

Unapproved Minutes of a Special 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 Tuesday, May 31, 2016, commencing at 3:00 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
- E. Hutton, Executive Director
- D. Bendfeld, Acting Executive Director
- D. Leflar, Director, Legal and Legislative Services
- J. Brown, Senior Legislative Officer
- A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer
- E. Franks, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Acting Mayor K. McGrath called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. He recognized all the municipal staff who have been working diligently in serving residents of the Region. He sent out special thanks to the City of Edmonton for their hospitality and to the rest of Alberta and Canada for their ongoing support.

It was noted that Mayor Blake is attending a previously arranged engagement and will be joining the meeting later.

Procedural Matters

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni:

that the Agenda be amended by allowing Delegations under Item #4 – Re-Entry Plan; and

that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Approval of Minutes from Council Meeting – May 25, 2016

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on May 26, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Cancellation of Council Meeting – June 1, 2016

Moved by Councillor C. Tatum that the June 1, 2016 regular Council meeting be cancelled.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Timing of Return to Council Meetings to the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber, Fort McMurray

(3:07 p.m. – 3:17 p.m.)

Councillor Stroud put the following recommendations forward for consideration: THAT a regular Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 3:00 p.m., River Valley Room, City Hall, City of Edmonton; THAT Council resume regular Council meetings weekly on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., in the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber, Fort McMurray, excluding fifth Tuesdays and statutory holidays, beginning on Tuesday, June 14, 2016; and THAT the previously scheduled summer recess of 2016 be cancelled for the time being, and that the matter of whether to schedule a summer recess in 2016 be re-considered at the June 28, 2016 regular Council meeting.

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud that the recommendation be amended by adding the following paragraph:

THAT all business items that Council had resolved for Administration to bring back at the June 8, 2016 Council meeting in Edmonton be deferred to the June 14, 2016 meeting in the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was noted that for the June 8 Council meeting, Councillors who are in Fort McMurray will have the opportunity to participate in the meeting via teleconferencing from the Jubilee Centre.

Moved by Councillor J. Stroud:

that a regular Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 3:00 p.m., River Valley Room, City Hall, City of Edmonton;

that Council resume regular Council meetings weekly on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., in the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber, Fort McMurray, excluding fifth Tuesdays and statutory holidays, beginning on Tuesday, June 14, 2016;

that the previously scheduled summer recess of 2016 be cancelled for the time being, and that the matter of whether to schedule a summer recess in 2016 be re-considered at the June 28, 2016 regular Council meeting; and

that all business items that Council had resolved for Administration to bring back at the June 8, 2016 Council meeting in Edmonton be deferred to the June 14, 2016 meeting in the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentations

4. Re-Entry Plan

(3:17 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.)

Brad Pickering, Deputy Minister - Municipal Affairs; Shane Schreiber, Managing Director - Alberta Emergency Management Agency; John Conrad, Executive Director – Alberta Environmental Support and Emergency Response Team, Environment and Parks; and Merry Turtiak, Director – Environmental Public Health Science, were in attendance to provide a presentation on the Re-Entry Plan.

Mr. Schreiber noted the Fort McMurray wildfire remains classified as out of control and is estimated to be approximately 600,000 hectares in size. He confirmed that the 5 re-entry criteria have been met and the green light has been given for the scheduled voluntary re-entry commencing on June 1, 2016.

The Re-entry Brief addressed such topics as Concept of Operations; Re-entry Criteria; Re-entry Considerations; Re-entry Timelines; Occupancy – Damaged Homes; Emergency Accommodations; Environmental Testing Results, concluding with the note that re-entry is voluntary, no one is being ordered back.

Tracy Holland, resident came forward, raised concerns and questions regarding the limited testing for contaminants which has been done in the community, the testing results, how mitigation measures (ie tacifier) will be impacted when cleanup is undertaken; and how far the contaminants may have travelled prior to mitigation measures being taken.

Exit and Return

Councillor C. Tatum exited the meeting at 3:45 p.m. and returned at 3:46 p.m.

Nicole Louvelle, resident, came forward, questioned the availability of accommodations and whether there is an opportunity for companies to present Council with options in this regard. It was noted this can be dealt with through the Request for Presentation to Council process.

A lengthy discussion ensued between Council and the presenters relative to the information provided to date.

It was agreed that environmental test results would be made public at the earliest possible date. Reference was made to a Phase 2 sampling plan which would also be shared with Council and residents once finalized.

Administration was requested to provide information to Council regarding the tacifier agent being used and how long it has been used by the Municipality, specifically in the landfill.

It was confirmed that an extension of the state of emergency had been supported by Alberta Legislature earlier today.

Exits and Returns

Councillor J. Cardinal exited the meeting at 4:51 p.m. and returned at 4:54 p.m.

Councillor T. Ault exited the meeting at 5:07 p.m. and returned at 5:10 p.m.

Councillor J. Stroud exited the meeting at 5:10 p.m. and returned at 5:12 p.m.

Arrival

Mayor M. Blake joined the meeting at 5:12 p.m. and assumed the Chair.

New and Unfinished Business

Exits and Returns

Councillors C. Tatum and K. McGrath exited the meeting at 5:16 pm and returned at 5:17 p.m.

5. Tax Penalty Relief – Bylaw No. 16/010
(5:15 p.m. – 5:36 p.m.)

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that Bylaw No. 16/010, being a bylaw to provide relief from penalties for unpaid 2016 property taxes, be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor S. Germain put forward the following recommendation for consideration: “That Bylaw No. 16/010 be read a second time.”

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that Bylaw 16/010 be amended at the end of paragraph 3 to read “December 31, 2016” rather than November 1, 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor S. Germain that Bylaw No. 16/010, be read a second time as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that Bylaw No. 16/010, be given consideration for third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that Bylaw No. 16/010, be read a third and final time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Appointment of Municipal Representative to Red Cross Working Group
(5:36 p.m. – 5:48 p.m.)

Elsie Hutton, Chief Financial Officer provided an overview of the report.

Dianne Shannon, Executive Director Fort McMurray United Way came forward and advised that their group has met with the Red Cross group and offered their support for future deliberations in developing opportunities to build a stronger community going forward.

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher :

that the Director of Community Services or designate be appointed as a municipal representative to the Canadian Red Cross Coordination Working Group; and

that the Chief Financial Officer or designate be appointed as a municipal representative to the Canadian Red Cross Coordination Working Group.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion to Move In Camera

Moved by Councillor K. McGrath that the meeting move In Camera pursuant to section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act..

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess:

A brief recess occurred at 5:48 p.m. to allow the gallery to clear; following which Council met in-camera.

7. **Discussion with Insurers**
(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
8. **Establishment of RMWB Recovery Task Force**
(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
9. **Summary and Review of Workshop Outcomes**
(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
10. **Land Use Bylaw Policy Options**
(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

Motion to Close In Camera Session and Reconvene to Public

Moved by Councillor A. Vinni that the meeting reconvene in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

Council concluded its in-camera matters at 8:21 p.m., at which time Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer