

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, October 24, 2022 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Chauvet; Councillors Baker, Lanctot, Lapointe, McAree, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The meeting was called to order at 4:02pm; Mayor Pickard presiding. The Mayor took a moment to acknowledge the passing of Clark Marcolin who had been an active business and community member; and expressed condolences to the family. Mayor Pickard also noted that it had been a busy week for Whitecourt with the community being selected as the Edmonton Oilers inaugural Oil Country Community. He noted that the President of the Oilers was impressed with the hospitality extended to the Edmonton Oilers Hockey Club. Additionally, the Mayor commented on a successful Small Business Week.
Adoption of Agenda:	<u>22-330 Moved by Councillor McAree</u> That the Agenda be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the October 11, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council:	<u>22-331 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u> That the Minutes from the October 11, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the October 12, 2022 Special Meeting of Council:	<u>22-332 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet</u> That the Minutes from the October 12, 2022 Special Meeting of Council be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Public Input Session:	There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.
Visitors and Delegations:	i. Housing for Health Update; Dr. Karen Lee from the University of Alberta was present to provide an update on the Housing for Health project, which is federally funded program to investigate and make recommendations for improving the health and wellbeing of seniors. Whitecourt is one of three pilot projects in Alberta. Dr. Lee noted that the goal of the program is to allow seniors to age in place while ensuring social connections and physical and mental well being for seniors. Dr. Lee spoke of the impact of municipal planning on achieving connectivity for residents. <u>22-333 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u> That Council recognize the presence of Dr. Karen Lee and the Housing for Health Team from the University of Alberta. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. ii. Physician Retention and Recruitment; The Mayor advised that Dr. Jane Ojedoken would be delayed and moved to the next item on the agenda.

Business Arising
Visitors and
Delegations:

22-334 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council accept the presentation from Housing for Health as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ball Diamond #3
Upgrade:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Whitecourt Minor Ball Association requested additional funding for the construction of Diamond #3, and introduced the Director of Community Services to provide further information. The Director advised that the Town had partnered with Minor Ball to provide in-kind assistance but that additional funds were needed to complete the project. Minor Ball is also seeking sponsorships for the project.

22-335 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council ratify up to \$15,720 coming from the Special Projects Reserve – Recreation for the Ball Diamond #3 Upgrade over-expenditure.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Whitecourt
Chamber of
Commerce Letter
re Proposed
Culture & Events
Centre:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that a letter was received from the Whitecourt & District Chamber on October 15 requesting clarification from the Town on several aspects of the Culture & Events Centre project, and introduced the Director of Community Services. The Director noted that Administration had drafted responses to the answers posed by Chamber membership.

22-336 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council forward a letter to the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce outlining the answers to the questions noted in the letter received on October 15, 2022.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Whitecourt
Tourism 2023
Strategic Plan:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised Council that the Policies and Priorities Committee had reviewed the proposed Whitecourt Tourism 2023 Strategic Plan and introduced the Economic Development Officer who provided highlights of the proposed Plan.

22-337 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee, and adopt the Whitecourt Tourism 2023 Strategic Plan.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Economic
Development
Strategic Plan:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised Council that the Policies and Priorities Committee reviewed the proposed Economic Development 2023 Strategic Plan and introduced the Economic Development Officer to provide highlights of the proposed Plan.

22-338 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee, and adopt the Economic Development 2023 Strategic Plan.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 4:57pm.

The meeting reconvened at 5:02pm.

Visitors and Delegations:

ii. Physician Retention and Recruitment;

Dr. Jane Ojedoken and Dr. Ryan Roszko were present to brief Council on efforts made for the attraction and retention of medical health professionals to Whitecourt. Dr. Ojedoken, the Community Medical Director for North Zone, advised that there was a good history of attraction and retention to Whitecourt; however, the process can be time consuming and could benefit from a combined effort from the community. Council discussed pressure points in the local medical system and best ways to ensure a high quality local medical system.

22-339 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council recognize the presence of Dr. Jane Ojedoken and Dr. Ryan Roszko.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Business Arising Visitors and Delegations:

22-340 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the presentation regarding Physician Retention and Recruitment as information and direct Administration to draft a terms of reference for a health professional attracting and retention committee, to be reviewed by the Policies and Priorities Committee.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw Ad-Hoc Review Advisory Committee:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Planning and Development to provide information on the review of major planning documents currently underway. The Director noted that stakeholder input is important to the planning process and Administration requested the formation of a Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw Ad-Hoc Review Advisory Committee as outlined in proposed Policy 11-002 – Council Committees; Schedule “S.”

22-341 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee, and approve Policy Policy 11-002 – Council Committees; Schedule “S” to establish the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw Ad-Hoc Review Advisory Committee; and,

That Council direct Administration to proceed with advertising for public membership.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Amended and Restated Master Loan Agreement:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide further details on the Amended and Restated Master Loan Agreement. The Director noted that the agreement is a housekeeping item and would be necessary for future borrowing from the Province.

22-342 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize entering into the Amended and Restated Master Loan Agreement with the Province of Alberta to facilitate borrowing in the future.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2023 Budget Schedule:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Administration suggested a proposed schedule to accommodate preparation of the 2023 Budget and introduced the Director of Corporate Services to review the schedule.

Records Retention and Destruction Bylaw No. 1492-2:

22-343 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council adopt the proposed 2023 Budget Schedule as presented, and that Council schedule a Special Meeting of Council on December 14, 2022 at 4:00pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Records Retention and Destruction Bylaw 1492-2 was brought forward as a housekeeping item to accommodate the longer retention of grant documents.

22-344 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Bylaw 1492-2 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-345 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Bylaw 1492-2 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-346 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1492-2.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-347 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Bylaw 1492-2 be given third and final reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town of Whitecourt Policy Manual:

The Chief Administrative Officer reported that further to the tabling of a motion at the October 11, 2022 Council Meeting, that the Policies and Priorities Committee had reviewed several policies.

Mayor Pickard called for a vote on the tabled motion:

22-316 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council amend Policy 72-025 – Family & Community Support Services Grant Program to delete Item 4h which would allow community organizations to apply for funding for volunteer recognition.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Councillor Baker.

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Mayor Pickard, Deputy Mayor Chauvet; Councillors Lanctot, Lapointe, McAree, and Schlosser.

- MOTION DEFEATED.

22-348 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee and adopt Policy 31-013 – Pathway and Trails Inspection, and Policy 72-026 – Enhancement of Grant Program as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Support Letter – Whitecourt Healthcare Centre Petition:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that a letter had been received from a local resident requesting Council’s support of a petition in support of replacement of the Whitecourt Healthcare Centre.

22-349 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council provide a letter of support for the Whitecourt Healthcare Centre Petition.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lanctot attended meetings for Whitecourt Tourism, Economic Development Committee, Mountain Bike Park and the Protective Services Committee. Councillor Lanctot also attended the Special Budget Meeting of Council, and Policies and Priorities Committee.

Councillor Schlosser attended a budget meeting for the Community Services Advisory Board, Ad Hoc Sponsorship/Partnership Committee and a Municipal Planning Commission meeting. He also noted that he would be attending the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association Conference.

Councillor Lapointe attended a Strategic Planning Session for Community Futures Yellowhead East, the Town’s Team Building Day, the Fire Department Awards Night, and the celebrations for the Edmonton Oilers’ designated Oil Country Community.

Councillor McAree noted that in addition to many of the same meetings attended by the previous councillors, he also attended the Fire Department Awards Night.

Councillor Baker attended many of the same meetings as the other Council Members, and also attended the Economic Development Forum, Fire Department Awards Night and a meeting with Eagle Tower Victim Services.

Deputy Mayor Chauvet attended a meeting with the Capital Regional Assessment Services Corporation and toured the schools with the Edmonton Oilers Hockey Club and had the pleasure of speaking on Sportsnet on behalf of the Mayor and the community as part of the Oilers promotions of Whitecourt.

Mayor Pickard attended several meetings for the Berland River Caribou Task Force, Community Engagement on Primary Healthcare Network, and the Fire Department Awards Night.

22-350 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

22-351 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That the following be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 80966 – 81132;
- b) October 11, 2022 – Letter from Living Waters Catholic Schools re Sportfield at École St. Joseph School;
- c) October 12, 2022 – Email from Loop Online re Town Website is Winner of Silver in Government Category for W3 Awards;
- d) October 18, 2022 - FCM Resolution Support Thank You – letters sent to Kitimat, Ft. St. John, Drayton Valley, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, Lloydminster, Estevan, Flagstaff County,
- e) Town of Whitecourt 2022 Press Releases:

- a. October 13 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
- f) Woodlands County 2022 Media Releases and Public Notices:
 - a. October 13 - County Council Recap – October 12, 2022;
 - b. October 18 – Notice of Special Meetings on October 26 & 27, 2022;
 - c. October 19 – Old Blue Ridge Highway Culvert Replacement;
- g) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- h) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed. Time: 5:48pm.

The meeting reconvened. Time: 5:55pm.

Closed Meeting
Items:

22-352 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Downtown South Request for Development Agreement Time Extension, as per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, Council Committee Appointments as per Section 17 of the FOIP Act; and the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework as per Section 21 of the FOIP Act. Time: 5:56pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Lapointe declared a possible conflict of interest as a family member was an applicant for a Town Committee and vacated the Council Chambers. Time 6:55pm.

Councillor Lapointe returned to the Council Chambers. Time 6:59pm.

22-353 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 7:12pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Downtown South –
Request for
Development
Agreement Time
Extension:

22-354 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council approve an addendum to the Development Agreement with 489007 Alberta Ltd. for Subdivision W14-319 to grant a two-year extension on outstanding obligations under the Agreement.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Committee
Appointments:

Councillor Lapointe declared a possible conflict of interest as a family member was an applicant for a Town Committee and vacated the Council Chambers. Time 7:13pm.

22-355 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council approve the Council Committee public appointments, as attached to and forming part of these minutes and direct Administration to readvertise for any remaining vacant positions.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Lapointe returned to the Council Chambers. Time 7:14pm.

Intermunicipal
Collaboration
Framework:

22-356 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council accept the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework item as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

22-357 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 7:16pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer

2022 Council Committee Appointments

Committee/Board	Name	Term Expiry
Community Services Advisory Board	Raelene Day	October 2024
	Dave Arcand	October 2025
	Brigette Moore	October 2025
Economic Development Committee	Rand Richards	October 2025
Municipal Planning Commission	Shannon Wharton	October 2025
Town of Whitecourt Library Board	Carol Carlson	October 27, 2025
	Ashley Rose	October 27, 2025
Youth Advisory Committee	Madeline Blain	October 2023
	Lucas Boudreau	October 2023
	Beckett Holloway	October 2023
	Kahlen Johnson	October 2023
	Carly Lai	October 2023
	Kevin Lai	October 2023
	Abbeygail Lapointe	October 2023
	Sara Sadoway	October 2023
	Kadence Stienke	October 2023
	Kamren Westling	October 2023