

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTRONIC REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL  
of the Town of Whitecourt**  
held on Monday, May 10, 2021 at the Town Office Large Boardroom

Present:	Mayor Chichak; Deputy Mayor Connell; Councillors Hilts, McAree, Pickard and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Gallant.
Absent:	Councillor Chauvet.
Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm. Mayor Chichak presiding.  Mayor Chichak proclaimed the week of May 10 – 16 as Economic Development Week.
Adoption of Agenda:	<u>21-161 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u>  That the Agenda be adopted as presented.  - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the April 26, 2021 Electronic Public Hearing:	<u>21-162 Moved by Councillor Pickard</u>  That the Minutes from the April 26, 2021 Public Hearing be adopted as presented.  - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the April 26, 2021 Regular Electronic Meeting of Council:	<u>21-163 Moved by Deputy Mayor Connell</u>  That the Minutes from the April 26, 2021 Regular Electronic Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.  - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Public Input Session:	No written submissions were received from members of the public with a request to address Council.
2021 Assessment:	The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services. The Director introduced the Assessor, Mike Krim from Tanmar Consulting, who reviewed the 2021 Assessment. The Assessor discussed a new process for residential data collection and reviewed the recommendations from Alberta Municipal Affairs 2020 Audit.  <u>21-164 Moved by Councillor McAree</u>  That Council accept the 2021 Whitecourt Assessment Report as information.  - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
2021 Seniors' Week Activities:	The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Seniors' Week is scheduled for June 7 – 13.  <u>21-165 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u>  That Council accept the 2021 Seniors' Week Activities as information.  - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Party in the Park 2021:	The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Party in the Park Committee made a recommendation to postpone the 2021 event to 2022 and introduced the Director of Community Services to provide more information.

21-166 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the recommendation of the Party in the Park Committee to postpone the 2021 Party in the Park to 2022.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Whitecourt  
Tourism Logo:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Economic Development Officer to provide further information on the Whitecourt Tourism Logo. The Officer advised that the Whitecourt Tourism Committee reviewed the logos and wanted the logo to be similar to the Town’s to provide a connection of place while still allowing space to market individual events.

21-167 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the recommendation from the Whitecourt Tourism Committee and adopt the Whitecourt Tourism Logo as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Whitecourt  
Tourism  
Enhancement  
Grant Allocation:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Economic Development Officer who reviewed the advertising and review process for the Tourism Enhancement Grant Program.

21-168 Moved by Councillor Hilts

That Council accept the Whitecourt Tourism Committee’s recommendation to allocate \$15,000 from the 2021 Tourism Enhancement Grant as follows:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding Approval</b>
Whitecourt Golf & Country Club	Patio Dining Enhancement and Marketing Plan	\$6,600
Whitecourt Mountain Bike Association	Bike Park Feature Expansion (including the Downhill Jump Trail Development)	\$8,400
	<b>Total:</b>	\$15,000

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

55 Avenue and 47  
Street Traffic  
Study:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that further to the presentation made at the Policies and Priorities Committee for the 55 Avenue and 47 Street Traffic Study, the Director of Planning and Development and Engineering Technologist were present to answer any further questions. The Director noted that the Protective Services Committee did not feel the need to post additional speed limit signs but concurred on the flashing speed signs and additional enforcement.

21-169 Moved by Councillor Hilts

That Council accept the 55 Avenue and 47 Street Traffic Study as information, and direct Administration to proceed with the following non-physical traffic measures:

1. Extend the no-parking zone along the 47 Street and 55 Avenue intersection to increase visibility of the crosswalk and ensure that the stopping sight distances and turning sight distances are maintained. See Figure 5 for proposed “no-parking” locations.
2. Add pedestrian crossing signs along 47 Street to increase awareness of the crosswalk. See Figure 5 for proposed “signage” locations.
3. Place speed radar signs on a temporary basis to make drivers aware of the speeds they are travelling.

- 4. Increase enforcement presence along 47 Street to change driver habits of speeding.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2021 Street Improvement Program:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that through the 2021 Street Improvement Program, roadways throughout the community are reviewed with recommendations for improvements. The Director of Infrastructure was introduced to answer any technical questions. Council noted the need for trail improvements, which have been incorporated into this year's program, along with trails being incorporated into the sidewalk inspection program.

21-170 Moved by Councillor Pickard

That Council award the contract for the 2021 Street Improvement Program to Knelsen Sand and Gravel for an estimated \$620,266.22 plus GST; and authorize additional work required to be undertaken at the unit rates outlined in the contract within the limits of the available budget for the 2021 Street Improvement Program.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dahl Drive Road and Drainage Upgrade Contract Award:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Dahl Drive Road and Drainage Upgrade has been included in the Town's Capital Plan and the receipt of the Municipal Stimulus Program (MSP) grant allowed the expansion of the project to include Dahl Drive and 41 Avenue. It was noted that while there will be interruptions to Dahl Drive, that the street should remain open throughout the construction, which is expected to take about eight weeks.

21-171 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council award the contract for Dahl Drive Improvements to E-Construction for an estimated \$1,411,802.95 plus GST; and authorize additional work required to be undertaken, within the limits of the available budget.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2021 Trail Lighting Projects:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the 2021 Trail Lighting Projects, to improve illumination alongside Highway 43 and Blueberry Drive and Park Circle North. It was noted that the project was not tendered due to the franchise agreement with FortisAlberta.

21-172 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council approve the quotes from FortisAlberta in the amounts of \$145,504.77 plus GST for Highway 43 Pathway and \$73,875.55 plus GST for Blueberry Drive and Park Circle North Pathways for the installation of decorative light standards.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Tax Rate Bylaw 1565:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services who reviewed the process to create the Tax Rate Bylaw.

21-173 Moved by Deputy Mayor Connell

That Bylaw 1565 be given first reading.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Mayor Chichak, Deputy Mayor Connell, Councillors Chauvet, McAree, Pickard and Schlosser

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Hilts

- MOTION CARRIED.

*As amended by Motion 21-188, May 25, 2021*



21-174 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Bylaw 1565 be given second reading.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Mayor Chichak, Deputy Mayor Connell, Councillors Chauvet, McAree, Pickard and Schlosser

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Hilts

- MOTION CARRIED.

21-175 Moved by Councillor Pickard

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1565.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21-176 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Bylaw 1565 be given third and final reading.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Mayor Chichak, Deputy Mayor Connell, Councillors Chauvet, McAree, Pickard and Schlosser

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Hilts

- MOTION CARRIED.

The Chief Administrative Officer reviewed the agenda for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference.

21-177 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Mayor and one Council member be authorized to attend the virtual Annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference from May 31 to June 4, 2021.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that an invitation had been received to attend the Chamber of Commerce World of Whitecourt Golf Tournament on June 18, 2021.

21-178 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council members be authorized to participate in the World of Whitecourt Golf Tournament on Friday, June 18, 2021 at the Whitecourt Golf and Country Club.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor McAree attended the Youth Advisory Committee.

Councillor Hilts attended the Whitecourt Tourism Committee.

Councillor Schlosser attended the Winter Park Recreation Society wrap up and noted that an Annual General Meeting for the Society will be happening soon. He also attended the Performing Arts Society Annual General Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Connell attended the grand opening of Twin Acres Greenhouse.

Mayor Chichak met with the Economic Development Association, where an update was provided on Agriculture and Forestry, with positive impacts for the community. It was also noted that Flood Mapping is a priority for many municipalities to assist

As amended by Motion 21-181, May 25, 2021

As amended by Motion 21-181, May 25, 2021

2021 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference:

Whitecourt Chamber of Commerce – World of Whitecourt Golf Tournament:

Councillor Reports:

them in development. Other meetings attended included the Party in the Park Committee, Youth Advisory Council, Whitecourt Tourism Committee, Economic Development Committee and the Business Resiliency Forum, along with the grand opening for Oko Shop and Refilling. Following a letter sent to the Premier regarding Alberta Electric System Operator, a meeting with Minister McNally is scheduled for May 14.

21-179 Moved by Councillor Hilts

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21-180 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the following be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 74857 – 74993;
- b) April 6, 2021 Letter to Minister of Justice from Town of Didsbury re Provincial Police Service Transition Study;
- c) April 22, 2021 Woodlands County Media Release Council Recap April 20 2021;
- d) April 27, 2021 Letter from Town of Magrath re Letter of Support for the RCMP;
- e) April 27, 2021 2021 Virtual Woodlands Open House Invitation from Blue Ridge Lumber;
- f) April 30, 2021 Press Release re COVID-19 Update for Whitecourt;
- g) April 30, 2021 Press Release re Whitecourt’s Economic Recovery Grant Program now Accepting Applications;
- h) May 3, 2021 Letter from Town of Tofield to Minister of Health re Availability of Vaccine;
- i) May 4, 2021 Letter in Support of June 5, 2021 Air Tour;
- j) May 5, 2021 Press Release re COVID-19 Update for Whitecourt;
- k) May 5, 2021 Thank you from Golden Triangle Consortia;
- l) May 5, 2021 Town of Edson Letter to Minister of Justice re Support for RCMP;
- m) May 5, 2021 Woodlands County Media Release COVID-19 Update;
- n) May 6, 2021 Letter from Town of Tofield to MP Battle River-Crowfoot re Availability of Vaccine;
- o) May 6, 2021 Letter to Minister of Justice from County of St. Paul re Letter of Support for RCMP;
- p) May 6, 2021 Woodlands County Media Release Council Recap May 4 2021;
- q) May 7, 2021 Press Release re COVID-19 Update for Whitecourt;
- r) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- s) Council’s Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21-181 Moved by Councillor Pickard

That the Regular Meeting of Council go into Closed Meeting for Council Committee Appointments per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 5:27pm

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21-182 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council revert to Regular Meeting. Time: 5:47pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

Council Committee Appointments (Closed Meeting):

Council Committee  
Appointments:

21-183 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council appoint Robert Magee to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board for a term to expire in October 2023.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

21-184 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:49pm

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer