

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held via a combination of video conferencing and in-person in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, commencing at 6:00 PM.

Present:

Sandy Bowman, Mayor (via MS Teams)
Ken Ball, Councillor
Funky Banjoko, Councillor
Lance Bussieres, Councillor (via MS Teams)
Kendrick Cardinal, Councillor (via MS Teams)
Keith McGrath, Councillor (via MS Teams)
Jane Stroud, Councillor
Loretta Waquan, Councillor
Stu Wigle, Councillor (via MS Teams)

Absent:

Shafiq Dogar, Councillor
Allan Grandison, Councillor

Administration:

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Christopher Booth, Acting Director, Planning and Development (via MS Teams)
Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director, Emergency Management (via MS Teams)
Kari Donnelly-Westhaver, Director, Human Resources (via MS Teams)
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations (via MS Teams)
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management (via MS Teams)
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement (via MS Teams)
Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer (via MS Teams)
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services (via MS Teams)
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works (via MS Teams)
Susan Trylinski, Director, Legal Services (via MS Teams)
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering (via MS Teams)
Heather Fredeen, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor S. Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ken Ball, Councillor
SECONDER:	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1 Council Meeting – December 14, 2021

MOTION:

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on December 14, 2021, be approved as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
SECONDER:	Lance Bussieres, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

4. Recognition

4.1. Proclamation - International Decade of Indigenous Languages

Mayor S. Bowman proclaimed January 11, 2022 – January 11, 2032, as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.

5. Presentations

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

Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director, Emergency Management, provided a situational update on the COVID-19 Pandemic for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo noting that business continuity plans have been enacted due to staff shortages in some essential services departments.

5.2. Bryce Kumka, Chair, Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee Introduction and Annual Progress Report

Bryce Kumka, Chair, Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee, provided a presentation on the Committee's 2021 key initiatives including meetings with the Associate Minister, Red Tape Reduction, Planning and Development's Process Review project and support for the National Flood Insurance Strategy. A review of 2022 emerging issues for the Committee was also reviewed and discussed.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1. Public Hearing Bylaw No. 21/021 Land Use Bylaw Amendment Re-designating Lot 1 Block 3 Plan 084 0460 from C4 - Highway Commercial District to BI - Business Industrial District

Mayor S. Bowman declared the Public Hearing open at 6:42 p.m.

Christopher Booth, Acting Director Planning and Development, provided an overview of the proposed Bylaw amendment to redesignate Lot 1, Block 3 Plan 084 0460 from C4 – Highway Commercial District to BI - Business Industrial District.

Ken Williamson, Avison Young, Applicant, spoke to the application noting that the redesignation would allow for consistency with other uses in the area.

Bryce Kumka, resident, spoke in support of the bylaw amendment.

It was confirmed for the record that no written submissions were received.

Mayor S. Bowman declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:00 p.m.

6.2. Bylaw No. 21/021 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment - Re-designating Lot 1, Block 3, Plan 084 0460 from C4 - Highway Commercial District to BI - Business Industrial District

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 21/021, being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment specific to Lot 1, Block 3, Plan 084 0460, be read a second time.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Lance Bussieres, Councillor
SECONDER:	Kendrick Cardinal, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 21/021 be read a third and final time.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Stu Wigle
SECONDER:	Keith McGrath,
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

7. **New Business**

7.1. **Amendment to Community Identification System (CIS) Policy LDI-010**

Christopher Booth, Acting Director, Planning and Development, provided an overview of the report noting that the proposed amendment stems from a recommendation made by Council on December 3, 2020, to recognize the rich history of our region.

MOTION:

THAT the amended Community Identification System Policy LDI-010, dated January 11, 2022, be approved.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Lance Bussieres, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

7.2. **Community Identification Committee Recommendation - Naming a New Park in Beacon Hill "Reflections Lookout"**

Christopher Booth, Acting Director, Planning and Development, provided an overview of the Community Identification Committee's naming recommendation commemorating the 2016 Horse River Wildfire.

MOTION:

THAT the new park under development in Beacon Hill as shown in Attachment 1, be named "Reflections Lookout".

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
SECONDER:	Loretta Waquan, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

8. Councillors' Motions**8.1. Transit Routes (Councillor F. Banjoko)**

Councillor F. Banjoko introduced the motion before Council noting residents' concerns with connections delays, statutory holiday and after-hour schedules, and limited routes.

MOTION:

THAT Administration evaluate and review current transit routes and service times, including accessibility to residents, under serviced and over serviced streets, and holiday and weekend hours, and bring forward options, including cost benefit analysis, for Council's consideration.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

8.2. Procedure Bylaw Amendment (Councillor K. McGrath)

Councillor K. McGrath introduced the motion before Council noting that the amendment would allow for greater flexibility for Council Members to attend Council Meetings.

MOTION:

THAT Administration bring forward for Council's consideration at the January 25, 2022, Council Meeting an amendment to the Procedure Bylaw, Bylaw No. 18/020, to allow for the electronic participation of Council members during regularly scheduled in person Council meetings.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Keith McGrath, Councillor
SECONDER:	Stu Wigle, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

Vacating of Chair

Mayor S. Bowman vacated the Chair at 7:28 p.m., at which time Deputy Mayor S. Wigle assumed the Chair.

8.3. Local Business Advisory Committee (Mayor S. Bowman)

Mayor S. Bowman introduced the motion before Council noting that a collaborative effort is required to address issues faced by small businesses in the region.

MOTION:

THAT Administration be directed to work with local business stakeholders, including Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism and the Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce, the Fort McMurray Construction Association, the Northeastern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association, and any other relevant partners, to bring forward for Council's consideration, within 90 days, a framework and action plan to develop a local business advisory committee with a mandate to advise on emerging and existing issues facing local business owners and operators, establish strong collaboration partnerships and create strategic solutions that reflect a local business perspective for present and future challenges.

RESULT:	CARRIED [8 TO 1]
MOVER:	Sandy Bowman, Mayor
SECONDER:	Loretta Waquan, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
AGAINST:	Bussieres
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

Resuming of Chair

Mayor S. Bowman resumed the Chair at 8:05 p.m.

9. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates

Council Members provided updates on various topics of personal interest and initiatives in the Region.

Recess

A recess occurred from 8:18 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to allow the public to vacate the Council Chamber.

10. In-Camera Session**10.1. Advice from Officials – CAO Operational Update and Briefing**

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

MOTION:

THAT Council close item 10.1. to the public pursuant to section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ken Ball, Councillor
SECONDER:	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison, McGrath

Entrance

Councillor K. McGrath joined the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Briefing No. 1

Name	Reason for Attending
Kelly Hansen	Director, Strategic Planning & Program Management
Dennis Warr	Director, Engineering

Briefing No. 2

Name	Reason for Attending
Kelly Hansen	Director, Strategic Planning & Program Management

MOTION:

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
SECONDER:	Lance Bussieres, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Dogar, Grandison

Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer