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

held on Monday, November 28, 2022 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:

Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Chauvet; Councillors Baker, Lanctot, Lapointe, McAree, and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Gallant.

Call to Order & Mayor's Address:

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Mayor Pickard presiding. Mayor Pickard extended congratulations to the Town's Assistant Controller on passing her Chartered Professional Accountant exams.

Adoption of Agenda:

22-375 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That the Agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the November 14, 2022 Public Hearing: 22-376 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That the Minutes from the November 14, 2022 Public Hearing be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the November 14, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council: 22-377 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That the Minutes from the November 14, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Input Session:

There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.

Whitecourt Seniors Circle Parking Lot Enhancement Request: The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Community Services to provide further details on the Seniors Circle request for additional accessible stalls, line painting, signage and barriers.

22-378 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize Administration to proceed with the Parking Lot Enhancements at the Whitecourt Seniors Circle.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Utilities Bylaw 1511-2:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Utilities Bylaw requires amendments to accommodate sump pit inspections, along with changes to materials used for service connections.

22-379 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Bylaw 1511-2 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-380 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Bylaw 1511-2 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-381 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1511-2.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-382 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Bylaw 1511-2 be given third and final reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Municipal
Development Plan
Bylaw Amendment
1505-4 and Land
Use Bylaw
Amendment 150612:

Councillor Baker advised that because she was absent from the Public Hearing that she would refrain from discussing or voting on the item.

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that following a Public Hearing on proposed amendments to the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw, and review by the Policies and Priorities Committee, Bylaws 1505-4 and 1506-12 were being brought forward to Council for adoption; and introduced the Director of Planning and Development and the Planner. The Planner advised that according to process, the Municipal Development Plan requires adoption prior to the Land Use Bylaw.

22-383 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Bylaw 1505-4 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-384 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Bylaw 1505-4 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-385 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1505-4.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-386 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Bylaw 1505-4 be given third and final reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-387 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Bylaw 1506-12 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-388 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Bylaw 1506-12 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-389 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1506-12.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

22-390 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Bylaw 1506-12 be given third and final reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2021 Municipal Indicators:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide further details on the municipal indicators. The Director noted that the Investment in Infrastructure Indicator was slightly below the threshold rating due to some project delays and deferrals.

22-391 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the 2021 Municipal Indicators as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Community Railway Advocacy:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that several mayors have been working together to form an advocacy group to execute a lobbying strategy to the provincial and federal governments for improved rail service.

22-392 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council authorize participation in the Community Railway Advocacy Group, and allocate \$2,000 for the railway advocacy strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Municipal Law Seminars:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer and Brownlee Law are offering law seminars in early 2023 of municipal interest.

22-393 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council be authorized to attend the 2023 Brownlee Emerging Trends Seminar and the 2023 RMRF Municipal Law Seminar.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Mayor Pickard, Deputy Mayor Chauvet, Councillors Baker, Lanctot and Lapointe.

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Schlosser.

- MOTION CARRIED.

Request for Parking Lot Closures – Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade:

The Chief Administrative Officer stated that further to the request previously reviewed by Council, that the Chamber had also requested the use of the 52 Avenue parking lot and Rotary Park parking lot to support the Christmas Parade.

22-394 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council approve the closure and use of the Rotary Parking Lot, from 5 – 9pm; the closure and use of the Town parking lot on 52 Avenue, from 5 – 8pm; and the use of the Town firepit for the annual Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus Parade, on December 2, 2022.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Joint Christmas Dinner:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that prior to COVID-19, the Town and County had alternated hosting an annual Christmas dinner. The annual dinner is now proposed to resume, with the Town as host.

22-395 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize the attendance of Council Members at the Joint Christmas Dinner with Woodlands County at the Whitecourt Golf Club on December 15, 2022.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lanctot reported that he attended Whitecourt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority and Policies and Priorities Committee meetings.

Councillor Schlosser attended meetings for Community Services Advisory Board and Ad Hoc Sponsorship/Partnership Committee.

Councillor Lapointe attended the Ad Hoc Sponsorship/Partnership Committee meeting and met with the Superintendent for the Northern Gateway Public Schools regarding sponsorship opportunities.

Councillor McAree attended the Policies and Priorities Committee.

Councillor Baker attended meetings for Communities in Bloom and Alberta Health Services.

Deputy Mayor Chauvet noted that he attended awards ceremony for Hilltop High School and meetings for Golden Triangle and Lac Ste. Anne Foundation.

Mayor Pickard participated in Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework updates, met with Dr. Likness, a locum at the Whitecourt Hospital and gave greetings at the Whitecourt Taekwondo tournament. He attended meetings for the Berland Caribou Task Force, Whitecourt Regional Solid Waste Management Authority, Policies and Priorities Committee, the Local Government Fiscal Financing webinar and an awards ceremony through Alberta Municipalities.

22-396 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

22-397 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That the following be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts Cheques 81389 81574;
- b) November 22, 2022 Letter to Woodlands County re Health Professionals Retention Attraction Committee;
- c) November 23, 2022 Letter from Town of Ponoka re Ambulance Services and Volunteer Fire Departments to the Minister of Health;
- d) Town of Whitecourt 2022 Press Releases:
 - a. November 15 Town Council Update;
- e) Woodlands County 2022 Media Releases and Public Notices:
 - a. November 24 County Council Recap (November 23, 2022);
- f) Mayor's Calendar; and
- g) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed. Time: 4:50pm.

The meeting reconvened. Time: 5:01pm.

Closed Meeting Items:

22-398 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss the Lions Campground Lease Agreement per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework as per Section 21 of the FOIP Act. Time: 4:55pm.

22-399 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 5:33pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Committee Appointments:

22-400 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That Council appoint public members to the following committees as follows:

Whitecourt Library Board:

- Dave Kusch Term to expire October 23, 2023
- Bonnie Ryan Fisher Term to expire October 28, 2024
- Helen Haugjord Term to expire October 27, 2025

Whitecourt Tourism:

- Neil Shewchuk (Performing Arts Society Representative) Term to expire October 2023
- Rachel Bachman (Chamber of Commerce Representative) Term to expire October 2023

Ad Hoc Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and Land Use Bylaw (LUB) Review Advisory Committee:

(Appointments to continue until dissolution of Committee)

- Downtown Commercial Cassandra Ovens (Verhaeghe Law)
- Highway Commercial Frederic Caron (First Choice Husky)
- Development Industry Darryl McPhee (Elite Construction)
- Real Estate Amanda Stanchfield (Remax)
- Local Community Organizations:
 - o Lac Ste. Anne Foundation Dena Krysik
 - Whitecourt Heritage Society Joe Spivak
- Members at Large:
 - o Chantelle Hoisington
 - o Scott Leclair

and direct Administration to readvertise for any remaining vacant positions on the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board and Whitecourt Tourism.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lions Club Campground Lease Agreement:

22-401 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize the Town of Whitecourt to extend the Land Lease Renewal Agreement with the Whitecourt Lions Club for a 20-year term.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework:

22-402 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework item as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

22-403 Moved by Deputy Mayor Chauvet

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:46pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer