

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, October 15, 2024 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Baker; Councillors Chauvet, 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>24-314 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That the Agenda be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the September 23, 2024 Regular Meeting:	<p><u>24-315 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the September 23, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the October 7, 2024 Special Meeting:	<p><u>24-316 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the October 7, 2024 Special Meeting be adopted as presented.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Public Input Session:	<p>Chris Becker, 23 Blueberry Drive, stated that he was concerned about speeds on Blueberry Drive, from the all-way stop at Park Drive, to the intersection at Pine Road. Mr. Becker requested that Council reduce the speed to 30 kilometres per hour or 40 kilometres per hour.</p> <p>Shauna Bruneau, 25 Blueberry Drive, concurred with Mr. Becker and noted that since she has lived there, that there had been some traffic incidents and that she was told that the road was not designed to accommodate the current traffic volume.</p> <p><u>24-317 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That Council refer Public Input Session: Blueberry Drive Speeds and Volume to Administration for further information to be brought back to a future meeting.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Protective Services Committee 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation:	<p>The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Protective Services Committee had prepared a Strategic Plan, and introduced the Director of Community Safety. The Director introduced Committee Chair Raelene Day and Staff Sergeant Matthew Clarke. The Chair reviewed highlights of the Committee's achievements and ongoing projects.</p> <p><u>24-318 Moved by Councillor Lanctot</u></p> <p>That Council accept the Protective Services Committee 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation as information.</p> <p style="text-align:right">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>

Responsible Pet
Ownership Bylaw
1580:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Administration prepared a Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw that amalgamated five previous bylaws, and introduced the Director of Community Safety to provide further details on the proposed Bylaw. The Director indicated that Administration would undertake a public education campaign once the Bylaw was adopted.

24-319 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Bylaw 1580 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-320 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Bylaw 1580 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-321 Moved by Deputy Mayor Baker

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1580.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-322 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Bylaw 1580 be given third and final reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bylaw 1551-12 –
Fees Rates and
Charges:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that pursuant to changes required from the adoption of Bylaw 1580 – Responsible Pet Ownership, amendments were required to the Fees, Rates, and Charges Bylaw 1551.

24-323 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Bylaw 1551-12 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-324 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Bylaw 1551-12 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-325 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1551-12.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-326 Moved by Deputy Mayor Baker

That Bylaw 1551-12 be given third and final reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Transportation
Master Plan
Consultant
Selection:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that per the 2024 Budget, Council directed Administration to complete a Transportation Master Plan and introduced the Director of Planning and Development. The Director noted that seven submissions were received following the Request for Proposals and that the costs came in slightly higher than budgeted. It is anticipated that the plan may take up to a year to complete.

24-327 Moved by Deputy Mayor Baker

That Council award the Transportation Master Plan to ISL Engineering and Land Services for \$103,396 plus GST, with funding to come from the Infrastructure Reserve.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2025 Budget Schedule:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services to present an updated schedule for 2025 Budget preparations, including a proposed Special Meeting date.

24-328 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council adopt the proposed 2025 Budget Schedule as presented; and that Council schedule a Special Meeting of Council to discuss the 2025 Budget on December 11, 2024 at 4:00pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 44 – Request:

The Chief Administrative Officer stated that the Legion had requested the use of the Allan & Jean Millar Centre for the Remembrance Day Services on November 11.

24-329 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council provide the Allan & Jean Millar Centre fieldhouse at no charge to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 44 as follows:

- November 10, 2024 Full Fieldhouse from 7:00 – 9:00pm
- November 11, 2024 Full Fieldhouse from 8:00am – 1:00pm
- November 11, 2024 Crown & Anchor Board Room from 9:00am – 1:00pm

to host the Remembrance Day Service.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Committees Appreciation Reception:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the annual Council Committees Reception was proposed for November 14 to recognize Town Council Committee volunteers.

24-330 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council be authorized to attend the Council Committee Appreciation Reception on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at the Whitecourt Golf & Country Club.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lanctot reported that he attended the Alberta Municipalities Annual Convention; Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement Signing; the Bruce Parrent Fire Training Grounds Dedication; and, a meeting for the Mountain Bike Society.

Councillor Schlosser also attended the Alberta Municipalities Annual Convention; Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement Signing; the Bruce Parrent Fire Training Grounds Dedication; the Hilltop High School Awards Night; and, meeting for the Community Services Advisory Board.

Councillor Lapointe reported that she attended the Alberta Municipalities Annual Convention; Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement Signing; the Bruce Parrent Fire Training Grounds Dedication; a meeting with the Yellowhead Regional Library; and, the Special Meeting of Council.

Councillor Chauvet attended the Alberta Municipalities Annual Convention,; Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement Signing; the Bruce Parrent Fire Training Grounds Dedication; the Yubetsu Banquet; and, meetings for the Lac St. Anne Foundation and Economic Development Committee.

Deputy Mayor Baker reported that she attended meetings for Communities in Bloom and the Canfor Public Advisory Committee; along with the Alberta Municipalities Annual Convention; Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement Signing; the Bruce Parrent Fire Training Grounds Dedication; and the Yubetsu Banquet. She also attended the Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting, and the Voyageur Media Event in Ft. Assiniboine.

Mayor Pickard reported that he attended the Yubetsu welcome and Banquet, and a National Coaches' Appreciation presentation. He also attended the Alberta Municipalities Annual Convention; Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement Signing; the Bruce Parrent Fire Training Grounds Dedication; a Canadian Rail Alliance Authority meeting; and, an Economic Development Committee meeting. Mayor Pickard also attended conferences for the Rural Health Professionals Action Plan, and Alberta Forest Products Association.

24-331 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-332 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the following items be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 89774 – 90009;
- b) September 17, 2024 – Letter from Yubetsu re Visiting Delegation;
- c) October 2, 2024 – Joint Letter to Minister of Municipal Affairs re Finalized Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement;
- d) October 7, 2024 – Letter to Yubetsu re Visiting Delegation;
- e) Joint Town of Whitecourt/Woodlands County Press Release – October 2 – Woodlands County and Whitecourt Finalize Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement;
- f) Town of Whitecourt 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. September 19 – Water Pressure Issue Resolved;
 - ii. September 24 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
 - iii. September 27 – Transit Re-Routed September – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation;
- g) Woodlands County 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. September 25 – Woodlands County Council Recap – September 25;
- h) October 9 – Woodlands County Council Recap – October 9;
- i) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- j) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 5:08pm.

The meeting reconvened at 5:13pm.

24-333 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Whitecourt Critical infrastructure Flood Mitigation Project Update, per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time 5:14pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

Whitecourt Critical infrastructure Flood Mitigation Project Update:

24-334 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time 5:47pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-335 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the update on Whitecourt Critical Infrastructure Flood Mitigation Project as information and approve \$419,051 in funding from the Sustainability Reserve.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

24-336 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:48pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

T. Pickard

Mayor

P. Smyl

Chief Administrative Officer