

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, February 22, 2022, commencing at 6:00 PM.

Present:

Sandy Bowman, Mayor
Ken Ball, Councillor
Funky Banjoko, Councillor
Lance Bussieres, Councillor
Allan Grandison, Councillor
Keith McGrath, Councillor (via MS Teams)
Jane Stroud, Councillor
Loretta Waquan, Councillor
Stu Wigle, Councillor

Absent:

Kendrick Cardinal, Councillor
Shafiq Dogar, Councillor

Administration:

Jamie Doyle, Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services (via MS Teams)
Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief and Director Emergency Management (via MS Teams)
Kari Donnelly, Director, Human Resources (via MS Teams)
Dennis Fraser, Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations (via MS Teams)
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management (via MS Teams)
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement (via MS Teams)
Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development (via MS Teams)
Linda Ollivier, Chief Financial Officer (via MS Teams)
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services (via MS Teams)
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works (via MS Teams)
Susan Trylinski, Director, Legal Services (via MS Teams)
Dennis Warr, Director, Engineering (via MS Teams)
Anita Hawkins, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor S. Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Councillor S. Wigle served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 8, 2022, Council Meeting:

"THAT the resolution of Council dated February 3, 2022 regarding the organizational review and hiring freeze be rescinded and replaced with the following:

THAT the CAO be directed to conduct a full organizational review; and that the Municipality does not exceed its full-time equivalent (FTE) employee count as of February 2, 2022 until such time as the organizational review is finalized and the CAO presents the report to Council."

Councillor F. Banjoko, served notice of her intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 8, 2022, Council Meeting:

"THAT the Mayor be authorized, on behalf of Council, to send a letter to the Government of Alberta to reinstitute the Family Medicine Residency Program in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo."

Councillor F. Banjoko, served notice of her intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 8, 2022, Council Meeting:

"THAT Administration be directed to conduct a review of taxi rates taking into consideration any changes to the cost of operating taxi services in the rural and urban service areas;

THAT Administration conduct a review of the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw No. 13/001, and host stakeholder engagement sessions that include the Public, the Taxi Industry, Tourism and the Chamber of Commerce, and that feedback be considered for inclusion in any amendments to the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw; and

THAT a Taskforce similar to the previous Taxi Committee disbanded in 2018 be established to review and bring forward recommendations to Council on regulating and controlling taxi services within the boundaries of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo."

Disconnect

Councillor K. McGrath disconnected from the meeting at 6:05 p.m., due to technical difficulties.

Mayor Sandy Bowman, served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 8, 2022, Council Meeting:

"THAT the Mayor be authorized, on behalf of Council, to send a letter to the federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, demonstrating Council's opposition to Quebec's Bill 21 and requesting the Federal Government take any appropriate steps to intervene in support of current legal challenges to Quebec's Bill 21."

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

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

3. Consent Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the recommendations contained in items 3.1., 3.2. and 3.3. be approved.

3.1. Minutes of Special Council Meeting - February 1, 2022

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on February 1-7, 2022, be adopted as presented.

3.2. Minutes of Special In-Camera Council Meeting - February 4, 2022

THAT the Minutes of the Special In-Camera Meeting held on February 4, 2022 be adopted as presented.

3.3. Minutes of Council Meeting - February 8, 2022

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on February 8, 2022 be adopted as presented.

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

4. Recognition

Reconnect and Disconnect

Councillor K. McGrath reconnected to the meeting at 6:09 p.m. and disconnected again at 6:10 p.m. due to technical difficulties.

4.1. Proclamation - Pink Shirt Day

Mayor S. Bowman proclaimed February 23, 2022 as Pink Shirt Day.

5. New Business

Reconnect

Councillor K. McGrath reconnected to the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

5.1. 2022-2023 Community Plan on Homelessness Grant Allocation

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, presented the 2022-2023 Community Plan on Homelessness Grant Allocation, noting that the Municipality is the local administrator for federal and provincial funding received to support homelessness initiatives within the Region. It was noted that based on additional information received, it is requested that the 2022-2023 Community Plan on Homelessness Grant Allocation be referred back to Administration.

MOTION:

THAT Item #5.1 - 2022-2023 Community Plan on Homelessness Grant Allocation be referred to Administration for further work on the recommendation and that the matter be return to Council at a later date.

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

Notice of Motion

With consent of Council, Councillor K. McGrath served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the March 8, 2022, Council Meeting:

"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."

6. Councillor Reporting/Information Updates

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

Recess

A recess occurred between 6:22 p.m. to 6:28 p.m. to allow the public to vacate the Council Chamber.

7. In-Camera Session

MOTION:

THAT Council close items 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 to the public pursuant to sections 24(1), 25(1), and 27(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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

7.1 Disclosure Harmful to Economic and Other Interests of a Public Body – Land Matter

(in camera pursuant to section 25(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Brad McMurdo	Director, Planning and Development
Amanda Haitas	Senior Manager, Planning and Development
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk

Exits and Returns

Councillor K. Ball exited the meeting at 6:56 p.m. and returned at 6:58 p.m.

Councillor A. Grandison exited the meeting at 7:13 p.m. and returned at 7:16 p.m.

Councillor L. Bussieres exited the meeting at 7:17 p.m. and returned at 7:19 p.m.

7.2 Advice from Officials – Operational Briefing

(in camera pursuant to section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Dennis Warr	Director, Engineering
Dennis Fraser	Director, Indigenous and Rural Relations
Kelly Hansen	Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Matthew Harrison	Director, Communications
Linda Ollivier	Chief Financial Officer
Antoine Rempp	Director, Financial Services
Kashif Khan	Program Manager, Engineering
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk

Exits and Returns

Councillor K. Ball exited the meeting at 7:36 p.m. and returned at 7:38 p.m.

Councillor F. Banjoko exited the meeting at 7:39 p.m. and returned at 7:45 p.m.

Councillor K. McGrath disconnected from the meeting at 7:54 p.m. and rejoined at 7:55 p.m.

Councillor K. McGrath disconnected from the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

7.3 Advice from Officials – Information Briefing(in camera pursuant to section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Kelly Hansen	Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk

Return

Councillor K. McGrath rejoined the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Exits and Returns

Councillor K. McGrath disconnected from the meeting at 8:05 p.m. and rejoined at 8:11 p.m.

Councillor J. Stroud exited the meeting at 8:20 p.m. and returned at 8:24 p.m.

Councillor F. Banjoko exited the meeting at 8:40 p.m. and returned at 8:46 p.m.

Councillor L. Waquan exited the meeting at 8:46 p.m. and returned at 8:49 p.m.

7.4 Advice from Officials/Privileged Information – Integrity Commissioner Appointment(in camera pursuant to sections 24(1) and 27(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Name	Reason for Attending
Jamie Doyle	Chief Administrative Officer
Chris Davis	Senior Manager / Legal Counsel, Legal Services
Jade Brown	Legislative Advice/Clerk

MOTION

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Lance Bussieres, Councillor
SECONDER:	Funky Banjoko, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Grandison, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
ABSENT:	Cardinal, Dogar

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer