

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt
held on Monday, March 13, 2023 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

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| Present: | Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor McAree; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lapointe, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson. |
| Absent: | Councillor Lanctot. |
| Call to Order & Mayor's Address: | The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Mayor Pickard presiding. The Mayor noted the Canadian Power Lifting Championships taking place over the weekend at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre and that the Whitecourt Wolverines were in round one of the playoffs. He also noted that an Op-Ed had appeared in the Edmonton Journal regarding the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance; and that an Op-Ed is also planned for the Globe & Mail. |
| Adoption of Agenda: | <p><u>23-066 Moved by Deputy Mayor McAree</u></p> <p>That the Agenda be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> |
| Minutes from the February 27, 2023 Regular Meeting: | <p><u>23-067 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the February 27, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> |
| Public Input Session: | <p>Mr. Fred Kreiner, of 121A Patricia Street, Jasper, Alberta; introduced himself as the local NDP candidate for the West Yellowhead constituency for the upcoming provincial election.</p> <p><u>23-068 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u></p> <p>That Council recognize the presence of Fred Kreiner, the NDP candidate for the West Yellowhead constituency.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> |
| Career Expo: | <p>The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Economic Development Officer who provided further details on the 2023 Career & Education Expo and Job Fair, scheduled for September 21, 2023. The Economic Development Officer noted that the Expo would be the first in-person event since 2019, and that there was a large number of confirmed exhibitors already, from both the post-secondary and employment fields.</p> <p><u>23-069 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That Council accept the Whitecourt Career & Education Expo as information.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p> |
| Sewer Flush Truck – Request for Proposal Review & Reward: | The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the life expectancy of the Town's existing sewer flush truck is near the end of life and that proposals were received and reviewed; and introduced the Director of Infrastructure to provide further details. |

23-070 Moved by Deputy Mayor McAree

That Council accept the proposal from Kendrick Equipment Ltd. for the supply of a 2023 Vacall AllJetVac Sewer Flush Truck for a cost of \$668,213.97 plus GST, including trade-in value of the current unit; and that the shortfall of \$35,713.97 shall be funded from the Fleet Equipment Replacement Reserve.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Whitecourt
Vitalization Plan
Update:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Planning and Development and the Planner to provide an update on the Town's Vitalization Plan. The Planner reviewed the history of the Vitalization Plan, noting its adoption in 2013, and both proposed and completed projects arising from the Plan. The Plan is a long term document and implementation of many of the phases of the plan are dependent on infrastructure improvements and availability of grant funding. Along with the Vitalization Plan, the Planner reviewed the Vitalization Grant Program, noting the success of the program.

23-071 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council accept the Whitecourt Vitalization Plan Update as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Schlosser attended meetings for the Municipal Planning Commission, Heritage Society and the inaugural meeting of the Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee.

Councillor Lapointe attended a Whitecourt Library Board meeting.

Councillor Chauvet attended the Youth Advisory Committee meeting.

Councillor Baker attended a Youth Advisory Committee meeting, FireSmart Working Group meeting and the Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee meeting on behalf of the Tamarack Health Advisory.

Mayor Pickard met with the Mountain Bike Association, attended a Budget Update presentation from Alberta Municipalities, met with the Northern Gateway Regional District Board, and with the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance. The Mayor also attended a Berland Caribou Task Force meeting.

23-072 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of
Information:

23-073 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the following be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 82816 – 82975;
- b) February 24, 2023 Letter to Alberta Culture Supporting Performing Arts Society Application to Alberta Culture Days Grant;
- c) Letter to Alberta Seniors Support Application to Co-Host 2023 Seniors Week Provincial Launch;
- d) March 1, 2023 Letter from Alberta Municipal Affairs re 2023 Budget;
- e) March 2, 2023 Letter from Alberta Municipal Affairs re Local Government Fiscal Framework;
- f) Town of Whitecourt 2023 Press Releases:

- a. March 1 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
- g) Woodlands County 2023 Media Releases and Public Notices:
 - a. March 2 – County Council March 1 Recap;
 - b. March 8 – Government of Alberta Responds to Unpaid Oil & Gas Taxes;
- h) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- i) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Extension on Land Disposition and Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework - Closed Meeting:

23-074 Moved by Deputy Mayor McAree

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Request for Extension on Land Disposition per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, and the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework per Section 21 of the FOIP Act. Time: 5:13pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-075 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 5:45pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Extension on Land Disposition:

23-076 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize Administration to enter into a 12-month extension to the Right of First Refusal agreement for a portion of the SE & SW 32-59-11-W5th.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework:

23-077 Moved by Deputy Mayor McAree

That Council accept the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

23-078 Moved by Councillor Baker

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:46pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



 Mayor



 Chief Administrative Officer