

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee Held via Electronic Communications, in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, August 27, 2020, commencing at 9:00 AM.

Present:

Diana Noble, Chair - Public-at-Large
David Secord, Vice-Chair - Business Community
Mike Jones, Member - Public-at-Large
Scott Jackson, Member - Oil and Gas Industry
Bryce Kumka, Member - Business Community
Curtis Williams, Member- Community Development

Absent:

Mark Burris, Member - Health & Wellness
Jin Li, Member - Public-at-Large
Ana Mendez-Barks, Member - Arts, Culture and Recreation Sector
Dan Soupal, Member - Land Development
Jane Stroud, Councillor

Administration:

Amanda Haitas, Senior Manager
Monica Lance, Manager, Special Projects
Nicole Van Kruistum, Senior Executive Liaison, Office of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Heather Fredeen, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Chair, Diana Noble, called the meeting to order at 9:23 a.m.

2. New and Unfinished Business

2.1. Review of Action Log

D. Noble, Chair reviewed the action log and noted the following outstanding items:

- Assessment and Taxation Presentation on mill rate calculations and relationship to development in the community
- Committee discussion on the formation of sub-committees
- Review of draft Land Use Bylaw with Committee for feedback prior to presenting to Council

2.2. Review Committee Priorities

The Committee reviewed their priorities as follows:

1. Review Land Use Bylaw to facilitate conversation and decisions regarding section items
 - It was noted that Administration has already completed extensive consultation and engagement on the proposed Land Use Bylaw. Administration noted that they would continue to provide revised drafts and updates to the Committee when applicable for feedback.
2. Understand current processes for commercial development permitting, and business license process to make recommendations to streamline process (Road Map)
 - The Committee agreed to endorse Business Licensing amendments suggested by the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation and will continue discussions on ways to gather developer feedback on permitting processes.

Exit, Recess and Return

S. Jackson exited the meeting at 9:46 a.m. and the meeting recessed and resumed at 9:51 a.m. at which time S. Jackson reconnected to the meeting and quorum was re-established.

3. Commercial rent feasibility study and review of tax and how it impacts rates
 - The Committee deferred future discussions on this priority.

Action

Administration to provide an update on a Notice of Motion provided by Councillor Stroud regarding property tax incentives in the rural areas

4. Identify opportunities for business development with “outside the box” thinking
 - Committee members indicated that Priority No. 4, should be moved up the priorities listing.
 - Administration indicated that a new Municipal Development Plan is underway and suggested this would align with the Committee’s mandate.

Action

Administration to provide Committee members with the Business License Bylaw

2.3. Discussion - Future Engagement with Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next committee meeting. Administration committed to inviting Kevin Wiedlich, Chief Executive Officer of the Wood Buffalo Economic Development Corporation, to the next Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee Meeting.

2.4. Discussion Committee Community Survey

With consensus of the Committee, it was agreed that discussions regarding the Committee's survey to developers, to collect data to enable the Committee to provide feedback to Council on the new Land Use Bylaw, are no longer relevant to the Committee's priorities.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Mayor