

**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, March 28, 2023, commencing at 6:00 PM.**

**Present:**

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

**Administration:**

Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer  
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services  
Laurie Farquharson, Chief Financial Officer (via MS Teams)  
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement  
Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development  
Nasir Qureshi, Acting Director, Engineering  
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works  
Susan Trylinski, Director, Legal Services

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor S. Bowman called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2. In-Camera Session**

**MOTION:**

THAT Council close agenda items 2.1 and 2.2 to the public pursuant to sections 24(1), 25(1) and 27(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>                                   |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Stu Wigle, Councillor  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jane Stroud, Councillor                                      |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison, Stroud, Wigle |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Ball, Banjoko, McGrath, Waquan                               |

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

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Reason for Attending</b>              |
|------------------|--|
| Paul Thorkelsson | Chief Administrative Officer             |
| Jade Brown       | Clerk/Legislative Advice                 |
| Brad McMurdo     | Director, Planning and Development       |
| Amanda Haitas    | Senior Manager, Planning and Development |
| Brynn Armstrong  | Manager, Land Administration             |

**Entrances**

Councillor F. Banjoko entered the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Councillor K. Ball joined the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

Councillor K. McGrath entered the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Councillor L. Waquan entered the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

**2.2 Disclosure Harmful to Economic and Other Interests of a Public Body and Privileged Information – Labour Relations**(in camera pursuant to sections 25(1) and 27(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

| <b>Name</b>                     | <b>Reason for Attending</b>  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Paul Thorkelsson                | Chief Administrative Officer |
| Jade Brown                      | Clerk/Legislative Advice     |
| Kari Donnelly                   | Director, Human Resources    |
| Tim Mitchell, McLennan Ross LLP | External Legal Counsel       |

**Exits and Returns**

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 4:29 p.m. and returned at 4:32 p.m.

Councillor S. Dogar exited the meeting at 4:48 p.m. and returned at 4:53 p.m.

Councillor K. Ball disconnected from the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Councillor L. Bussieres exited the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

**Recess**

A recess occurred between 5:19 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., at which time the meeting was reconvened in public in the Council Chamber, and Councillor K. Ball reconnected to the meeting, L. Bussieres returned to the meeting and Councillor Cardinal was absent from the meeting.

**MOTION:**

THAT the meeting reconvene in public.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Stu Wigle, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Loretta Waquan, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Dogar, Grandison, McGrath,<br>Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>   | Cardinal  |

## **2. Adoption of Agenda**

Councillor K. McGrath served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the April 11, 2023 Council Meeting:

THAT Administration be directed to present for Council's consideration at the April 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 Council Meeting a bylaw or bylaws to:

- (a) Establish a Council Committee to be known as the Wood Buffalo Transportation Committee (WBTC), (hereinafter called "the Committee") consisting of two Councillors from the Urban Service Area and one from the Rural Service Area, to serve as Councillors for so long as the Committee exists; or reappointed by Council after each general election, and Mayor;
- (b) Specify the mandate and authority of the Committee to exercise governance and policy oversight over all aspects of regional transportation, including without limitation the authority of the Committee to appoint an administrative head to act as Transportation Team Leader who will report directly to and take instructions from the Committee and will appoint a Transportation Task Force consisting of representatives from each member of community stakeholder groups, reporting through the Transportation Team Leader to the Committee;
- (c) Specify the manner in which the Committee and the Transportation Team Leader will co-operate with and collaborate with the Chief Administrative Officer to determine where existing human resources will be seconded and where new resources will be engaged, in support of the synergizing regional transportation improvements, so that a recommendation for a budget can be made to Council as soon as practicable; and
- (d) Specify the community stakeholder groups with which the Committee shall consult and from whom the Committee shall seek advice and select committee membership, including without limitation representatives from the indigenous, industry, business, land development, social, and service club sectors.

Entrance

Councillor K. Cardinal reconnected to the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

**MOTION:**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Jane Stroud, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Loretta Waquan, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison,<br>McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |

**3. Consent Agenda****MOTION:**

THAT the recommendations contained in items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4, be approved.

**4.1. Minutes of Special Council Meeting - March 9, 2023**

THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on March 9, 2023, be approved as presented.

**4.2. Minutes of Council Meeting - March 14, 2023**

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on March 14, 2023, be approved as presented.

**4.3. Council-Appointed Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

THAT the Minutes from Council-Appointed Committee Meetings, as outlined in Attachments 1-7, be accepted as information.

**4.4. Appointment of Integrity Commissioner**

THAT Kenneth J. Warren, K.C. be appointed as the Integrity Commissioner, effective April 1, 2023 to April 1, 2025.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Stu Wigle, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jane Stroud, Councillor   |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison,<br>McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |

## **5. Recognition**

### **5.1. Proclamation- Transgender Day of Visibility**

Mayor S. Bowman proclaimed March 31, 2023 as Transgender Day of Visibility.

## **6. Presentations**

### **6.1. Henk Ueffing and Grades 5 and 6 Students, Greely Road School re: Skate Park**

Henk Ueffing and Grades 5 and 6 students from Greely Road School provided a presentation regarding a request for a skate park in the Gregoire neighbourhood and the benefits of this addition to the neighborhood. To support their request, the presenters provided Council with illustrations and conceptual hand drawings of their ideas.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT the request from Henk Ueffing and the Grades 5 and 6 students from Greely Road School, for a skate park in Gregoire, be referred to Administration to review and bring back a report for consideration of Council.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>   |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Loretta Waquan, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Stu Wigle, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |

### **6.2. Transit Master Plan Presentation**

Keith Smith, Director, Public Works, Joel Trudell, Senior Manager, Transportation and Facilities, and Thomas Pacy, Dillon Consulting, presented an overview of the Transportation Master Plan noting that it will be before Council for consideration at the April 25, 2023 Council Meeting.

#### **Exit and Return**

Councillor S. Wigle exited the meeting at 6:46 p.m. and returned at 6:48 p.m.

## **7. Unfinished Business**

### **7.1. Bylaw No. 23/004 Backyard Hen Bylaw and Bylaw No. 23/005 Amendment to Community Standards Appeal Committee Bylaw No. 19/001, Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw No. 19/025 and Fees, Rates and Charges 2023 Bylaw No. 22/012.**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, and Caitlin Hanly, Municipal Legal Counsel, provided an overview of the proposed Bylaws, noting that the Backyard Hens Pilot Project, which took place from May 21, 2021 to March 31, 2023, was a success and provided valuable insight when considering Backyard Hens as a permanent concept in the Urban and Rural Service Areas.

#### Exit and Return

Councillor F. Banjoko exited the meeting at 7:21 p.m. and returned at 7:26 p.m.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 23/004, being the Backyard Hen Bylaw, be read a second time.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [10 TO 1]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Funky Banjoko, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jane Stroud, Councillor   |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>  | Grandison   |

#### **MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No.23/004, be read a third and final time.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [10 TO 1]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Funky Banjoko, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Loretta Waquan, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>  | Grandison   |

#### **MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 23/005, being a bylaw to amend the Community Standards Appeal Committee Bylaw No. 19/001, the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw No. 19/025 and the Fees, Rates and Charges 2023 Bylaw No. 22/012, specific to Backyard Hens, be read a second time.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [10 TO 1]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Funky Banjoko, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jane Stroud, Councillor   |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>  | Grandison   |

**MOTION:**

THAT Bylaw No. 23/005 be read a third and final time.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [10 TO 1]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Funky Banjoko, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Loretta Waquan, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>  | Grandison   |

Recess

A recess occurred from 7:40 p.m. to 7:54 p.m.

**7.2. Transit Service at Quarry Ridge**

Keith Smith, Director, Public Works, Joel Trudell, Senior Manager, Transportation and Facilities, provided an overview of the proposed bus stop at Quarry Ridge, noting that adding the additional stop will require routing adjustments and infrastructure upgrades which could be in place by April 30, 2023.

**MOTION:**

THAT Transit services be established in the Quarry Ridge Sub-division as soon as possible, or at the latest, by April 30, 2023; and

THAT \$200,000 be allocated from Capital Infrastructure Reserves to fund the infrastructure upgrades to Quarry Ridge Drive to accommodate this service.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [10 TO 1]</b>  |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Stu Wigle, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Jane Stroud, Councillor   |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>  | McGrath   |

### 7.3. Reflections Lookout Budget Amendment - Revised Alternative Options

Keith Smith, Director, Public Works, and Stephen Fudge, Manager, Parks, provided a presentation on revised option 1 for Phase 2 of the Reflections Lookout project, which would include an asphalt pathway to the entry plaza and a playground area. It was further noted that the cost for a paved parking lot would increase the cost of alternative option 1 by \$155,000.

#### Delegation

Tammy Jackson spoke regarding accessibility and indicated that a paved parking lot would be more inclusive and allow for more people to visit Reflections Lookout.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT the additional information requested by Council at the February 14 ,2023 Council Meeting, be accepted as information; and

THAT Administration proceed with revised alternate option 1, with \$855,000 being allocated from the Capital Infrastructure Reserve for the inclusion of the parking lot and asphalt trail to playground.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>   |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Allan Grandison, Councillor  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Funky Banjoko, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |

### 8. New Business

#### 8.1. Grant Funding Request - Fort McMurray Heritage Society

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, provided a presentation on the request for grant funding submitted by the Fort McMurray Heritage Society under the 2023 Sustaining Grant stream.

#### Delegation

Verna Murphy, Executive Director and Erica Brewer, Director, Events, Fort McMurray Heritage Society provided an overview of community events that the Fort McMurray Heritage Society hosts and spoke to the request for grant funding which would help with hosting the Blueberry Festival and Christmas in the Village.

#### Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the meeting at 8:46 p.m. and returned at 8:56 p.m.

Councillor F. Banjoko put forward the following motion for consideration:



“THAT \$92,100 be allocated to the Fort McMurray Heritage Society, from the Emerging Issues Reserve for the 2023 Sustaining Grant as outlined in Attachment 1.”

Following further discussion, and with consent of Council, Councillor F. Banjoko withdrew her motion and put forward the following motion:

**MOTION:**

THAT \$231,350 be allocated to the Fort McMurray Heritage Society, from the Emerging Issues Reserve for the 2023 Sustaining Grant as outlined in Attachment 1.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>DEFEATED [1 TO 10]</b>   |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Funky Banjoko, Councillor   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Shafiq Dogar, Councillor  |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Grandison   |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>  | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |

**MOTION:**

THAT \$92,100 be allocated to the Fort McMurray Heritage Society, from the Emerging Issues Reserve for the 2023 Sustaining Grant as outlined in Attachment 1.

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

Recess

A recess occurred from 9:28 p.m. to 9:44 p.m.

Pecuniary Interests

Councillor L. Bussieres advised that upon the advice of legal counsel, he was declaring a pecuniary interest in agenda item 8.2 Grant Funding Request – Rotary Club of Fort McMurray, and exited the Chamber at 9:45 p.m.

Councillor A. Grandison advised that upon the advice of legal counsel, he was declaring a pecuniary interest in agenda item 8.2 Grant Funding Request – Rotary Club of Fort McMurray, and exited the Chamber at 9:45 p.m.

## 8.2. Grant Funding Request - Rotary Club of Fort McMurray

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, Brad McMurdo, Director, Planning and Development, Chris Davis, Senior Legal Counsel, and Laurie Farquharson, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the request for grant funding submitted by the Rotary Club of Fort McMurray under the 2023 Sustaining Grant stream and the 2023 Community Capital Grant stream.

### MOTION:

THAT the 2023 Sustaining Grant request of \$500,000 for the Rotary Club of Fort McMurray be approved on the condition of finalized 2020 grant reporting; and

THAT the 2023 Community Capital Grant request of \$500,000 for the Rotary Club of Fort McMurray be approved on the condition of finalized 2020 grant reporting.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>             | <b>CARRIED [8 TO 1]</b>                                      |
| <b>MOVER:</b>              | Jane Stroud, Councillor                                      |
| <b>SECONDER:</b>           | Funky Banjoko, Councillor                                    |
| <b>FOR:</b>                | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Dogar, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |
| <b>AGAINST:</b>            | Cardinal   |
| <b>PECUNIARY INTEREST:</b> | Bussieres, Grandison   |

### Returns

Councillors A. Grandison and L. Bussieres returned to the meeting at 11:03 p.m.

## 8.3. Alberta Community Partnership Grant - Midsized Cities Initiative

Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer provided an overview of the request for Council endorsement for the funding application submitted to the Province of Alberta by the Alberta Midsized City Mayors Caucus of which the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo is a member, to fund the Unlocking the Full Potential of Alberta's Midsized Cities Initiative.

### MOTION:

THAT Council endorse the Alberta Community Partnership grant application to fund the four phases of the Unlocking the Full Potential of Alberta's Midsized Cities Initiative.

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| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>   |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Stu Wigle, Councillor  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Loretta Waquan, Councillor   |
| <b>FOR:</b>      | Bowman, Ball, Banjoko, Bussieres, Cardinal, Dogar, Grandison, McGrath, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle |

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 p.m.

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Mayor

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Chief Legislative Officer