

**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 22, 2022, commencing at 6:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Sandy Bowman, Mayor  
Ken Ball, Councillor  
Funky Banjoko, Councillor  
Lance Bussieres, Councillor  
Kendrick Cardinal, Councillor  
Shafiq Dogar, Councillor  
Allan Grandison, Councillor  
Keith McGrath, Councillor  
Loretta Waquan, Councillor  
Stu Wigle, Councillor

**Absent:**

Jane Stroud, Councillor

**Administration:**

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer  
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services  
Kari Donnelly, Director, Human Resources  
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management  
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement  
Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development  
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services  
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works  
Susan Trylinski, Director, Legal Services  
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering  
Heather Fredeen, Legislative Officer

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor S. Bowman called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

## 2. In-Camera Session

### MOTION:

THAT Council close item 2.1 to the public pursuant to section 27(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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

### 2.1. Privileged Information - Legal Matter

(in camera pursuant to section 27(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk
Susan Trylinski	Director, Legal Services
Chris Davis	Senior Manager, Legal Services

#### Entrance

Councillor K. McGrath entered the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

#### Recess

A recess occurred between 5:22 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public in the Council Chamber.

### MOTION:

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

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

### **3. Adoption of Agenda**

#### **MOTION:**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

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

### **4. Consent Agenda**

#### **MOTION:**

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

#### **4.1. Minutes of Council Meeting - March 8, 2022**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on March 8, 2022, 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 1-13, be accepted as information.

#### **4.3. Appointment of Integrity Commissioner**

THAT Jim Peacock, Q.C., be reappointed as the Integrity Commissioner for a period of one year, commencing April 1, 2022.

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

## **5. Recognition**

### **5.1. Proclamations**

Mayor S. Bowman declared March 22, 2022, as Mandela's Day, March 31, 2022, as Transgender Day of Visibility and April 2022, as Poetry Month.

## **6. Presentations**

### **6.1. Lee-Anne Kumka and Sergii Melnikov, Fort McMurray Ukrainian Cultural Society, re: War in Ukraine**

Lee-Anne Kumka, and Sergii Melnikov, Fort McMurray Ukrainian Society, spoke to the atrocities occurring in Ukraine as a result of the Russian invasion and requested that Council spread the truth and ensure it is received from reputable sources, give to reputable charities who support Ukraine, and make a statement to stand with Ukraine. To demonstrate solidarity with Ukraine, a Ukrainian flag was accepted by Council to be hung in the Council Chamber.

### **6.2. Gaylene Weidlich, Chair, Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee re: Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee Annual Progress Report**

Gaylene Weidlich, Chair, Wood Buffalo Waterfront Advisory Committee, provided a presentation on the Committee's 2021 achievements and the ongoing work of the Committee's Working Groups.

### **6.3. Owen Erskine, Chair, and Jean Marc Guillamot, Vice-Chair, Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee, re: Annual Report**

Owen Erskine, Chair and Jean Marc Guillamot, Vice-Chair, Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee, provided a presentation on the Committee's 2021 achievements and requested that Council approve the *2022 – 2026 Priorities and Recommended Infrastructure and Enhancement Actions*, to be used as a guiding document moving forward.

### **Exits and Returns**

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 6:33 p.m. and returned at 6:38 p.m.

Councillor S. Dogar exited the meeting at 6:49 p.m. and returned at 6:50 p.m.

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management, spoke to the *Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee 2022 - 2026 Priorities and Recommended Infrastructure and Enhancement Actions* noting that the document was a collaborative effort by the Committee and Administration.

### **Exit and Return**

Councillor F. Banjoko exited the meeting at 6:50 p.m. and returned at 6:54 p.m.

**MOTION:**

THAT the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee 2022-2026 Priorities and Recommended Infrastructure and Enhancement Actions (Attachment 1), be accepted as a guiding document and;

THAT \$2,750,000 be drawn from the approved downtown revitalization project budget to fund design and construction of wayfinding signage downtown and construction of streetscape improvements as recommended by the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee and outlined on Attachment 2.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [9 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Stu Wigle, Councillor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Shafiq Dogar, Councillor
<b>FOR:</b>	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison, Waquan, Wigle
<b>AGAINST:</b>	McGrath
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Stroud

#### **6.4. Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer re: Local Business Advisory Committee Framework**

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer provided an update on the resolution of Council from the January 25, 2022 Council Meeting, noting that Administration is finalizing the framework for the proposed Local Business Advisory Committee, and will provide a fulsome report to Council in April 2022.

#### **6.5. River Breakup 2022**

Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering and Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director, Emergency Management provided a presentation on preparations for the 2022 River Breakup, including temporary and permanent surface and underground prevention and mitigation efforts, as well as preparedness plans that are in place.

##### Action Request

Discussion occurred with respect to the community of Draper and Administration committed to providing an update to Council.

Administration also committed to providing Council with the cost of temporary flood mitigation for 2022 and its comparison to the cost of permanent flood mitigation along with any funding received from the federal or provincial governments.

##### Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and returned at 7:04 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred from 7:40 p.m. to 7:57 p.m.

**7. Unfinished Business****7.1. 2022 Proposed Sustaining Grant Allocation - Wood Buffalo Economic Development**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, provided an overview of 2022 Sustaining Grant request submitted by the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation.

Councillor L. Bussieres put forward the following motion:

“That \$4,360,000 Sustaining Grant be allocated to the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation for 2022, to be funded through the Emerging Issues Reserve.”

Gregg Saretsky, Chair, Dan Fouts, Vice-Chair, and Kevin Weidlich, President and Chief Executive Officer, Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation, spoke to the request for grant funding and provided an overview of the organization’s mandate and vision.

Exits and Returns

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 7:59 p.m. and returned at 8:04 p.m.

Councillor S. Dogar exited the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and returned at 8:33 p.m.

Point of Order

Mayor S. Bowman and Councillor K. McGrath raised a Point of Order against comments made by Councillor S. Dogar regarding salary comparisons, noting that they were not relevant to the matter. The Point of Order was upheld by Mayor S. Bowman.

Exits and Returns

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 8:58 p.m. and returned at 9:03 p.m.

Councillor K. Ball exited the meeting at 9:03 p.m. and returned at 9:06 p.m.

Recess

A recess occurred from 9:52 p.m. to 10:03 p.m.

Robbie Picard, resident, spoke in support of the recommendation for grant funding; however, indicated that Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation needs to conduct a review of their mandate and vision.

Bryce Kumka, resident, spoke in support of the recommendation for grand funding; however, noted that the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation needs to enhance effective and transparent communication of their mandate and vision to the community.

#### Exit and Return

Councillor L. Bussieres exited the meeting at 10:58 p.m. and returned at 11:00 p.m.

Councillor S. Wigle put forward the following amending motion for consideration:

“THAT \$2,180,000 Sustaining Grant be allocated to the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation for 2022, to be funded through the Emerging Issues Reserve, and that \$2,180,000 be funded from the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation’s existing earmarked funds.”

Following discussion, Councillor S. Wigle withdrew his motion.

Council then voted on the main motion.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT \$4,360,000 Sustaining Grant be allocated to Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation for 2022, to be funded through the Emerging Issues Reserve.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DEFEATED [5 TO 5]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Lance Bussieres, Councillor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Stu Wigle, Councillor
<b>FOR:</b>	Bowman, Ball, Bussieres, Dogar, Wigle
<b>AGAINST:</b>	Banjoko, Cardinal, Grandison, McGrath, Waquan
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Stroud

Councillor F. Banjoko, put forward the following motion for consideration:

#### **MOTION:**

THAT \$2,180,000 Sustaining Grant be allocated to the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation for 2022, to be funded through the Emerging Issues Reserve, and

THAT the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation come up with the remaining 50%, subject to further review after two quarterly reports from Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>DEFEATED [2 TO 8]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Kendrick Cardinal, Councillor
<b>FOR:</b>	Banjoko, Cardinal
<b>AGAINST:</b>	Bowman, Ball, Bussieres, Dogar, Grandison, McGrath, Waquan, Wigle
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Stroud

**MOTION:**

THAT the following Agenda Items listed on the March 22, 2022 Council Meeting Agenda, be deferred to the April 12, 2022 Council Meeting or to a Special Meeting called in accordance with section 194 of the *Municipal Government Act*:

- 7.2 Bylaw No. 22/003 - Committees Bylaw No. 17/024 Amendment Specific to the Establishment of the Community Investment Program Advisory Committee.
- 8.1 Tax Refund Request - Plan: 1421965 Unit: 2
- 9.1 Property Tax Ratio (Cr. K. McGrath)
- 10. Council Reporting/Information Updates
- 11.1. Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy/Confidential Evaluations - Board and Committee Appointments.

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

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 p.m.

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Mayor

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Chief Legislative Officer