

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held via electronic communications, in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices, in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, September 14, 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
Chris Davis, Senior Manager, Legal Services
Kari Donnelly-Westhaver, Director, Human Resources
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
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
Heather Fredeen, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor D. Scott called the meeting to order at 2:30 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, Lalonde, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur
ABSENT:	Inglis, McGrath

Discussion No. 1

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Chris Davis	Senior Manager, Legal Services

Discussion No. 2

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Kelly Hansen	Director, Strategic Planning & Program Management
Dennis Fraser	Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Janine Kruse	Manager, Indigenous and Rural Relations

Discussion No. 3

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Matthew Hough	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Chris Davis	Senior Manager, Legal Services

Disconnect and Reconnect

Councillor K. Balsom disconnected from the meeting at 3:14 p.m. and reconnected at 3:16 p.m.

Entrance

Councillor K. McGrath entered the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred between 3:41 p.m. and 4:05 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public and Councillor B. Inglis joined the meeting.

MOTION:

THAT the Council 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

Recognition

Prior to moving into Council business and with the consent of Council, Mayor D. Scott recognized Councillor P. Meagher for his 26 years of service on Council and presented him with a Key to the Region on behalf of Council along with a commemorative gift. Council Members offered personal tributes to Councillor P. Meagher and wished him well in his retirement.

Councillor P. Meagher expressed his gratitude towards fellow Council Members and Administration.

3. Adoption of Agenda**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, McGrath, Meagher, Murphy, Peddle, Stroud, Voyageur

4. Consent Agenda

Councillor S. Lalonde requested that agenda items 4.2. and 4.3. be removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION:

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

4.1. Council Meeting - July 13, 2021

THAT the minutes of the Council meeting held on July 13, 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- 4, 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, Voyageur

5. Presentations**5.1. Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director, Emergency Management, re: COVID-19 Public Briefing**

Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director, Emergency Management, provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic including vaccination rates and data modeling for the Region.

Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 4:35 p.m. and returned at 4:44 p.m.

6. New and Unfinished Business**6.1. Public Hearing re: Land Use Bylaw Map Amendment - Re-designation of Lands Legally Described as Lot 17, Block 2, Plan 212 1294 from Community Commercial (C1) District to Mixed/Transitional Commercial (C2) District.**

Mayor D. Scott declared the Public Hearing open at 4:50 p.m.

Brad McMurdo, Director, and Christopher Booth, Manager, Planning and Development, provided an overview of the application submitted by Tabernacle of Praise Church (TOP Church), to amend the Land Use Bylaw to accommodate the rebuild and expansion of the TOP Church.

Mat Espinoza, Consultant, Corcoda Inc., spoke to the application filed on behalf of TOP Church, noting that community engagement of Waterways residents, has indicated strong support for the proposed development.

Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 5:07 p.m. and returned at 5:08 p.m.

Pastor Marlon and Cheryl Alexander spoke to the benefit of the development noting that it would increase TOP Church's ability to serve more members of the community.

There were no further verbal or written presentations received on the matter.

Mayor D. Scott declared the Public Hearing closed at 5:10 p.m.

Bylaw No. 21/018 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment - Lot 17, Block 2, Plan 212 1294

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 21/018, being an amendment to Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059 specific to Lot 17, Block 2, Plan 212 1294, be read a second time.

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

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 21/018 be read a third and final time.

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

6.2. Strategic Plan Progress Report - Summary of Progress (2018-2021)

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management, provided a progress report on Council's four Strategic Priorities; Responsible Government, Downtown Revitalization, Regional Economic Development and Rural and Indigenous Communities and Partnerships, noting that 75% of initiatives have either been completed or are on target for completion. Senior Leadership responded to questions of Council.

Disconnection and Exit

Councillor B. Inglis disconnected from the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the Strategic Plan Update, dated September 14, 2021, be accepted as information.

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 5:39 to 6:08 p.m.

6.3. Responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action - A Collaborative Pathway Forward

Dennis Fraser, Director, and Janine Kruse, Manager, Indigenous and Rural Relations, provided an update on the Municipality's response to 23 identified Calls to Action which the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, in collaboration with Indigenous communities and organizations, is working to implement.

Phil Osborne, Philtech Enterprises, spoke in opposition to the report noting ambiguity with the definition of "Indigenous".

Bryan Fayant, McMurray Métis Local 1935, spoke in support of the report and the Municipality's response to the 23 Calls to Action noting that there should be a plan to address all 94 Calls to Action.

Joanne Packman, Reconciliation Advisory Council (RAC), member of the Fort McMurray Métis, and Executive Director, Wood Buffalo Wellness Society, spoke in support of the report and the positive changes that have already been observed with the Municipality's processes, and indicated that there is still work to be completed.

Elder Alice Martin, Reconciliation Advisory Circle (RAC), spoke in support of the report and thanked the Municipality for its support of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

MOTION:

THAT the attached report *Responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action: Principles for a Collaborative Pathway Forward in Wood Buffalo*, be accepted as information;

THAT the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (Call to Action 43), be endorsed as the Municipality's framework for reconciliation, and that Administration bring forward a Policy in 2022 for Council's consideration;

THAT the additional calls to action including Call to Action 1 (Child Welfare), Calls to Action 13 and 14 (Language and Culture), Call to Action 82 (Commemoration), and Call to Action 92 (Business and Reconciliation), be adopted by Council;

THAT Administration provide an annual update on the status of the municipal response to Truth and Reconciliation in Wood Buffalo with an additional report provided every four years to coincide with the Council term; and

THAT Administration be directed to include funding in the annual budgeting process to support the meaningful commemoration of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation each year on September 30.

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

6.4. Social Procurement (Supply Chain Management)

Rachel Orser, Director, Supply Chain Management, provided an overview of the proposed Procurement Policy SCM-1100 noting that if passed, it would support the implementation of a Social Procurement Program.

Exit and Return

Councillor P. Meagher exited the meeting at 7:12 p.m. and returned at 7:15 p.m.

The following written submission was read into the record:

- Keith Plowman, Fort McMurray Construction Association – in support.

MOTION:

THAT Policy FIN-100 be repealed and replaced with Procurement Policy SCM-100, as included in Attachment 2.

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

6.5. Municipal Procurement Strategy for Indigenous Business (Supply Chain Management)

Rachel Orser, Director, Supply Chain Management provided an update on the work being done to implement a procurement strategy for Indigenous Businesses including on-going engagement sessions and the formation of a working group.

MOTION:

THAT Administration consult with Northeastern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association, Indigenous communities and businesses and report to back to Council in Q1 2022 with its strategy for incorporating Indigenous Procurement opportunities into the Municipality's procurement practices, supplemented by required governance documents.

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

6.6. Flood Mitigation and Project Coordination Update

Matthew Hough, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Maureen Nakonechny, Project Manager, Engineering, James Semple, Supervisor, Strategic Planning and Program Management, and Elliot White, Senior Manager, Environmental Services, provided an update on temporary and permanent flood mitigation projects including estimated completion dates and expenditures to date.

Exit and Return

Councillor P. Meagher exited the meeting at 8:15 p.m. and returned at 8:16 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the Flood Mitigation and Project Coordination Update report be accepted as information.

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

6.7. Tax Relief - Plan: 2625TR Block: 4 Lot: 82

Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the request for tax relief.

MOTION:

THAT the request for a \$1,875.38 reduction in tax arrears, for the property legally described as Plan: 2625TR Block: 4 Lot: 82 be denied.

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

4.2. 2021 Q2 Financial Performance Report

Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions of Council.

Exit and Return

Councillor P. Meagher exited the meeting at 8:45 p.m. and returned at 8:45 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the 2021 Q2 Financial Performance Report be accepted as information.

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

4.3. 2021 Q2 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update

Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions of Council.

MOTION:

THAT the 2021 Q2 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments update, as summarized on Attachment 1 (2021 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments, dated June 30, 2021), be accepted as information.

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

7. Recognition and Council Roundtable

Vacating of Chair

Mayor D. Scott vacated the Chair and Councillor P. Meagher assumed the Chair at 9:00 p.m. as a gesture to recognize Councillor P. Meagher's final Council meeting with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

Council Members provided departing remarks and comments.

Adjournment

Councillor P. Meagher adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer