

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
POLICIES AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**
held on Monday, December 11, 2023

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

Deputy Mayor Lapointe attended the meeting electronically.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Councillor Lanctot presiding.

Adoption of Agenda: 23-079 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes - Regular Meeting of the Policies & Priorities Committee November 20, 2023:

23-080 Moved by Member Chauvet

That the Minutes of the November 20, 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.

Draft Traffic Bylaw 1573:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Administration had completed a review of the Traffic Bylaw and introduced the Director of Community Safety to provide further information. The Director noted that proposed bylaw incorporates the Off Highway Vehicle, Road Bans, and Snow Removal Bylaws as they are all related to traffic. The Director reviewed some of the key changes, including the requirement for helmets when using Off Highway Vehicles, and changing the time allotted for snow removal from sidewalks to 24 hours for all areas of town to allow for consistency.

23-081 Moved by Member Chauvet

That the Policies and Priorities Committee forward a recommendation to Council to adopt Traffic Bylaw 1573.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2024 Budget:

i) Whitecourt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority Budget Presentation:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Acting Solid Waste Manager to provide information on the Whitecourt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority 2024 Budget. The Acting Manager advised that the Authority had reviewed and adopted the 2024 Operating and Capital Budget on November 30, 2023, which has a \$1,288,956 requisition from the Town and \$366,573 from Woodlands County, representing a 5.6% increase.

23-082 Moved by Member Baker

That the Policies and Priorities Committee defer the 2024 Whitecourt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority Operational and Capital Budget to 2024 budget deliberations.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ii) Water and Sewer Rates:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide details on the proposed water and sewer rates for 2024. It was noted that Whitecourt’s rates are the fourth lowest of comparable municipalities.

23-083 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That the Policies and Priorities Committee forward changes to the Water and Sewer rates, effective for January 1, 2024, to be incorporated into Bylaw 1551-10 Fees, Rates and Charges.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

iii) Bylaw 1551-10 – Fees Rates and Charges:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that proposed Bylaw 1551-10 had been updated to reflect fees proposed as part of the 2024 budget process, including updates to the Off-Site Levies and changes to the Building Permit Fees. A fee review of Planning and Development fees will be brought forward in the new year.

23-084 Moved by Member Schlosser

That the Policies and Priorities Committee forward a recommendation to Council to adopt Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 1551-10 as presented.

Adjournment:

23-085 Moved by Member McAree

That the Regular Meeting of the Policies and Priorities Committee be adjourned. Time: 4:43pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Chair



Chief Administrative Officer