

Approved 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, November 26, 2013, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
G. Boutilier, Councillor
L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor

Absent: J. Chadi, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor

Administration: G. Laubenstein, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Kanzig, Chief Legislative Officer
J. Brown, Supervisor
R. Kendall, Legislative Coordinator

Call To Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Opening Prayer

The Mayor invited those so inclined to join her in prayer.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the agenda be amended by adding the report "Authorization of Absence – Councillor John Chadi" as agenda item 11; and that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes of November 12, 2013

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the minutes from the November 12, 2013 Council meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Delegations

Tom Taber, Ron Fetzko and Donna Fetzko, on behalf of McMurray Sno-Drifters gave a brief background of the Alberta Snowmobile Association. Mr. Fetzko indicated that the Association gives an annual award to people/businesses that go above and beyond to support the Association, and this year the award is being given to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. Mr. Taber presented Mayor Blake with the ASA Snowmobile Excellence Award for Outstanding Promotion and Development of Snowmobiling and thanked the Municipality for the production of trail maps and providing permanent signs that have been placed throughout the trails.

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the presentation from McMurray Sno-Drifters be accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Hearings and Related Reports

3. Land Use Bylaw Amendment – Development in the Flood Plain - Bylaw No. 13/032

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the public hearing for Bylaw No. 13/032 be opened.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Felice Mazzoni, Planning and Development, indicated that this bylaw is bringing our current bylaw into alignment with the provincial regulations regarding flood plain management to ensure there are habitable areas located above the 1 and 100 flood plain and non-inhabitable area below the 1 and 100 flood plain.

Jim Rogers, residents, spoke in opposition to the proposed bylaw and indicated there are problems with the flood plain elevation, as well as issues with ice flow.

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the public hearing for Bylaw No. 13/032 be closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Public Hearing was held between 6:26 p.m. and 6:42 p.m.

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that Bylaw No. 13/032, being an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw specific to development in the flood plain area, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Bylaw No. 13/032 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Land Use Bylaw Amendment for Multi-Family District – A Portion of Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 102 1640 (Parsons Creek) - Bylaw No. 13/040

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the public hearing for Bylaw No. 13/040 be opened.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bradley Evanson, Planning and Development, provided an overview and introduction of the proposed bylaw amendment and indicated that this is a redesignation of the property from an Urban Expansion District to a Multi-Family District which is requested by the Province of Alberta.

Tim Ainscough and Gordon Lau, Stantac Consulting Ltd., provided an opening statement with respect to the proposed bylaw and indicated that this project will increase housing and commercial space within the Municipality, as well as provide employment opportunities and services in close proximity to residential areas.

Jim Rogers, resident, spoke in support of the proposed Bylaw No. 13/040.

Mike Durocher, resident, spoke in favour of the proposed bylaw and indicated that there has to be affordable housing in this community.

Howard Rensler, Executive Director, Urban Development Institute, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw and indicated that this project will compliment the rest of the Parsons Creek development.

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the public hearing for Bylaw No. 13/040 be closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Public Hearing was held between 6:47 p.m. and 7:35 p.m.

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Bylaw No. 13/040, being a Land Use Bylaw amendment specific to a portion of Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 102 1640 (Parsons Creek), be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that Bylaw No. 13/040 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess

A break occurred at 7:40 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

5. Land Use Bylaw Amendment for Health Care Facility – A Portion of Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 102 1640 (Parsons Creek) - Bylaw No. 13/041

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the public hearing for Bylaw No. 13/041 be opened.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bradley Evanson, Planning and Development, provided an overview and introduction of the proposed bylaw and indicated that this is a preliminary step to redesignate the land from the previous designation to the proposed designation of Public Services District.

Robert Sabulka, Alberta Infrastructure, provided an opening statement and indicated that one of the important goals is to provide opportunity for social programs and amenities.

Myrtle Dussault, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed Bylaw No. 13/041. Ms. Dussault indicated that this project affects the seniors in a negative way as they have been fighting for the Aging in Place facility in Willow Square which is close to all amenities for the seniors.

Joan Furber, resident, spoke in opposition, and indicated that Parsons Creek is not the right place for a long-term health care facility, which is a construction zone for the next several years. Ms. Furber indicated that the seniors have been clear in their position of needing to be placed downtown.

Ken Saunderson, resident, gave a written presentation on behalf of David Hodson and indicated that he is in opposition to the proposed bylaw stating that Parsons Creek is not the site for an Aging in Place Facility for the seniors.

Allan Bradley, Alberta Health Services, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw and indicated that this site is ideal since it is situated in a residential neighbourhood, and the location allows the facility to be on one level. The adjacent health and wellness center proposed for this site will provide access to urgent care physicians approximately 16 hours per day.

Jordanna Lambert, Area Manager, Public Health within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw amendment and indicated that this community facility will allow for further health care development.

Susan Konski, Primary Care Coordinator, Alberta Health Services, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw. Ms. Konski indicated that the community health and wellness centre will include an urgent care center in the Parsons Creek Area.

Dan Fouts, resident, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw and indicated that it is better to have this facility in Parsons Creek as opposed to no facility and lose the funding that is in place for the development.

Dave McNeilly, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed bylaw and indicated that when the notice of change of the Aging in Place/long-term care facility location was announced from Willow Square to Parsons Creek, the seniors expressed strong opposition to the location.

Jim Rogers, resident, spoke in opposition, as well as in support of this bylaw and indicated that a long-term care facility is needed on both the South side, as well as on the North side of the

City.

Mike Durocher, resident, spoke in support of the proposed bylaw, but noted reservations based on the comments of some of the seniors in the gallery. Mr. Durocher indicated that the facility has to be built now and that the community needs both Parsons Creek and Willow Square facilities.

Anne Luedke, resident, spoke in opposition of the proposed bylaw and indicated that the seniors have made it clear that Willow Square is the appropriate location for an Aging in Place/long term care facility as it would be close to the hospital and other amenities.

Karen Saunderson, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed bylaw.

Susan Dragon, resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed bylaw and indicated that this community is in desperate need of a long term care facility which should be located in Willow Square.

Further discussions ensued between administration and Council and it was indicated by Mr. Evanson that if this bylaw is approved, it is a preliminary stage where the development permits would then have to be completed and approved, and zoning to be put in place for the proposed health care facility.

David Pattison and Robert Sabulka, Alberta Infrastructure, provided closing comments and indicated that they expect that the Parsons Creek interchange will be accepting traffic in the Fall of 2015 at which time they would seek occupancy for the two facilities. It was also indicated that there was a committee struck which included representatives from Alberta Health Services, Infrastructure and the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo wherein evaluations were conducted on each site.

Discussion ensued regarding a meeting with all stakeholders prior to second reading.

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the public hearing for Bylaw No. 13/041 be closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Public Hearing was held between 7:55 p.m. and 10:14 p.m.

Recess

A break occurred at 10:15 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 10:35 p.m.

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the meeting be extended beyond 10:00 p.m.

The following motion was put forward by Councillor P. Meagher:

That the meeting conclude on or before midnight.

Councillor K. McGrath proposed the following amendment:

That Councillor Stroud be excused from the meeting by midnight and that the remaining Council continue the meeting.

CARRIED

For: M. Blake, T. Ault, G. Boutilier, L. Bussieres, S. Germain, K. McGrath

Opposed: J. Cardinal, P. Meagher, J. Stroud

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that Bylaw No. 13/041, being a Land Use Bylaw amendment specific to a portion of Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 102 1640 (Parsons Creek), be read a second.

The following amendment was then presented:

Moved by Councillor L. Bussieres that second reading of Bylaw No. 13/041, being a Land Use Bylaw amendment specific to a portion of Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 102 1640 (Parsons Creek), be deferred until such time that a meeting occur between Council, MP, MLA's and seniors' representatives regarding long-term health care facility and Aging in Place.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaws

6. Highway 63/881 Corridor Area Structure Plan Amendment – Bylaw No. 13/037

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Bylaw No. 13/037, being an amendment to the Highway 63/881 Corridor Area Structure Plan, be read a first time; and that the required public hearing be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw – Bylaw No. 13/015

Moved by Councillor G. Boutilier that Bylaw No. 13/015, being the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw, be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that Bylaw No. 13/015 be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports**8. Council Policy PRL-090 – Citizen Recognition Program**

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the Community Services Committee recommendations for the 2013 Citizen Recognition Program be approved as identified in Attachment 1, being the Citizen Recognition Program Selected Recipients, dated October 9, 2013; and that the provisions of Attachment 1, being the Citizen Recognition Program Selected Recipients, dated October 9, 2013, remain confidential pursuant to section 17 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.A., 2000 c. F-25, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Request for Special Council Meeting on December 11, 2013

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that a special Council meeting be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2013, to consider the 2014 Proposed Budget and Financial Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

New and Unfinished Business**10. Notice of Motion re: Elected Officials - Administration Communication Policy (Councillor G. Boutilier)**

Moved by Councillor G. Boutilier that any employee of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo on any issue may at any time speak with any member of Council in adhering to the principal of good government for the betterment of all citizens in achieving a greater public good; and that the Elected Officials-Administration Communication Policy LEG-170 dated September 10, 2013 be rescinded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Authorization of Absence – Councillor John Chadi

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the absence of Councillor John Chadi from regular Council meetings due to health reasons be authorized.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reporting - Boards and Committees

- AUMA Conference, Leadership Wood Buffalo Board (Councillor T. Ault)
- AAMDC Conference (Councillor J. Stroud)
- Combative Sports Resolution, Coalition for Safer 63/881 (Mayor M. Blake)

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer