

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, October 24, 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
Shafiq Dogar, Councillor
Allan Grandison, Councillor
Jane Stroud, Councillor
Loretta Waquan, Councillor
Stu Wigle, Councillor

Absent:

Keith McGrath, Councillor

Administration:

Henry Hunter, Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services
Chris Davis, Senior Manager, Legal Services
Laurie Farquharson, Chief Financial Officer
Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development
Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Matthew Harrison, Director, Communications and Engagement
Nasir Qureshi, Senior Manager, Engineering
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works
Elliot White, Senior Manager, Environmental Services
Anita Hawkins, Legislative Officer

1. Call to Order

Mayor S. Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Mayor S. Bowman served notice of his intent to bring forward the following motion for Council's consideration at the November 14, 2023, Council Meeting:

THAT Administration be directed to bring forward a plan for a future pilot project that would allow for Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) on road/direct route to trail use in Abasand, such plan to come forward before the end of 2023.

Mayor S. Bowman noted as Councillor K. McGrath is absent, with no objection of Council, item 6.1 Utility Services, under Councillors Motions will be moved to the November 14, 2023 Council meeting.

MOTION:

THAT item 6.1. Utility Services, Councillors Motion, be deferred to the November 14, 2023 Council Meeting, and

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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

3. Consent Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the recommendations contained in items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 be approved.

3.1. Minutes of Council Meeting - October 10, 2023

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on October 10, 2023, be approved as presented.

3.2. Community Investment Program Approval Committee Appointments

THAT the following appointments to the Community Investment Program Approval Committee be made effective immediately until December 31, 2024:

- Anna Seinen, External Funding Organization Representative
- Erica Brewer, Public-At-Large
- Chantal Beaver, Public-At-Large
- Michael McQuilter, Oil Sands Industry Representative
- Matthew Miniely, Social Profit - Small Organization
- Liana Wheeldon, Social Profit - Large Organization
- Trudy Cockerill, Social Profit - Rural Organization

3.3. Council Committee Appointment - Advisory Committee on Aging

THAT the Committee Appointment outlined in Attachment 1 be approved effective immediately to December 31, 2023.

3.4. Council-Appointed Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

THAT the Minutes from Council-Appointed Committee Meetings, as outlined in Attachments 1 - 5, be accepted as information.

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

4. Unfinished Business

4.1. Public Hearing - Bylaw No. 23/018 - Land Use Bylaw Text Amendment to the City Centre General Regulations

Mayor S. Bowman declared the Public Hearing open at 6:03 p.m.

Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development, presented the proposed Bylaw No. 23/018, noting that if approved, it would allow for retail, service commercial and vehicular-oriented uses to be developed within a 100 meter radius of the Franklin Avenue and King Street intersection, which area is identified as a future development node in the Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan, thereby promoting and supporting future commercial development in the downtown area.

There were no delegates or written submissions for this Public Hearing.

Mayor S. Bowman declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:11 p.m.

Bylaw No. 23/018 - Land Use Bylaw Text Amendment to the City Centre General Regulations

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 23/018, being a text amendment to Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059, specific to the City Centre General Regulations, be read a second time.

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

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 23/018 be read a third and final time.

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

4.2. Public Hearing - Bylaw No. 23/019 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment to update the Definition of Funeral Home/Crematorium and adding it as a use to the BI- Business Industrial District

Mayor S. Bowman declared the Public Hearing opened at 6:12 p.m.

Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development, presented Bylaw No. 23/019, noting that, if approved, it would update the definition of Funeral Home/Crematorium to include cremation of animal remains, and add Funeral Home/Crematorium as a discretionary use in the Business Industrial District which would provide the Development Authority with the ability to review applications individually, thereby ensuring compatibility with surrounding uses.

There were no delegates or written submissions for this Public Hearing.

Mayor S. Bowman declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:18 p.m.

Bylaw No. 23/019 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment to update the Definition of Funeral Home/Crematorium and adding it as a use to the BI- Business Industrial District

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 23/019, being a text amendment to the Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059, specific to Funeral Homes / Crematoriums, be read a second time.

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

MOTION:

THAT Bylaw No. 23/019 be read a third and final time.

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

4.3. Review and Consideration for Skate Park Development in GregoirePoint of Order

Councillor S. Wigle called a Point of Order on Councillor S. Dogar for being off topic. Mayor S. Bowman upheld the Point of Order.

Keith Smith, Director, Public Works, Barbara Walsh, Senior Manager, Parks, Roads and Rural Operations, and Stephen Fudge, Manager, Parks, presented options regarding development of a skate park in Gregoire, noting that the Parks Master Plan does recognize the Gregoire area as underserved for skate park, while the comparative community analysis for park amenities conducted does place the Region as being overserved with park amenities.

Recess

A recess occurred from 7:00 p.m. to 7:14 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the matter be referred to Administration for further investigation on design concepts, including size requirements and budgetary considerations.

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

5. New Business

5.1. 2023 Capital Budget Amendments

Laurie Farquharson, Chief Financial Officer, Mason Ross, Manager, Engineering Programs, and Maureen Nakonechny, Program Manager, Flood Mitigation, presented the 2023 Capital Budget Amendments, which includes the cancellation of Fort McMurray WTP Filter 1-4 Efficiency Improvements project due to being cost prohibitive and a request to secure funds to proceed with the northern portion of the TaigaNova Eco-Industrial Park Flood Mitigation measures.

MOTION:

THAT the 2023 Capital Budget Amendments as summarized on Attachment 1 (2023 Capital Budget Amendment – Project Addition and Cancellation – Net Impact, dated October 24, 2023) be approved; and

THAT the revised Cash Flow of Capital Projects as summarized on Attachment 2 (2023 Capital Budget Amendment – Project Addition and Cancellation – Cash Flow Summary, dated October 24, 2023) be approved.

RESULT:	CARRIED [8 TO 2]
MOVER:	Allan Grandison, Councillor
SECONDER:	Jane Stroud, Councillor
FOR:	Bowman, Ball, Bussieres, Cardinal, Grandison, Stroud, Waquan, Wigle
AGAINST:	Banjoko, Dogar
ABSENT:	McGrath

5.2. 2023 Q3 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update

Laurie Farquharson, Chief Financial Officer, Mason Ross, Manager, Engineering Programs, and Maureen Nakonechny, Program Manager, Flood Mitigation, presented the 2023 Q3 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments Update, noting there were four capital projects amended in the third quarter, resulting in a net decrease of \$962,000 to the 2023 and prior years Capital Budget.

MOTION:

THAT the 2023 Q3 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments update, as summarized on Attachment 1 (2023 Capital Budget Fiscal Amendments, dated September 30, 2023), be accepted as information.

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

5.3. 2023 Q3 Progress Report - Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2025

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management, and Monica Lance, Program Manager, Municipal Initiatives, presented the 2023 Q3 Progress Report on the milestones and actions of Council's Strategic Plan 2022 - 2025, noting a new interactive dashboard has been developed, allowing for online monitoring of progress by Council and all staff.

MOTION:

THAT the 2023 Q3 Progress Report – Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2025, be accepted as information.

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

6. Councillors' Motions**6.1. Utility Services - Councillor K. McGrath**

This item was deferred to November 14, 2023.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer