

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, December 5, 2023, commencing at 6:00 PM.

Present:

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

Absent:

Loretta Waquan, Councillor

Administration:

Henry Hunter, Chief Administrative Officer
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer
Deanne Bergey, Director, Community Services
Jody Butz, Regional Fire Chief, Regional Emergency and Protective Services
Laurie Farquharson, Corporate Services
Amanda Haitas, Acting Director, Planning and Development Services
Kelly Hansen, Director, Organizational Support Services
Matthew Harrison, Chief of Staff
Nasir Qureshi, Manager, Program Management, Engineering
Antoine Rempp, Director, Environmental Services
Keith Smith, Director, Public Works
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 January 9, 2024, Council meeting:

“THAT Administration bring forward a policy that formalizes the Community Rinks Program, that would allow homeowners to construct temporary outdoor skating rinks on or directly adjacent to their property, utilizing municipal lands;

THAT in the interim Administration work with residents that currently have community rinks constructed on municipal lands to ensure public safety; and

THAT Administration focus enforcement activities regarding community rinks to issues of public safety, disrepair, or property damage until such time that this new policy has been considered by Council.”

Entrances

Councillors K. Ball and K. Cardinal joined the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be amended by deleting item 3.2; and

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.

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

3. Consent Agenda

MOTION:

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

3.1. Minutes of Council Meeting - November 28, 2023

THAT the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on November 28, 2023, be approved as presented.

3.3. 2024 Board and Committee Appointments

THAT the Committee Appointments as outlined in Attachment 1 be approved effective January 1, 2024; and,

THAT Councillor J. Stroud be appointed to the Community Identification Committee, effective immediately until the 2024 Council Organizational Meeting.

3.4. Council Appointed Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

THAT the Minutes from Council Appointed Committee Meetings, as outlined in Attachments 1 - 17, be accepted as information.

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

4. Presentations

4.1. Shannon Rex and Christopher Cameron, FuseSocial re: Current State of the Sector and Tomorrow Project Collective Impact Update

Shannon Rex, Executive Director, and Christopher Cameron, Tomorrow Project Lead, FuseSocial, presented the current social profit sector challenges, opportunities, learnings, and successes, which have been identified through the first phases of “The Tomorrow Project”, noting the next steps towards a stronger, more cohesive social profit sector.

4.2. Cathy Steeves and Bob MacKay, United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo re: United Way Annual Campaign Update

Cathy Steeves, Executive Director, and Bob MacKay, 2023 Community Campaign Chair, United Way Fort McMurray and Wood Buffalo, presented an update on the 2023 campaign, noting that although there is a reduction being seen in donations, the need for assistance is rising, therefore urging everyone to contribute to the campaign.

4.3. Wood Buffalo Pro-Business Advisory Committee Update

Dianna de Sousa, Chair, Wood Buffalo Pro-Business Advisory Committee, and Dennis Vroom, Municipal Initiatives, provided an update on the Committee’s work undertaken to fulfilling their Mandate, and presented recommendations resulting from consultation with the regional business and development community, noting that to further advance the recommendations brought forward, it is being proposed that the mandate of the Committee be extended.

MOTION:

1. THAT the recommendations from the Wood Buffalo Pro-Business Advisory Committee, outlined in Attachment 1 be accepted as information and referred to Administration for review.

2. THAT, following its review, Administration work with the Wood Buffalo Pro-Business Advisory Committee to bring forward a report to Council by March 31, 2024, that outlines how the recommendations will be implemented, including the required resources.
3. THAT Bylaw No. 23/024 being an amendment to Committees Bylaw No. 17/024 - Appendix M be read a first time.

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

5. Councillors' Motions

5.1. Elected Officials Compensation - Councillor K. Cardinal

At the request of Councillor K. Cardinal and with no objection of Council, this matter was deferred to the new year.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer