

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Deputy Mayor Lanctot; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lapointe, McAree and Schlosser; Chief Administrative Officer Smyl; and Recording Secretary Grimstad-Davidson.
Absent:	Mayor Pickard.
Call to Order & Mayor's Address:	The Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm; Deputy Mayor Lanctot presiding. Deputy Mayor Lanctot welcomed a delegation from Whitecourt's Twin Town of Yubetsu in Japan, including Mayor Tomoyuki Korita, Kengo Saitoh, and Miki Sato. Yubetsu Mayor Karita thanked Council and acknowledged the 25 years of friendship between the communities.
Adoption of Agenda:	<u>23-239 Moved by Councillor McAree</u> That the Agenda be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the July 17, 2023 Regular Meeting:	<u>23-240 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u> That the Minutes from the July 17, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Public Input Session:	There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.
Road Closure Bylaw 1567 – Road Plan 4273KS:	The Chief Administrative Officer stated that Bylaw 1567 to close Road Plan 4273KS had been approved by the Minister of Transportation and introduced the Planner to review the road closure process. <u>23-241 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u> That Bylaw 1567 be given second reading. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. <u>23-242 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u> That Bylaw 1567 be given third and final reading. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
2024 Budget Schedule:	The Chief Administrative Officer noted that Administration started planning for the 2024 Budget and introduced the Director of Corporate Services to provide further details. The Director reviewed proposed timelines and the public budget input process. <u>23-243 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u> That Council accept the proposed 2024 Budget Schedule as information; and, That Council schedule a Special Meeting of Council on October 11, 2023 at 4:00pm to discuss the 2024 Budget. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Appointment of Deputy Mayor:	Deputy Mayor Lanctot advised that his term was coming to an end August 31, and noted that the Mayor made a recommendation for the next Deputy Mayor.

23-244 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot

That Council appoint Serena Lapointe to serve as Deputy Mayor from September 1 to December 31, 2023.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that an invitation was received for the Mayor to attend the grand opening of École St. Anne School on September 28, 2023; however, that is the date of the Alberta Municipalities Convention and Council would be unavailable.

23-245 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council authorize a person from Administration to attend the grand opening of École St. Anne School on September 28, 2023 at 1:30pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chief Administrative Officer indicated that an invitation was received from the Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors to apply for a meeting during the Alberta Municipalities Convention.

23-246 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council direct Administration to apply for a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors during the Alberta Municipalities Convention to discuss:

- Highway 43 Overlay;
- Highway 43 Athabasca Bridge – impacts on flood levels in Whitecourt; and,
- Highway 43 Memorandum of Agreement.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Ralcomm was hosting its 7th Annual Car Show and requested a street closure to accommodate the event.

23-247 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council approve the request for the closure of 35 Street from 35 Avenue to 34 Avenue, on August 26, 2023, from 8:00am to 4:00pm for the car show and shine, subject to:

- Meeting all of the requirements of Policy 31-005 – Parades/Processions/ Demonstrations/Events;
- Obtaining a Temporary Traffic Control Permit.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society was hosting the Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and requested the use of Festival Way and street closure for a procession.

23-248 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council authorize the attendance of all Council Members at the Orange Shirt/ National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Event on September 30, 2023.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Deputy Mayor Lanctot; Councillors Baker, Lapointe, McAree and Schlosser.

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Chauvet.

- MOTION CARRIED.

École St. Anne
Grand Opening:

Alberta
Municipalities 2023
Convention –
Meeting with
Minister of
Transportation and
Economic
Corridors:

Request for Street
Closure – Ralcomm
Car Show:

Orange Shirt Day/
National Day for
Truth &
Reconciliation:

23-249 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council authorize the use of the Festival Way, the Town’s fire pit and firewood, and picnic tables for the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society Orange Shirt/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Event on September 30, 2023, from 9:00am to 6:00pm, and

That Council approve the street closure and procession route for the Whitecourt Indigenous Friends Society Orange Shirt/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Walk on September 30, 2023, from 11:00am to 11:45am, subject to:

- Meeting all of the requirements of Policy 31-005 – Parades/Processions/ Demonstrations/Events;
- Obtaining a Temporary Traffic Control Permit.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Rail Safety Week:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that a request was received to recognize the week of September 18 – 24, 2023 as Rail Safety Week.

23-250 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council recognize the week of September 18 – 24, 2023 as Rail Safety Week in Whitecourt, as per Policy 11-008 – Salutes of Special Days/Weeks/Events and/or Proclamations.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Chauvet attended an Economic Development Committee meeting and the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament.

Councillor Baker attended meetings for the Eagle Tower Victim Services Society and Communities in Bloom, along with the Martin Long Golf Tournament and the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament.

Councillor McAree attended the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament.

Councillor Lapointe attended the Council Workshops, the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament, and Summer Street Fest.

Councillor Schlosser attended the Council Workshops, the Summer Street Fest, and the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament.

Deputy Mayor Lanctot attended the Council Workshops, meetings for the Economic Development Committee and Municipal Planning Commission, the Anthony Gordon Memorial Golf Tournament and the Summer Street Fest. The Deputy Mayor also toured with the Japanese guests.

23-251 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

23-252 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 84452 – 84822;
- b) July 20, 2023 – Letter of Welcome to Yubetsu Mayor Karita;
- c) July 20, 2023 – Thank You Letter from Minister of Finance
- d) July 21, 2023 – Letter from Woodlands County to Minister of Environment re River Debris from Flood;

- e) July 21, 2023 – Thank You Letter from Minister of Infrastructure;
- f) July 24, 2023 – Thank You Letter from Minister of Justice;
- g) July 26, 2023 – Thank You Letter from Minister of Forestry & Parks;
- h) July 31, 2023 – Thank You Letter from Minister of Tourism & Sport;
- i) August 4, 2023 – Thank You Letter from Minister of Mental Health and Addiction;
- j) August 14, 2023 - Alberta Children and Family Services Change of Services;
- k) Town of Whitecourt 2023 Press Releases:
 - i. July 14 – Festival Park Construction Update – Water Service Interruptions July 15;
 - ii. July 19 – July 17 Council Update;
 - iii. August 5 – Whitecourt Regional Landfill Closed Temporarily Due to Fire;
 - iv. August 10 – Summer Street Fest August 12;
 - v. August 11 – Highway 43 Closed Due to Collision;
 - vi. August 17 – Whitecourt Accepting Evacuees from Northwest Territories;
- l) Woodlands County 2023 Media Releases:
 - i. July 20 - Media Release Council Recap July 19 2023;
- m) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- n) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed at 4:46pm.

The meeting reconvened at 4:53pm.

Closed Meeting:

23-253 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Whitecourt Launch and Land Purchase per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 5:06pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-254 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 5:20pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Whitecourt Launch:

23-255 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council accept the recommendation from the Economic Development Committee and award the Whitecourt Launch Grant Program funding of \$10,000 to Timber Chic Designs for the showroom business expansion project.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Land Purchase:

23-256 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into a sales agreement to purchase the southeast portion of Lot 29, Block 2, Plan 762-2305, with funding from the Infrastructure Reserve.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment:

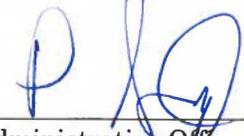
23-257 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:21pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer