



Council Meeting

River Valley Room, City of Edmonton
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square, Edmonton, AB

Wednesday, May 18, 2016
3:00 p.m.

Agenda

Call To Order

Adoption of Agenda

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes from Council Meeting - April 26, 2016
2. Minutes from Special Council Meeting - May 11, 2016

Recognition

3. Letters for Recognition
 - Letter from Queen Elizabeth II
 - Letter from the Vatican

Public

4. Consideration of Municipal Utilities
 - delegations
5. Presentation of Rapid Damage Assessment Tool
 - delegations

6. Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation Update
- delegations

Motion to Move In-Camera

In-Camera

7. Discussion with Provincial Officials (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
8. Re-Entry Considerations (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
9. 2016 Property Taxation Considerations (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
10. Discussion of Long Term Plans (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Motion to Reconvene to Public

Adjournment

Unapproved 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, April 26, 2016, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
C. Tatum, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor
C. Voyageur, Councillor

Absent: L. Bussieres, Councillor

Administration: M. Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer
K. Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
B. Couture, Executive Director
E. Hutton, Executive Director
M. Johnstone, Executive Director
D. Leflar, Director, Legal and Legislative Services
A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer
D. Soucy, Legislative Officer
A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Mayor M. Blake called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the Agenda be amended by deleting Item #2 – Interim Appointments to Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation Board, and that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes from Council Meeting - April 19, 2016

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on April 19, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports**2. Interim Appointments to Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation Board**

This item was deleted from the Agenda

3. Municipally Sponsored Ground-breaking and Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Policy COM-120
(6:04 p.m. – 6:23 p.m.)

Marilyn Hood, Director, Communications and Stakeholder Relations, and Adam Hardiman, Manager, Public Affairs, provided an overview of the Municipally Sponsored Ground-breaking and Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Policy.

Councillor J. Stroud put forward the following for consideration: “That Ground-breaking and Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Policy COM-120, dated April 26, 2016 be approved”

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the Policy be amended by adding the following as Section 3.1.7: No Ground-breaking or Ribbon-Cutting ceremonies be held within the 60 days prior to any municipal election.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that Ground-breaking and Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Policy COM-120, dated April 26, 2016 be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Cancellation of Governance Training

(6:24 p.m. – 6:34 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the Council Resolution passed on March 15, 2016, approving the engagement of Watson Advisors Inc. to provide two days of governance training to Council Members and designated members of Administration be rescinded.

CARRIED

For: M. Blake, T. Ault, J. Cardinal, S. Germain, K. McGrath, P. Meagher, A. Vinni, C. Voyageur

Opposed: J. Stroud, C. Tatum

5. 2016 Council Compensation Review

(6:35 p.m. – 6:53 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud:

1. That Administration be directed to proceed with securing an industry professional through a formal Request for Proposal process to undertake a comprehensive review of Elected Officials' Compensation, Travel, Expense and Support Policy LEG-050; and
2. That recommendations for amendments to the Policy be brought forward for Council's consideration and approval no later than six months prior to the 2017 General Municipal Election, in accordance with Section 2.01(b) of the Policy.
3. That subject to recommendations 1 and 2 being approved, Administration prepare and submit to Council, a bylaw to repeal the Council Compensation Review Committee Bylaw No. 14/022.

David Leflar, Director, Legal and Legislative Services, provided the background of the current Elected Officials Compensation, Travel, Expense and Support Policy, noting that it has been 15 years since a comprehensive review has been undertaken.

Exit and Return:

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 6:37 p.m. and reentered at 6:38 p.m.

CARRIED

For: M. Blake, J. Cardinal, S. Germain, J.

Stroud, C. Tatum, C. Voyageur

Opposed: T. Ault, K. McGrath, P.

Meagher, A. Vinni

6. Audit Committee Recommendation – Audit Committee Terms of Reference

(6:54 p.m. – 7:03 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor T. Ault:

- That the Audit Committee Terms of Reference (as set out in Attachment 1, dated April 20, 2016) be approved, in principle; and
- That Administration bring forward an amendment to the Standing Council Committees Bylaw to incorporate the provisions of the Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess:

A recess occurred from 7:03 p.m. to 7:20 p.m.

7. Timberlea Sewer Backups – Financial Support for Impacted Homeowners
(7:20 p.m. – 10:18 p.m.)

Amie McGowan, Manager, Sustainable Operations, Ray Cruickshank, Manager, Program Management, and Michael Colbert, Supervisor, Underground Services, provided a presentation on the technical components of the Timberlea Sewer Backups report, including the engineering investigation and analysis. The conclusion was that the proximate cause of flooding was the severity of the July 12, 2015 storm, assessed at a 1 in 50 year event, which overwhelmed the capacity of the sanitary system and the capacity of the temporary construction stormwater management system on site. The storm event was so severe that it would likely have caused widespread sewer backups regardless of any construction water management impacts.

David Leflar, Director, Legal and Legislative Services, and Fred Seeley, Manager, Insurance Services, provided an overview of the key elements relating to liability and insurance. It was noted that there is no convincing evidence of negligence on the part of the Municipality giving rise to legal liability under the Municipal Government Act; therefore, the Municipality's insurance policy will not cover the claims of affected property owners. It was further indicated that the insurer's position is subject to review by their legal counsel but is not anticipated to change.

Exits and Returns:

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 7:50 p.m. and reentered at 7:52 p.m.

Councillor S. Germain exited the meeting at 7:59 p.m. and reentered at 8:01 p.m.

Morris Gordon, resident, questioned whether or not there was reduced capacity in the sewer system and why adequate action was not taken at the time.

Carol Gillis, resident, mentioned that the July 12 2015 event was the first time in the 20 years of living in the area that they had experienced a sewer back up. Ms. Gillis further indicated her belief that the Municipality has a moral obligation to help affected residents.

Kathi Gouthro, resident, questioned the amount of time it took to complete the upgrades to the infrastructure following the 2010 floods and urged Council to look at the totality of the event, which put financial strain on the residents and affected their insurance policies and property values.

Debra Hahn, resident, questioned the lack of services and support provided to the affected residents by the Municipality during the flooding and clean-up. She also expressed her disappointed that the Municipality was trying to push the problem off onto the Province under the Disaster Recovery Program, which is a lengthy process.

Anne Simpson, resident, spoke to the lack of assistance and guidance from the Municipality during the flooding, including the cleanup and disposal of the contaminated debris. Ms. Simpson stated her belief that the Municipality is liable for the flooding and the financial loss suffered by the affected residents.

Michelle Fetter, resident, spoke to the need for peace of mind, indicating that fixing the infrastructure must be a priority to ensure that sewer backups won't happen again. Ms. Fetter spoke to both the financial and emotional impacts of the flooding, noting that some of the items lost can never be replaced. Ms. Fetter asked that Council show their understanding and support by providing compensation to impacted residents.

Craig Simpson, resident, spoke to his disappointment in the length of the process, indicating that he does not agree with the results of the analysis.

Exit and Return:

Councillor S. Germain exited the meeting at 9:09 p.m. and reentered at 9:10 p.m.

Councillor T. Ault put forward the following for consideration: "That Administration be directed to implement a program to provide for compensation to property owners affected by sewer backup flooding in Timberlea on July 12, 2015, as described under the heading "Alternative" in the Council Report dated April 26, 2016." Following debate and with the permission of Council, Councillor Ault added the following to the end of the motion: "...excluding any reference to the Disaster Recovery Program."

Motion Recess:

A motion recess occurred from 10:04 p.m. to 10:09 p.m.

Councillor A. Vinni proposed amending the motion presented by Councillor T. Ault by deleting the words "to implement a program". As this did not present a substantive change to the motion, it was accepted as a friendly amendment by Council as per the Procedure Bylaw. Voting then occurred on the motion, which now reads as follows:

Moved by Councillor T. Ault That Administration be directed to provide compensation to property owners affected by sewer backup flooding in Timberlea on July 12, 2015, as described under the heading "Alternative" in the Council Report dated April 26, 2016, excluding any reference to the Disaster Recovery Program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer

Unapproved Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the River Valley Room at Edmonton City Hall in Edmonton, Alberta, on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, commencing at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
C. Tatum, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor
C. Voyageur, Councillor

Administration:

M. Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer
K. Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
B. Couture, Executive Director
E. Hutton, Executive Director
M. Johnstone, Executive Director
D. Leflar, Director, Legal and Legislative Services
A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer
D. Soucy, Legislative Officer
A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Mayor M. Blake called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. and offered heartfelt appreciation to residents throughout Alberta and Canada for their support, encouragement and generosity during a very difficult time. Mayor Blake also extended special thanks to the City of Edmonton and its staff for their ongoing assistance and commitment to ensuring that the Regional Municipality can continue to conduct its business until the evacuation order is lifted.

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the Agenda be amended by deferring Items 1 (Financial Impact of Wildfire Disaster on Employees) and 6 (CAO Authority to Control the Pace and Terms of Re-Entry) to the in-camera portion of the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the Agenda be further amended by tabling Item 2 (Tone from the Province) until 3:00 p.m. when the Government of Alberta representatives will be in attendance; and that the agenda be adopted as amended

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Financial Impact of Wildfire on Employees

This item was deferred to the in-camera portion of the meeting

2. Tone from the Province

This item was tabled, to be dealt with at upon arrival of Provincial officials.

3. Review of Approved Capital Budget and 2017-2020 Capital Plan
(2:09 p.m. – 2:29 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Administration be directed to undertake a review of the 2016 approved Capital Budget and 2017-2020 Capital Plan and report back to Council by June 7, 2016 with a recommendation as to what capital projects should be continued, deferred or cancelled.

Kevin Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, provided the rationale for reviewing the approved Capital Budget and Plan, noting that the magnitude and impact of the recent wildfires, makes it imperative to assess which projects need to continue in order to provide core services, and which projects can be deferred or cancelled to release funds for budget reduction and/or reallocation to new priority projects.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Review of all Programs and Services
(2:28 p.m. – 2:38 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor S. Germain that the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) be directed to undertake a review of all municipal programs and services and report back to Council by May 25, 2016 with a recommendation as to what programs and services should be modified, reduced, temporarily or indefinitely suspended, or cancelled.

Marcel Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of what would be involved in the review, indicating that while some programs and services may need to be modified, reduced, suspended or cancelled, there may also be a need to introduce new or modified services as a result of the wildfire.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Review of Council Resolutions with Cost Implications
(2:39 p.m. – 2:53 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor C. Tatum that Administration be directed to review all outstanding items on the Council Resolution Log that require expenditure of money to implement the direction associated with each item, and make recommendations to Council by the end of May, 2016 as to which of those resolutions could be rescinded at this time.

David Leflar, Director of Legal and Legislative Services, spoke to the need for Council to step into the role of the Oversight Committee and should direct a review of all outstanding Council resolutions that have cost implications to implement. Re-prioritization, rescinding or amending those outstanding resolutions may be required in order to focus and redeploy available resources in response to the wildfire.

Following discussion, it was agreed that if any Council members have any items they wish to be excluded from this review, please forward them to the Chief Administrative Officer and these items will be highlighted in the report with Administration's recommendations

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. CAO Authority to Control the Pace and Terms of Re-entry

This item was deferred to the in-camera portion of the meeting

7. Discussion on Future State of the Municipality

(2.54 p.m. – 3:03 p.m.)

Council Members engaged in a round-table discussion on the future state of the Municipality, and also utilized the opportunity to express thanks and appreciation to first-responders, emergency personnel, volunteers and the many, many people who contributed to the safe evacuation of residents from Fort McMurray, and are committed to its recovery.

Moved by Councillor S. Germain that Item 7 (Discussion on Future State of the Municipality) be tabled, and that Item 2 (Tone from the Province), be raised from the table.

CARRIED

For: M. Blake, T. Ault, L. Bussieres, J. Cardinal, S. Germain, P. Meagher, J. Stroud, A. Vinni, C. Voyageur

Opposed: K. McGrath, C. Tatum

2. Tone from the Province

(3.04 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.)

The Honourable Danielle Larivee, Minister of Municipal Affairs, thanked Council for their leadership and strength and introduced Deputy Minister Brad Pickering, Shane Schreiber, Managing Director of Alberta Emergency Management Agency, and Bill Sweeney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Security Division of Alberta Justice and Solicitor General. Minister Larivee committed to working with the Municipality in the coming days, months and years of recovery, noting that the Government of Alberta is working as quickly as possible to make it safe for residents to return, but reiterated that it will be a long time before re-entry. It is anticipated that the timeline and plans for re-entry should be released within two weeks, as previously noted by Premier Notley.

Exits and Returns:

- Mayor M. Blake exited the meeting at 3:57 p.m. and reentered at 4:00 p.m., during which time Deputy Mayor K. McGrath assumed the Chair.
- Councillor C. Tatum exited the meeting at 4:00 p.m. and reentered at 4:01 p.m.
- Councillor T. Ault exited the meeting at 4:08 p.m. and reentered at 4:08 p.m.

Shane Schreiber and Bill Sweeney provided an overview of the “Four Phases of Response to Recovery” beginning with response and getting people safe; moving to the stabilization / re-entry phase of getting people home; then short-term recovery to getting the community functioning and the final stage is medium to long-term recovery. Council’s biggest role will come in phase four relative to rebuilding the community. The Government of Alberta

committed to working with and using local businesses wherever possible in the procurement process. Mr. Schreiber also noted that the provincial authority under the current State of Emergency will effectively end on May 30, 2016, and it is not known if a renewal will be required.

Moved by Councillor S. Germain that the presentation provided by the Government of Alberta be accepted as information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that Item 7, Discussion on Future State of the Municipality, be raised from the table.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Discussion on Future State of the Municipality
(4:15 p.m. – 4:23 p.m.)

The round-table dialogue continued, with Council Members again expressing their thanks and appreciation to all, and specifically to the City of Edmonton, for providing the facilities and assistance needed for Council to conduct this meeting.

8. Future Council Meetings Until Re-Entry
(4:23 p.m. – 4:39 p.m.)

Councillor C. Tatum presented the following motion for consideration: “That all Council meetings commencing immediately and until re-entry to the evacuated areas of the Municipality has been accomplished, be held in Edmonton at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons or at such other times as Administration is able to schedule, at facilities provided by the municipal corporation of the City of Edmonton or in such other locations in Edmonton as Administration is able to obtain for that purpose; and That a regular schedule of Council meetings is hereby established on a bi-weekly basis commencing Wednesday May 25, 2016, and that Council members make best efforts to attend at such additional special meetings as the Mayor may convene from time to time under section 197 of the Municipal Government Act.”

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the motion be amended by deleting the word “bi-weekly” and replacing it with “weekly” in the second paragraph.

CARRIED
For: T. Ault, L. Bussieres, J. Cardinal, S. Germain, K. McGrath, P. Meagher, J. Stroud, C. Tatum, A. Vinni, C. Voyageur
Opposed: M. Blake

Moved by Councillor C. Voyageur that the motion be amended by changing the meeting time to 3:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the motion be further amended by changing the meeting start date to May 18, 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Voting then occurred on the main motion, as amended, which now reads as follows:

Moved by Councillor Tatum:

- THAT all Council meetings commencing immediately and until re-entry to the evacuated areas of the Municipality has been accomplished, be held in Edmonton at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons or at such other times as Administration is able to schedule, at facilities provided by the municipal corporation of the City of Edmonton or in such other locations in Edmonton as Administration is able to obtain for that purpose; and
- THAT a regular schedule of Council meetings is hereby established on a weekly basis commencing Wednesday May 18, 2016, and that Council members make best efforts to attend at such additional special meetings as the Mayor may convene from time to time under section 197 of the *Municipal Government Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Motion to Move In-Camera

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that Council move in-camera pursuant to Section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c.M-26.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess:

A brief recess was held beginning at 4:40 p.m. to allow the gallery to clear, following which Council met in-camera.

Adjournment

Council concluded its in-camera matters at 6:20 p.m., at which time Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Prince Philip and I were shocked and saddened by the news of the wild fires that are causing such devastation to Fort McMurray. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have been affected, and we send our heartfelt thanks to the firefighters and the other emergency workers.

ELIZABETH R.

N. 952/2016

Excellency,

I hasten to forward to you the message from His Holiness Pope Francis, signed by the Cardinal Secretary of State, after having been informed of the tragedy occurring in Fort McMurray:

«The Holy Father was saddened to learn of the destruction and distress caused by the extensive fires around Fort McMurray, and he assures you of his prayers for all the displaced, especially the children, who have lost their homes and livelihoods. He asks God to bless civil authorities and those coordinating evacuation and shelter for the homeless, as well as for strength and perseverance for all who are battling the fires. Upon those affected by this ongoing disaster, the Holy Father invokes the Lord's blessing of patience, faith and hope.»

Cardinal Pietro Parolin
Secretary of State »

In communion with the sentiments of the Holy Father, I heartily unite myself with the confident prayer to the Virgin Mary, Comforter of the afflicted.

With my cordial regards, I am

Sincerely, in the Lord

Luigi Bonazzi.

* Luigi Bonazzi
Apostolic Nuncio

Subject: Consideration of Municipal Utilities

APPROVALS:

Elsie Hutton, Executive Director
Kevin Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Marcel Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT charges, rates, and fees for the distribution, collection and treatment of solid waste, water and sanitary sewage as outlined in Utility Bylaw 10/001 not be applied for May and June, 2016.

THAT penalties on outstanding amounts not be applied for May and June, 2016.

Summary:

Utility Bylaw 10/001 requires the invoicing of charges, rates and fees for the distribution, collection and treatment of solid waste, water and sanitary sewage. Administration is recommending the billing for utilities not be applied and outstanding penalties on amounts owing for May and June 2016 to allow the residents and businesses of the region to re-establish their operations and residency prior to the Municipality resuming billing activities. The two month period identified will also provide Administration with the time necessary to determine whether further considerations are required from a holistic perspective. Further changes would be provided for Council consideration at a later date if required.

Background:

As a result of the wildfire disaster, Administration continues to review municipal operations and assess whether considerations are required to adapt to the changed environment. Currently, Utility Rates Bylaw 10/001 is in effect. The bylaw was established to outline a scale of charges, rates and fees for distribution, collection and treatment of solid waste, water and sanitary sewage. Penalties are also imposed within the bylaw. The wildfire disaster disaster has not only impacted access to municipal utilities, but also on the ability of residential and commercial customers to make payment on outstanding amounts owing.

In addition to fees and charges for other utility activities such as connection fees etc., residential and commercial customers are subject to both fixed and variable charges. Customers are billed on a bi-monthly basis. Penalties are applied based on 1.5% monthly or 3% bi-monthly calculated on the total amounts in arrears. Consideration is therefore required for customers with outstanding amounts with the Municipality as well as current billings.

Budget/Financial Implication:

The annual budget for utility rate revenue is approximately \$36.M, approximately \$6M bi-monthly. Council consideration of foregoing billing activities for May and June utility charges will provide an opportunity for operations to normalize and the residents and businesses of the region to begin the rebuild process. This will also provide an opportunity for Administration to further assess any impacts and, if required, provide a more holistic review and recommendations for Council consideration. During the period of evacuation, residents and businesses were not able to access the services. In addition, payments of outstanding amounts owing could not be made and therefore penalties should also be suspended for the same period of time.

Rationale for Recommendation:

Due to the recent wildfire disaster, residents and businesses of the region have not had access to municipal utilities, therefore Council consideration to suspend billing for usage (inclusive of fixed charges) during May and June 2016 would be appropriate. In addition, penalties on outstanding amounts would not be applied for May and June. In the event the re-entry process timelines are delayed past June 30, 2016, Council consideration of an extention would be presented.

Strategic Plan Linkage:

Goal 1: Building a Responsible Government