

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
POLICIES AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**
held on Monday, September 18, 2023

Present: Deputy Mayor Lapointe; Mayor Pickard; Members Baker, Chauvet, Lanctot, McAree, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Deputy Mayor Lapointe presiding.

Adoption of Agenda: 23-052 Moved by Member Chauvet

That the agenda be adopted as presented.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes - Regular Meeting of the Policies & Priorities Committee June 19, 2023:

23-053 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That the Minutes of the June 19, 2023 Regular Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Input Session:

There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.

Alberta Municipalities Energy – Power+ Program Aggregation Update:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Town had entered into an agreement for the provision of power in May 2022, and introduced the Director of Corporate Services. The Director introduced Andrew Riley and Michelle Aasgard of Alberta Municipalities, who attended via Zoom. Mr. Riley advised that the agreement was revised to reflect a six year term, and that the price per kilowatt hour was being amended. It was noted that the Town has had electrical energy pricing agreements since 2012 and there have been considerable cost savings over the years. An energy agreement also provides stability in pricing with a known price for kilowatt hour.

23-054 Moved by Member Schlosser

That the Policies and Priorities Committee recommend that Council enter into an amending agreement with Alberta Municipalities Services Corporation for the Power+ Agreement.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Municipal Development Plan/ Land Use Bylaw and Area Structure Plan Update:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Administration is in the final stages of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP)/Land Use Bylaw (LUB) and Area Structure Plan Update and introduced the Director of Planning and Development and Planner to review the project to date. The Planner introduced Dnyanesh Deshpande, the Consultant for the project, who provided an overview of the project. The Consultant noted key changes of the MDP and LUB, based on feedback from the community through committee meetings, public consultation, and best practices.

As Amended by Motion 23-064, October 16, 2023

23-055 Moved by Member McAree Baker

That the Policies and Priorities Committee accept the presentation on the Municipal Development Plan/ Land Use Bylaw and Area Structure Plan Update and forward comments on the documents to Administration.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 5:31pm.

The meeting reconvened at 5:35pm.

Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Community Services to review the Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan. The Director noted that initiatives in the action plan had to not only increase housing supply but reduce red tape.

23-056 Moved by Member Lapointe

That the Policies and Priorities Committee forward a recommendation to Council to approve the Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town of Whitecourt Policy Manual Review:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Policy Manual is reviewed annually and introduced the Manager of Legislative Services to review the proposed changes.

23-057 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Policies and Priorities Committee recommend that Council adopt the proposed amendments to the Town of Whitecourt Policy Manual as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Committees Evaluation:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that there are two legislative components to Council Committees: Policy 11-003 and Bylaw 1570 and both documents are reviewed annually.

23-058 Moved by Councillor Baker

That the Policies and Priorities Committee forward a recommendation to Council to adopt Council Committees Bylaw 1570-1; and Policy 11-003 – Governance and Appointments of Council Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, and External Committees, as amended.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (Closed Meeting):

23-059 Moved by Member Chauvet

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 6:11pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-060 Moved by Member Chauvet

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 6:35pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-061 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework be accepted as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

23-062 Moved by Member Schlosser

That the Regular Meeting of the Policies and Priorities Committee be adjourned. Time: 6:36pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Chair



Chief Administrative Officer