

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, October 28, 2024 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Baker; Councillors Lanctot, Lapointe, McAree, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Absent:	Councillor Chauvet.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The Meeting was called to order at 4:12pm; Mayor Pickard presiding.
Adoption of Agenda:	<u>24-339 Moved by Councillor Lanctot</u> That the Agenda be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the October 15, 2024 Regular Meeting:	<u>24-340 Moved by Councillor McAree</u> That the Minutes from the October 15, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Public Input Session:	There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.
Communities in Bloom 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation:	The Chief Administrative Officer advised that representatives from the Communities in Bloom Committee were present to provide information on the Committee's initiatives and priorities, and introduced the Manager of Recreation, Arts & Culture. The Manager introduced Member Ann Blackwell and reviewed highlights of the Committee's achievements and ongoing projects. <u>24-341 Moved by Deputy Mayor Baker</u> That Council accept the Communities in Bloom Committee 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation as information. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Community Services Advisory Board 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation:	The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Community Services Advisory Board prepared a presentation outlining the Committee's initiatives and priorities, and introduced the Director of Community Services and Board Chair Brigitte Moore. The Board Chair reviewed highlights of the Committee's achievements and ongoing projects. <u>24-342 Moved by Councillor Lanctot</u> That Council accept the Community Services Advisory Board 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation as information. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2025 Economic Development & Tourism Strategic Plan:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that following a review by the Economic Development Committee and the Policies and Priorities Committee, the 2025 Economic Development & Tourism Strategic Plan was being presented for adoption.

24-343 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee, and adopt the 2025 Economic Development & Tourism Strategic Plan as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2024 Project List:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Administration had updated the 2024 Project List, and introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide highlights of the report.

24-344 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the 2024 Project List as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Quarterly Financial Report:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services to present the Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending September 30, 2024.

24-345 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council accept the Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending September 30, 2024 as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Town of Whitecourt Policy Manual Review:

The Chief Administrative Officer stated that the Policy Manual was reviewed on an annual basis, and the Policies and Priorities Committee completed its review, and recommended Council adopt the Manual as presented.

24-346 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the recommendation from the Policies and Priorities Committee and adopt the Town of Whitecourt Policy Manual as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Parking Lot Closure – Christmas is for Kids:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Chamber of Commerce was hosting a Christmas is for Kids event on November 30, 2024 and requested the use of the 52 Avenue parking lot.

24-347 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize the use of the Town fire pit and firewood, and the closure of the 52 Avenue Parking Lot on November 30, 2024, from 10:00am to 3:00pm to accommodate the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce Christmas is for Kids event.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lanctot attended a Whitecourt Airport Advisory Committee meeting, and a tour of the Mountain Bike facilities.

Councillor Schlosser attended the Firefighters' Awards Night, and the Alberta Recreation & Parks Association Conference.

Councillor Lapointe attended meetings for the Whitecourt Library Board, and Community Futures Yellowhead East, as well as the Small Business Week Appreciation Evening, and the Firefighters' Awards Night.

Councillor McAree reported that he attended the Firefighters' Awards Night, and a tour of the Mountain Bike facilities.

Deputy Mayor Baker reported that she attended meetings for the Whitecourt Regional Forest Advisory Committee and Performing Arts Society, along with the Small Business Week Appreciation Evening, and the Firefighters' Awards Night.

Mayor Pickard reported that he attended a Whitecourt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority meeting and several meetings for the Canadian Rail Alliance Authority. He also met with MP Vierson, the Canada West Foundation, and an Industry Breakfast. Mayor Pickard also attended the Firefighters' Awards Night.

24-348 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-349 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That the following items be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 90010 – 90191;
- b) Strategic Plan Update;
- c) Town of Whitecourt 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. October 16 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
 - ii. October 16 – Whitecourt Changes Dog Licence Requirements;
- d) Woodlands County 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. October 24 – Woodlands County Council Recap – October 23;
- e) Mayor's Calendar; and
- f) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 5:30pm.

The meeting reconvened at 5:38pm.

24-350 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Downtown South – Request for Development Agreement Time Extension, per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, and to discuss Council Committee Appointments per Section 17 of the FOIP Act. Time 5:39pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-351 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time 6:25pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

Downtown South –
Request for
Development
Agreement Time
Extension:

24-352 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council approve an addendum to the Development Agreement with 489007 Alberta Ltd. for Subdivision W14-319 to grant a one-year extension on outstanding obligations under this Agreement.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Committee
Appointments:

24-353 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council approve the Council Committee public appointments, and ratify the appointments to the Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee, as attached to and forming a part of these minutes; and,

That Councillor Baker be authorized to attend the final meeting of the Eagle Tower Victim Services Society, and to be removed from the Society.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

24-354 Moved by Councillor Baker

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 6:29pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Redacted per S. 17 of FOIPP

Mayor

Redacted per S. 17 of FOIPP

Chief Administrative Officer

2024 Council Committee Appointments

Committee/Board	Name	Term Expiry
Community Services Advisory Board	Kayla DePietro	October 2027
	Jennifer Keay	October 2027
Economic Development Committee	Williard Strebchuk	October 2027
	Brent McKennitt - Chamber of Commerce Representative	October 2025
Municipal Planning Commission	Darryl Koopmans (Alternate)	October 2027
Protective Services Committee	Bret Elchyson	October 2027
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	Raelene Day	October 2026
	Jennifer Keay	October 2027
	Elva Roche	October 2027
Whitecourt Library Board	Megan O'Keefe	October 25, 2027
	Gail Rowe	October 25, 2027
	Dave Kusch – Woodlands County Representative	October 27, 2025
Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee	Alicia Randall – Alberta Health Representative	October 2027
	Ryan Roszko – Physician/Health Care Provider	October 2026
	Kristen Belke - Nursing Professional	October 2026
	Michelle Halladay – Public Member	October 2025
	Kelly Robinson – Public Member	October 2026