

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard, Deputy Mayor Lanctot; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lanctot, Lapointe, and Schlosser; Acting Chief Administrative Officer Grande; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Absent:	Councillor McAree.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The Meeting was called to order at 4:03pm; Mayor Pickard presiding. Mayor Pickard sent out congratulations to Andrea Hemmerling, a former local lawyer who was recently appointed to the Alberta Court of Justice. The Mayor also presented the Director of Community Services with a certificate from the Canadian Accreditation Council of Human Services to the Town of Whitecourt and Whitecourt & Area Family Support in recognition of receiving the Governance and Management Accreditation Standard.
Adoption of Agenda:	<p><u>23-103 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u></p> <p>That the Agenda be adopted as amended by deleting Item 17 – Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the March 27, 2023 Regular Meeting:	<p><u>23-104 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the March 27, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the April 4, 2023 Special Meeting:	<p><u>23-105 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the April 4, 2023 Special Meeting be adopted as amended by "Councillor Lanctot" to "Deputy Mayor Lanctot;" and "Deputy Mayor McAree" to "Councillor McAree" in the record of votes following Motion 23-097.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Public Input Session:	There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.
Visitors and Delegations:	<p>i. West Yellowhead Constituency Update;</p> <p>The Acting Chief Administrative Officer introduced MLA Martin Long to provide a constituency update for West Yellowhead. MLA Long noted that Alberta has been increasing in numbers and highlighted provincial initiatives to strengthen the economy and healthcare, and that Whitecourt was allocated \$3 million towards planning for health services in Whitecourt. Expanding educational opportunities, especially in the trade sector, was noted as a concern from Council, as well as increasing access to post-secondary opportunities.</p> <p><u>23-106 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That Council recognize the presence of MLA Martin Long.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>

Business Arising from Visitors and Delegations:

i. West Yellowhead Constituency Update;

23-107 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the constituency update of MLA Long as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Spirit of Youth:

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Spirit of Youth ceremony was scheduled for May 25, and noted that Council was invited to attend the ceremony.

23-108 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council be authorized to attend the 2023 Spirit of Youth Award program on May 25, 2023.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor for a Day Initiative:

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Mayor for a Day would spend time touring Town facilities, as well as shadowing the Mayor for a half-day on April 24.

23-109 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council appoint Hallie-Jean Robinson as the Mayor for a Day on April 24, 2023.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Community Clean Up Program:

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that several groups applied for funding under the Community Clean Up grant program and noted there were additional spots available.

23-110 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council award the Community Cleanup Program to the following groups:

1. Spruceview Lodge Activities Group
2. St. Patrick's Anglican Church
3. Whitecourt Taekwondo
4. U15 Whitecourt Warriors Boys Soccer Team
5. U15 Whitecourt Warriors Girls Outdoor Soccer Team
6. Scuba Diving Team for Rotary Pond Cleaning; and

That Council authorize Administration to select other community groups for inclusion in the Community Cleanup Program as they come forward, as permitted by the approved budget for the program.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2023 Final Budget

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer noted that following a Special Budget Meeting of Council, the 2023 Final Budget had been prepared. The Director of Corporate Services noted that the 2023 Budget shows a 1.85% decrease from the 2023 Interim Budget, for a total tax rate increase of 4.64%.

23-111 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council adopt the 2023 Budget as presented.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Mayor Pickard, Deputy Mayor Lanctot; Councillors Baker, Lapointe, and Schlosser.

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Chauvet.

- MOTION CARRIED.

Bylaw 1569 –
Tennille’s Hope
Kommunity
Kitchen Interest
Free Loan:

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer stated that a request was received for funding under the Investing in our Community program and introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide further details. The Director outlined the history of loans to the Tennille’s Hope Kommunity Kitchen, and the process required to provide funding.

23-112 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Bylaw 1569 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Indigenous Culture
Awareness
Training:

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that an invitation was received from Community Futures Yellowhead East and the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society to attend a workshop on May 8, 2023.

23-113 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot

That Council Members be authorized to participate in the Indigenous Culture Awareness Training workshop on May 8, 2023, from 9am – 1pm at the Eagle River Casino and Travel Plaza.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Street Closure
Request –
Whitecourt &
District Chamber of
Commerce:

The Acting Chief Administrative Officer stated that a request was received from the Chamber of Commerce to close streets for the annual Carnival scheduled for May 6 and 7, 2023.

23-114 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council approve the request from the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce for the closure of the parking lot on 52 Avenue; and 49 Street, from 50 Avenue to 52 Avenue, from 3:00pm Tuesday, May 2, to 3:00pm Monday, May 8, 2023; and 52 Avenue, from 49 Street to 50 Street; from 5:00pm Wednesday, May 3, to 3:00pm Monday, May 8, 2023; subject to maintaining emergency vehicle and fire hydrant access at all times and subject to the conditions of Policy 31-005 – Parades/Processions/Demonstrations/Events.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Deputy Mayor Lanctot, Councillors Baker, Lapointe and Schlosser.

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Mayor Pickard, Councillor Chauvet.

- MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Chauvet introduced a representative from the Youth Advisory Committee attending the Council meeting, and noted that he attended budget meetings and the opening of The Manor, a seniors housing development in downtown Whitecourt.

Councillor Baker attended two meetings for the Tamarack Health Advisory, as well as the budget meetings.

Councillor Lapointe attended the Alberta Municipalities President’s Summit and Spring Leaders’ Caucus, budget meetings and The Manor grand opening.

Councillor Schlosser attended The Manor grand opening and also met with the Minister of Affordability and Utilities, along with local industry representatives.

Deputy Mayor Lanctot attended the budget meetings, The Manor grand opening, and a meeting for the Airport Advisory Committee.

Mayor Pickard attended the Alberta Municipalities President’s Summit and Spring Leaders’ Caucus; and with the Minister of Northern Development.

23-115 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-116 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the following be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 83136 – 83303;
- b) April 3, 2023 – Letter from Town of Barrhead to Minister of Environment & Protected Areas re Newspaper Advertising;
- c) March 29, 2023 Letter from Public Safety Canada re RCMP Retroactive Pay;
- d) March 29, 2023 Letter from Alberta Municipal Affairs re JUPA Extension;
- e) Lac Ste. Anne Foundation – Housing Needs Community Engagement Sessions;
- f) Town of Whitecourt 2023 Press Releases:
 - a. March 28 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
- g) Woodlands County 2023 Media Releases and Public Notices:
 - a. April 3 – Notice of Special Meeting;
 - b. April 6 – County Council Recap – April 5 Meeting;
- h) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- i) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

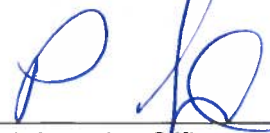
23-117 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:16pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



 Mayor



 Chief Administrative Officer

Items of Information:

Adjournment: