

**Minutes of a Special 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 29, 2022, commencing at 3:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Sandy Bowman, Mayor  
Ken Ball, Councillor  
Funky Banjoko, Councillor  
Lance Bussieres, Councillor  
Shafiq Dogar, Councillor  
Allan Grandison, Councillor  
Keith McGrath, Councillor  
Jane Stroud, Councillor  
Loretta Waquan, Councillor  
Stu Wagle, Councillor

**Absent:**

Kendrick Cardinal, 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  
Caitlin Sheaves, Legislative Coordinator

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor S. Bowman called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

## **2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

### **2.1. Council Meeting - March 22, 2022**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on March 22, 2022, be approved as presented.

<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, Grandison, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Cardinal, Dogar, McGrath

#### Recess

A recess occurred from 3:06 p.m. to 3:08 p.m.

## **3. New and Unfinished Business**

### **3.1. Bylaw No. 22/003 - Committees Bylaw No. 17/024 Amendment Specific to the Establishment of the Community Investment Program Advisory Committee**

Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, presented Bylaw No. 22/003 which will establish the Community Investment Program Advisory Committee, whose mandate will be to bring forward recommendations to Council regarding the general mandate and scope of the Community Investment Program.

#### Entrances

Councillors K. McGrath and S. Dogar entered the meeting at 3:13 p.m.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 22/003, being a bylaw to amend the Committees Bylaw No. 17/024, specific to establishing the Community Investment Program Advisory Committee, be read a first time.

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

**MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 22/003 be read a second time.

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

**MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 22/003 be considered for third and final reading.

<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, Dogar, Grandison, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Cardinal

**MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 22/003 be read a third and final time.

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

**3.2. Tax Refund Request - Plan: 1421965 Unit: 2**

Keivan Navidi, Manager, Assessment, provided an overview of the tax refund request for a portion of the owner's 2020 and 2021 property taxes, noting that Administration is in support of the request.

**MOTION:**

THAT the request for a tax refund, in the amount of \$9,263.76 comprising of municipal tax, education requisition and senior's requisition, for the property located at Plan: 1421965 Unit 2 in Fort McMurray, be approved.

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

**4. Councillors' Motions****4.1. Property Tax Ratio (Cr. K. McGrath)**

Councillor K. McGrath put forward the following motion for consideration.

“THAT Administration provide an update to the Government of Alberta on the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo’s transition from an 18:1 property tax ratio to 7.5:1 property tax ratio; and request to stay at the 7.5:1 ratio for the next 5 years and on the 6th year, transition to the final 5:1 ratio; and further request that the Government of Alberta accept this proposal by June 1, 2022.”

Councillor K. McGrath spoke to the motion before Council, noting the importance of a formal agreement between the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and the Government of Alberta, regarding the transition to the 5:1 tax ratio.

Perry Berkenpas, Executive Director, Oil Sands Community Alliance, spoke in support of continuing to work collaboratively with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo on achieving the 5:1 ratio in alignment with the previously committed transition plan and timeframe.

Mayor S. Bowman suggested a friendly amendment to replace 7.5:1 with 7.3:1 and replace “and request to stay at the 7.5:1 ratio for the next 5 years and on the 6<sup>th</sup> year, transition to the final 5:1 ratio” with “to move gradually and responsibly to the final 5:1 ratio by January 2028”.

The friendly amendment was accepted by Councillor K. McGrath.

Council then voted on the motion as follows:

**MOTION:**

THAT Administration provide an update to the Government of Alberta on the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's transition from an 18:1 property tax ratio to 7.3:1 property tax ratio; to move gradually and responsibly to the final 5:1 ratio by January 2028, and further request that the Government of Alberta accept this proposal by June 1, 2022.

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

**5. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates**

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

**Recess**

A recess occurred to allow the public to vacate the Council Chamber from 3:57 p.m. to 4:11 p.m.

**6. In-Camera Session****MOTION:**

THAT Council close item 6.1 to the public pursuant to sections 17(1) and 19(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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

## 6.1 Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy/Confidential Evaluations – Board and Committee Appointments

(in camera pursuant to sections 17(1) and 19(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
Sonia Soutter	Legislative Advice/Clerk

### Exit

Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer, exited the meeting at 4:30 p.m. and returned at 4:50 p.m.

### **MOTION:**

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

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

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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Mayor

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Chief Legislative Officer