

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt
held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Lanctot; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lapointe, McAree, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Mayor Pickard presiding. Mayor Pickard welcomed Drew Hadfield, the new Director of Infrastructure, to the Town staff.
Adoption of Agenda:	<p><u>24-171 Moved by Councillor McAree</u></p> <p>That the Agenda be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the May 27, 2024 Regular Meeting:	<p><u>24-172 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the May 27, 2024 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.
Canada Day Events:	<p>The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Community Services to review activities planned for Canada Day 2024.</p> <p><u>24-173 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u></p> <p>That Council Members be authorized to participate in the July 1, 2024 Canada Day Celebration.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
55 Avenue Concrete Rehabilitation Phased Plan:	<p>The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Infrastructure Department identified a portion of 55 Avenue that requires concrete rehabilitation and introduced the Infrastructure Services Manager. The Manager advised that concrete work is generally done in conjunction with paving; however, the identified sidewalks will require improvements prior to scheduled paving for the area. The rehabilitation will be done in four phases.</p> <p><u>24-174 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot</u></p> <p>That Council authorize Year 1 of the 55 Avenue Sidewalk Rehabilitation Phased Plan to proceed with funding of \$25,092 from the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) grant and \$94,163 from the Street Improvement Reserve.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Asset Management Implementation Plan – Consultant Selection:	The Chief Administrative Officer stated that as part of implementing the Asset Management Program, a consultant was being sought to complete the next stages of the Plan and introduced the Director of Planning and Development. The Director confirmed that the proposed consultant also prepared the Asset Management Implementation Plan.

24-175 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council award the Asset Management Implementation Plan project consulting services to Pillar Systems in the amount of \$129,940, plus GST, with funding from the GST Partnership Reserve.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Chauvet attended the Seniors' Breakfast and the Party In The Park Sponsorship Dinner.

Councillor Baker also attended the Seniors' Breakfast and the Party In The Park Sponsorship Dinner, as well as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference.

Councillor McAree attended the Seniors' Breakfast, the Party In The Park Sponsorship Dinner and the Seniors' Chili Cook Off.

Councillor Lapointe attended the Party In The Park Sponsorship Dinner, Youth Advisory Committee, and the FCM Annual Conference.

Councillor Schlosser attended the Youth Advisory Committee, the Party In The Park Sponsorship Dinner, Pride Celebration, and the École St. Joseph School Graduation Ceremonies.

Deputy Mayor Lanctot attended the Seniors' Breakfast and FCM Annual Conference.

Mayor Pickard attended the Industry Breakfast, several meetings for the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance, the Run 4 Fun, Seniors' Breakfast, Party In The Park Sponsorship Dinner, Chamber Mixer, and Pride Celebration. The Mayor also had meetings with the Alberta China Office for the Government of Alberta's Intergovernmental Affairs, Whitecourt Wolverines owners, the Minister of Advanced Education, and the Minister of Transportation regarding Automated Traffic Enforcement. He also noted that he has been invited to serve on a panel with the Mayors of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie County, Ottawa, and Medicine Hat with Electricity Canada.

24-176 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of
Information:24-177 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the following items be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 88307 – 88528;
- b) May 21, 2024 Letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs re Local Government Fiscal Framework;
- c) May 24, 2024 Letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs re Bill 20;
- d) Town of Whitecourt 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. May 28 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
 - ii. May 29 – Whitecourt to Host Emergency Management Training Exercise May 31;
 - iii. May 30 – New Detachment Commander Appointed at Whitecourt RCMP Detachment;
 - iv. May 30 – Street Closures and Re-Routing of Whitecourt Transit Scheduled June 1;

- v. May 31 – Crews Responding to Wildfire East of Hilltop East Industrial Park;
- vi. May 31 – Wildfire East of Hilltop East Industrial Park Under Control;
- vii. June 6 – Whitecourt Crews to Start Green Space Maintenance Projects Next Week;
- e) Woodlands County 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. June 6 – Woodlands County Council Recap (June 5);
- f) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- g) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed. Time: 4:43pm

The meeting reconvened. Time: 4:48pm

24-178 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss:

- Land Sale – Portion of SE & SW ¼ 32-59-11-W5th pursuant to Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act;
- Joint Use & Planning Agreements Update per Section 21 of the FOIP Act;
- Community Rail Advocacy Alliance per Sections 16 and 21 of the FOIP Act;
- Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework per Section 21 of the FOIP Act; and
- CAO Contract per Section 19 of the FOIP Act.

Time: 4:49pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Deputy Mayor Lanctot declared a possible conflict of interest with regard to the Joint Use & Planning Agreements Update as he is employed by Living Waters Catholic Separate School Division and vacated the Council Chambers. Time 4:55pm.

Councillor Schlosser declared a possible conflict of interest with regard to the Joint Use & Planning Agreements Update as he is employed by Northern Gateway Public Schools and vacated the Council Chambers. Time 4:55pm.

Deputy Mayor Lanctot and Councillor Schlosser returned to the Council Chambers. Time 5:00pm.

24-179 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 5:57pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Land Sale – Portion of SE & SW ¼ 32-59-11-W5th:

24-180 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into an agreement to sell the Town owned lands within a portion of the SE & SW ¼ 32-59-11-W5th.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Joint Use & Planning Agreements Update:

Deputy Mayor Lanctot and Councillor Schlosser abstained from voting.

24-181 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee and approve:

- the Joint Use Planning Agreement between the Town of Whitecourt, Woodlands County, Living Waters Catholic Separate School Division, Northern Gateway Public Schools, and The Francophone Regional Authority of the Greater North Central Francophone Education Region,
- the updated Joint Use Facility Agreement with Living Waters Catholic Separate School Division to include Woodlands County as a named party, and
- the updated Joint Use Facility Agreement with Northern Gateway Public Schools to include Woodlands County as a named party; and

That Council schedule a formal signing of these agreements and first Joint Planning Agreement meeting between all parties.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Community Rail
Advocacy Alliance:

24-182 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal
Collaboration
Framework:

24-183 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chief
Administrative
Officer Contract:

24-184 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council approve the Chief Administrative Officer's 2024 Amending Employment Agreement effective January 1, 2024.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

24-185 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:59pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

T. Pickard

Mayor

P. Smyl

Chief Administrative Officer