MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL of the Town of Whitecourt

held on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:

Mayor Chichak; Deputy Mayor Schlosser; Councillors Chauvet, Connell, McAree, and Pickard; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.

Absent:

Councillor Hilts.

Call to Order & Mayor's Address:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Mayor Chichak presiding.

Adoption of Agenda:

21-291 Moved by Councillor Pickard

That the Agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the July 19, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council: 21-292 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Minutes from the July 19, 2021 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Input Session:

Darlene Chartrand, of 8 Park Close, addressed Council, asking if there would be a non-binding question put to the electorate regarding the Municipal Centre. Ms. Chartrand was advised that the next elected Council will be reviewing the Centre in mid to late fall and determine next steps at that time.

21-293 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council accept the Public Input Session as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Street Closure – Car & Motorcycle Show and Shine: The Chief Administrative Officer advised that a request had been received from the organizers of the Car and Motorcycle Show and Shine for a street closure to accommodate an event on August 28, 2021.

21-294 Moved by Deputy Mayor Schlosser

That Council approve the request for the closure of 35 Street from 35 Avenue to 34 Avenue, on August 28, 2021, from 9:00am to 7:00pm, for the car and motorcycle show and shine, subject to:

- Meeting all requirements of Policy 31-005 Parades/Processions/ Demonstrations/Events
- Obtaining a temporary traffic control permit.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2022 Budget Schedule: The Chief Administrative Officer advised that budget preparation was starting for 2022 and introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide further details and to answer questions. The Director reviewed the proposed budget schedule and suggested Special Meetings of Council be scheduled so that Council could discuss and develop the 2022 Budget.

21-295 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council accept the proposed 2022 Budget Schedule as information; and

That Council schedule Special Meetings of Council on September 28 and October 14, 2021 at 5:00pm to discuss the 2022 Budget.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2021 Inventures Outbound Event: The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Economic Development Committee had brought forward a proposal for a new event through Alberta Innovates that allows for different communities around the province to be a co-host in a virtual format. As a co-host, the community is able to highlight and promote the community.

21-296 Moved by Deputy Mayor Schlosser

That Council Members be authorized to attend the Inventures Outbound Event on September 22 through 24, 2021 at the Whitecourt Golf & Country Club.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AUMA 2021 Convention: The Chief Administrative Officer advised that registration is now available for the AUMA Convention in November, along with a Council education session, Munis 101, hosted by Alberta Municipal Affairs. He noted that new Councillors are encouraged to attend both events scheduled in November 2021.

21-297 Moved by Councillor Pickard

That Council be authorized to attend the 2021 AUMA Convention and education sessions from November 15 – 19, 2021 in Edmonton; and that Council be authorized to attend the Munis 101 in Whitecourt on November 4 & 5, 2021.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Chauvet attended the Anthony Gordon Memorial Tournament.

Councillor McAree attended the Anthony Gordon Memorial Tournament, Firefighters' Golf Tournament and the Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

Councillor Connell attended the luncheon for the Communities in Bloom judges as part of Whitecourt's participation in the provincial competition.

Councillor Schlosser toured the Communities in Bloom judges around the community as part of the provincial competition; and, attended an Ad Hoc Building Steering Committee, Winter Recreation Park Committee and the AUMA Summer Leaders' Caucus meetings.

Councillor Pickard attended the Anthony Gordon Memorial Tournament, two Municipal Planning Commission meetings, a Landfill Authority meeting, and a meeting to update Joint Liaison Committee members on the Arbitration process.

Mayor Chichak attended the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament and MLA Long Golf Tournament; and met with Minister of Municipal Affairs when he stopped in Whitecourt. She advised that she was appointed to the Berland River Task Force, which will continue when her term as Mayor is over, and that she will be sure to keep Council updated on their findings.

21-298 Moved by Deputy Mayor Schlosser

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

21-299 Moved by Councillor

That the following be accepted as information:

- a. Town Accounts Cheques 75672 76022;
- b. July 5, 2021 Letter from Alberta Municipal Affairs re Gas Tax Funding;
- c. July 16, 2021 Press Release re Whitecourt Fire Ban Lifted;
- d. July 20, 2021 Memo re Pickleball Courts;
- e. July 21, 2021 Press Release re Whitecourt Fire Restriction Lifted;
- f. July 21, 2021 Press Release re July 19 Council Update;
- g. July 21, 2021 Woodlands County Media Release re July 20 Council Recap;
- h. July 26, 2021 Press Release re Bear Sighting in Centennial Park;
- i. July 26, 2021 Letter from Claresholm re RCMP Retroactive Pay;
- j. July 26, 2021 Woodlands County Media Release re SCBA Equipment;
- k. July 27, 2021 Press Release re Be Bear Aware;
- l. August 4, 2021 Tamarack Health Advisory Board Membership;
- m. August 5, 2021 Press Release re COVID-19 Update;
- n. August 5, 2021 Letter from Alberta Municipal Affairs re Election Grant;
- o. August 9, 2021 EVenture Northwest Alberta Letter to Ministers;
- p. August 17, 2021 Press Release re COVID-19 Update for Whitecourt;
- q. Mayor's Calendar; and
- r. Council's Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wolverines Agreements (Closed Meeting):

21-300 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Regular Meeting of Council go into Closed Meeting for the Wolverines Agreement per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 7:28pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Agreements (Closed Meeting):

21-301 Moved by Councillor Connell

That the Regular Meeting of Council go into Closed Meeting for the Intermunicipal Agreements per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 7:29pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 7:29pm.

The meeting reconvened at 7:34pm.

21-302 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 8:17pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wolverines Agreement:

21-303 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council enter into an Assignment of Renovation Contribution Agreement and Consent to Assignment with the Stark Sports Society and the Whitecourt Wolverines Society; and

That Council enter into a General Security Agreement with the Whitecourt Wolverines Society; and

That Council enter into the Assignment of Lease and Consent to Assignment with the Stark Sport Society and the Whitecourt Wolverines Society.

Intermunicipal Agreements:

21-304 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council schedule a Special Meeting on August 30, 2021 at 3:30pm to discuss Intermunicipal Agreements.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

21-305 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 8:19pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer