

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, January 13, 2025 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor McAree; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lanctot, Lapointe, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The Meeting was called to order at 4:01pm; Mayor Pickard presiding. Mayor Pickard stated that he did not intend to run for an additional term as Mayor and extended his thanks to Council and Administration for their service over the years.
Adoption of Agenda:	<p><u>25-001 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u></p> <p>That the Agenda be adopted by moving Item 7 – Youth Advisory Committee 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation prior to Visitors and Delegations and Business Arising from Visitors and Delegations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Minutes from the November 25, 2024 Regular Meeting:	<p><u>25-002 Moved by Councillor Baker</u></p> <p>That the Minutes from the December 16, 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.
Youth Advisory Committee 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation:	<p>The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Youth Advisory Committee was present to provide information on Committee initiatives and priorities, and introduced Logan Glidden of the Committee. Mr. Glidden introduced the other members of the committee in attendance, and all members provided updates on the Committee.</p> <p><u>25-003 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That Council accept the Youth Advisory Committee 2025 Strategic Planning Presentation as information.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Visitors and Delegations – Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce Annual Review:	<p>The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce Past President Louise Meier and Chamber Manager Alyssa Calliou. The Chamber Past President reviewed highlights of 2024 and noted that the Chamber will be reviewing continuation of the Trade Fair following this year's event. The Past President thanked Council for its support throughout the year.</p> <p><u>25-004 Moved by Councillor Lanctot</u></p> <p>That Council recognize the presence of Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce Past President Louise Meier and Chamber Manager Alyssa Calliou.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>
Business Arising from Visitors and Delegations – Chamber of Commerce Annual Review:	<p><u>25-005 Moved by Councillor Lapointe</u></p> <p>That Council accept the Annual Review from the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce as information.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.</p>

Woodlands County Airport Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program Funding:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that a request had been received from Woodlands County to provide a letter of support for its grant under the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program for runway rehabilitation at the Woodlands County Airport.

25-006 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council provide a letter of support to Woodlands County for its grant application under the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program for pavement and electrical rehabilitation at the Whitecourt Airport (CYZU).

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2025 Budget Information Open House:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services who noted that the annual budget information open house was tentatively scheduled for February 26 at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre.

25-007 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council schedule a 2025 Budget Information Open House for Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at the Allan & Jean Millar Centre from 4:00 – 7:00pm, and that all members of Council be authorized to attend.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2025 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference annual conference was scheduled for May 29 – June 1 in Ottawa.

25-008 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council members be authorized to attend the Annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference from 29 – June 1, 2025 in Ottawa.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Alberta Municipalities 2025 President’s Summit and Spring Municipal Leaders’ Caucus:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Alberta Municipalities was hosting the President’s Summit and Spring Municipal Leaders’ Caucus in Edmonton from March 5 – 7.

25-009 Moved by Deputy Mayor McAree

That Council authorize the Mayor and a Councillor to attend the 2025 President’s Summit and Spring Municipal Leaders’ Caucus from March 5 – 7, 2025 in Edmonton.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lanctot attended the joint Woodlands/Whitecourt Dinner, Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony and a Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

Councillor Schlosser also attended the joint Woodlands/Whitecourt Dinner, Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony and a Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

Councillor Lapointe attended the joint Woodlands/Whitecourt Dinner, Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony and a Library Board meeting.

Councillor Chauvet attended the joint Woodlands/Whitecourt Dinner and the Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony.

Councillor Baker also attended the joint Woodlands/Whitecourt Dinner, Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony and a meeting for the Performing Arts Society.

Deputy Mayor McAree attended the Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony.

Mayor Pickard attended the joint Woodlands/Whitecourt Dinner, Fire Department Change of Command Ceremony, a meeting with the Police Governance Association, an Industry Breakfast meeting, and a dinner hosted by Alberta Forest Products Association.

25-010 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

25-011 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the following items be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 90925 – 91337;
- b) November 28 – Letter from RCMP re Alberta Municipalities Meeting;
- c) December 17 – Letter to Lions Club re Lights at Highway 43 & 33 Street;
- d) December 17 – Letter to Whitecourt Mountain Bike Association re Parking Lot;
- e) December 17 – Letter to Whitecourt Rotary Club re Peace Pole at Festival Park;
- f) December 18 – Letter to Minister of Infrastructure re Lights at Highway 43 & 33 Street;
- g) December 18 – Letter to Minister of Transportation re Automated Traffic Enforcement;
- h) Town of Whitecourt 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. December 17 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
 - ii. December 17 – Whitecourt Approves 2025 Interim Budget;
 - iii. December 31 – Fire at Whitecourt Regional Landfill;
- i) Woodlands County 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. December 20 – Woodlands County Council Recap – December 18;
 - ii. December 20 – Woodlands County Appoints CAO;
- j) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- k) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed. Time 4:49pm.

The meeting reconvened. Time 4:56pm.

25-012 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Street Name Request per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time 4:57pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Baker declared a potential conflict of interest as she made the request for a street name change and left the meeting. Time 4:57pm.

Items of Information:

25-013 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council revert to Regular Meeting. Time 5:10pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Street Name
Request:

25-014 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council accept Street Name Request as information and direct Administration to bring forward Policy 13-001 – Street Naming to establish criteria for honorary street names during the annual policy review.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

25-015 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:12pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Redacted under Section 15 of
the FOIP Act.