions

The following written submission was acknowledged for the record:

- Roy Williams, Chair, Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee – in support.

Verbal Presentations

Alice Martin, Fort Chipewyan First Nation Elder, spoke in support of the Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan.

Gary Berteig, Artist of Artists, spoke in support of the Wood Buffalo Public Art. Plan.

Written Submissions

The following written submissions, not included in the Agenda package, were read into the record:

- Liana Wheeldon, Chair, Wood Buffalo Culture Plan Community Committee – in support;
- Alan Roberts, Keyano Theatre and Arts Centre – in support;
- Ana Maria Mendez, member and Chair of the Wood Buffalo Public Art Committee 2014 – 2017 – in support;
- Kevin Weidlich, President and Chief Executive Officer, Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism – in support;
- Sheri Donovan, General Manager, Suncor Energy Centre for the Performing Arts - in support; and
- Frederick R. McDonald, Fort McKay First Nation – in support.

MOTION:

THAT the Wood Buffalo Public Art Plan, dated April 2021, be adopted as a guiding document to support and enhance public art in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 6:37 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

8.3. 2021 Public Art Work Plan

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, presented 2021 Public Art Work Plan, which identifies key priorities for the current year to support programs and projects to enhance public art in the Region.

MOTION:

THAT Administration work to implement the 2021 Public Art Work Plan and report annual progress to Council, and

THAT \$520,000 be drawn from the Public Art Reserve Fund to support the 2021 Public Art Work Plan.

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

Pecuniary Interest

Councillor M. Allen declared pecuniary interest in the following item and disconnected from the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

9. Councillors' Motions

9.1. Third Party Delivery Apps (Councillor V. Murphy)

Councillor V. Murphy put forward the following for consideration:

"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."

Mayor D. Scott proposed a friendly amendment to add the words "or other" between the words "delivery" and "fees", which was accepted by Councillor V. Murphy.

MOTION:

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 or other 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.

RESULT:	CARRIED [8 TO 0]
MOVER:	Verna Murphy, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jeff Peddle, Councillor
FOR:	Scott, Balsom, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur
PECUNIARY INTEREST:	Allen
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath

Return

Councillor M. Allen returned to the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

9.2. 2021 Q1 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update

Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer, presented the 2021 Q1 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update summarizing the Capital Budget amendments implemented by Administration within the Fiscal Responsibility Policy.

MOTION:

THAT the 2021 Q1 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments update, as summarized on Attachment 1 (2021 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments, dated March 31, 2021), be accepted as information.

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

9.3. 2021 Q1 Financial Performance Report

Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer, presented the 2021 Q1 Financial Performance Report which shows the Municipality's financial position is currently aligned with the annual budget and no budget projections are required for this quarter.

MOTION:

THAT the 2021 Q1 Financial Performance Report be accepted as information.

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

10. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates

Council Members provided updates on various initiatives in the Region.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer