

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Chauvet; Councillors Baker, Lanctot, Lapointe, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Absent:	Councillor McAree.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Mayor Pickard presiding.
Adoption of Agenda:	<p><u>24-001 Moved by Councillor Lanctot</u></p> <p>That the Agenda be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the December 18, 2023 Public Hearing:	<p><u>24-002 Moved by Councillor Baker</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the December 18, 2023 Public Hearing be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting:	<p><u>24-003 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p>
Public Input Session:	There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.
Traffic Bylaw 1573:	<p>The Chief Administrative Officer noted that first and second reading of Traffic Bylaw 1573 was provided at the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council, and introduced the Director of Community Safety to provide further information.</p> <p>Council discussed methods of educating the public on the bylaw changes.</p> <p><u>24-004 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That Bylaw 1573 be read a third and final reading.</p> <p>Votes in Favour of the Motion: Mayor Pickard, Deputy Mayor Lapointe, Councillors Chauvet, Lanctot, McAree and Schlosser.</p> <p>Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Baker.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- MOTION CARRIED.</p>
2022 Municipal Indicators:	The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Alberta Municipal Affairs annually issues municipal indicators to show financial and governance stability, and introduced the Director of Corporate Services to answer any questions. The Director noted that the Investment in Infrastructure Indicator does not meet the Province's threshold, which had been anticipated by Administration.

24-005 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council accept the 2022 Municipal Indicators as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2024 Budget Information Open House:

The Chief Administrative Officer suggested that the annual Budget Information Open House be scheduled for February 27 and introduced the Legislative Manager to provide further information.

24-006 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council schedule a 2024 Budget Information Open House for Tuesday, February 27 at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre from 4:00 to 7:00pm, and that all members of Council be authorized to attend.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2024 Federation of Canadian Municipalities:

The Chief Administrative Officer indicated that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities will be holding its annual conference in Calgary from June 6 – 9.

24-007 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council members be authorized to attend the annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference from June 6 – 9, 2024 in Calgary.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lapointe attended meetings for Community Futures Yellowhead East and the Joint Liaison Committee.

Mayor Pickard attended a Joint Liaison Committee meeting, a suitability interview for the Staff Sergeant position at the Whitecourt Detachment, and participated in a photo opportunity with the Whitecourt Food Bank. Other events attended included the Hilltop High School Christmas Breakfast, the Employee Family Assistance Program Breakfast, and an Industry Breakfast meeting.

24-008 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

24-009 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That the following items be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 86367 – 86721;
- b) November 30, 2023 – Letter from Town of Fox Creek re Thank You for Support During 2023 Fires;
- c) December 1, 2023 – Letter from Town of Fox Creek re Support of New Healthcare Facility in Whitecourt;
- d) December 20, 2023 – Support Letter for NorQuest College Application to IRCC;
- e) December 27, 2023 – Letter from Deputy Commissioner Alberta RCMP re Thank You and Retirement;
- f) December 28, 2023 – Letter from Matrix Group re 2023 Engagement Letter;
- g) Town of Whitecourt 2023 Press Releases:
 - i. December 20 – Whitecourt Approves 2024 Interim Budget;
 - ii. December 20 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;

- h) Woodlands County 2023 Media Releases:
 - i. December 7 – Disaster Recovery Program Approved – Application Open Affected Residents;
 - ii. County Council December 20 Recap;
- i) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- j) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 4:24pm.

The meeting reconvened at 4:28pm.

Intermunicipal
Collaboration
Framework (Closed
Meeting):

24-010 Moved by Councillor Baker

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: 4:29pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Schlosser arrived at the meeting. Time 5:25pm.

24-011 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 5:38pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-012 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council accept Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

24-013 Moved by Councillor Baker

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:39pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer