

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, April 11, 2022 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present: Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Baker; Councillors Chauvet, Lanctot, 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 noted that the Party in the Park Committee announced the headliners for the 2022 Party in the Park and encouraged the community to take advantage of the free event on June 17 and 18 at Rotary Park.

Adoption of Agenda: 22-100 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Agenda be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the March 14, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council: 22-101 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Minutes from the March 28, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as amended by adding the word "Woodlands" prior to the word "County" on Motion 22-086. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Input Session: There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.

Community Services Department 2021 Year End Report: The Chief Administrative Officer introduced Director of Community Services Grande to present the 2021 Community Services Department 2021 Year End Report. The Director introduced the Managers of Facilities; Recreation, Arts & Culture; and Family and Community Support Services to provide highlights on their individual functions.

22-102 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the 2021 Community Services Year End Report as information. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Alberta Advantage Immigration Program: The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Economic Development Officer to provide information on the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program – Rural Renewal Stream. The program supports the attraction and retention of newcomers to rural Alberta through a community driven approach based on local economic development needs and contributes to the growth of the community. The Economic Development Officer advised that if successful under the program, that Whitecourt would be placed on a list that would allow applicants to find appropriate employment, specific to community needs.

22-103 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council support an application under the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program – Rural Renewal Stream for Whitecourt to become a Designated Community. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2022 Street Improvement Program:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that tenders for the 2022 Street Improvements closed and introduced the Director of Infrastructure to answer any questions regarding the recommendation.

22-104 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council award the contract for the 2022 Street Improvement Program to E-Construction Ltd. for an estimated \$1,007,635.20 plus GST; and authorize additional work required to be undertaken at the unit rates outlined in the contract within the limits of the available budget for the 2022 Street Improvement Program.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2022 Community Clean Up Program.

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the 2022 Clean Up Program received three applications to provide waste clean up throughout the community.

22-105 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council award the Community Clean Up Program to St. Patrick's Anglican Church, Soaring Eagle Support Society, and the Scuba Diving Team; and that Council authorize Administration to select other community groups for inclusion in the Community Clean Up Program as they come forward, as permitted by the approved budget for the program.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Street Closure Request – Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce:

Councillor Chauvet declared a possible conflict of interest as he owns property in the downtown area, and vacated Council Chambers. Time: 4:57pm

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Chamber of Commerce requested the closure of downtown streets for its annual carnival from May 4 to May 9, 2022.

22-106 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council approve the request from the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce for the closure of 49 Street, from 50 Avenue to 52 Avenue; and 51 Avenue, from 49 Street to 50 Street; from 8am Wednesday, May 4, to 9am Monday, May 9, 2022; subject to maintaining emergency vehicle and fire hydrant access at all times and subject to the conditions of Policy 31-005 – Parades/Processions/Demonstrations/Events.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Chauvet returned to Council Chambers. Time: 4:59pm

Whitecourt Chamber of Commerce Summer Sole Golf Tournament:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that an invitation was received for Council to participate in the Chamber's Summer Sole Golf Tournament on June 17, 2022 at the Whitecourt Golf and Country Club.

22-107 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council Members be authorized to participate in the Summer Sole Golf Tournament on Friday, June 17, 2022 at the Whitecourt Golf and Country Club.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Economic Development Week:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Economic Developers Alberta challenged communities across Alberta to recognize May 9 – 13 as Economic Development Week.

22-108 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council recognize the week of May 9 – 13, 2022 as Economic Development Week in Whitecourt, as per Policy 11-008 – Salutes of Special Days/Weeks/Events and/or Proclamations.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Apraxia Awareness Day:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted a request was received to recognize May 14 as Apraxia Awareness Day, to bring awareness to Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS).

22-109 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council recognize May 14, 2022 as Apraxia Awareness Day per Policy 11-008 – Salutes of Special Days/Weeks/Events and/or Proclamations.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Deputy Mayor Baker attended the Airport Advisory Committee, Party in the Park Planning Committee, and Business Support Network meetings. She also met with the local Brownies troop for its Community Connections Badge, along with the Tamarack Health Advisory Council and Safe & Healthy Communities.

Councillor Lanctot attended the Airport Advisory Committee meeting.

Councillor Schlosser attended a Whitecourt Heritage Society meeting and Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework meeting.

Councillor Lapointe attended an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework meeting.

Mayor Pickard attended an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework meeting.

22-110 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

22-111 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That the following be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 78695 – 78866;
- b) March 29, 2022 – Press Release re Whitecourt Town Council Update;
- c) April 6, 2022 – Alberta Municipal Affairs Letter re ACP Grant Award for Landfill Commission Study;
- d) Free Clean Up Week Brochure;
- e) Mayor's Calendar; and
- f) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 5:12pm.

The meeting reconvened at 5:19pm.

Closed Meeting:

22-112 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss 50 Year Comprehensive Growth Plan Update per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act; and to discuss Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time 5:20pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 6:27pm.

The meeting reconvened at 6:37pm.

22-113 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That Council revert to Regular Meeting. Time 7:05pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

50 Year
Comprehensive
Growth Plan
Update:

22-114 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That the 50 Year Comprehensive Growth Plan Update be accepted as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal
Collaboration
Framework:

22-115 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework be accepted as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

22-116 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 7:07pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer