

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, November 27, 2023 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present: Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Lapointe; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lanctot, 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 with November coming to an end, November was coming to a close and acknowledged that funds raised go to support men's health, including mental health.

Adoption of Agenda: 23-359 Moved by Councillor Schlosser
That the Agenda be adopted as amended by adding Request for Letter of Support for Whitecourt Airport Runway Rehabilitation.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the November 14, 2023 Regular Meeting: 23-360 Moved by Councillor Chauvet
That the Minutes from the November 14, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Red Tape Reduction – Building Permit Administration: The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Planning and Development to provide further information on changes to improve service delivery for building permits.

23-361 Moved by Councillor Baker
That Council accept the recommendation of the Policies and Priorities Committee and authorize the Town of Whitecourt to enter into contracts with accredited Safety Codes Agencies to include the administration of building permits.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Tax Sale Reserve Bid: The Chief Administrative Officer advised that in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Council is required to set a reserve bid for properties slated for tax recovery and introduced the Director of Corporate Services. The Director noted that tax sales occur on an occasional basis, and the sale process can be halted if the property owner enters into an agreement for payment of taxes.

23-362 Moved by Councillor Schlosser
That Council approve a reserve bid of \$160,000 for the following property

Roll:	Legal Description:	Municipal Address:
001430	Lot 13 Block 13 Plan 7620174	4752 57 Ave.

and that the terms of the sale are cash or certified cheque; with a 10% deposit to accompany the auction bid, and sale transaction completion in 30 days.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Records Retention
Bylaw 1492-3:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that an amendment to the Records Management Bylaw was required to accommodate the retention of tax records.

23-363 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Bylaw 1492-3 be given first reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-364 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Bylaw 1492-3 be given second reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-365 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council proceed to third and final reading of Bylaw 1492-3.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-366 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Bylaw 1492-3 be given third and final reading.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Coldest Night of
the Year:

The Chief Administrative Officer indicated that a request had been received for the Coldest Night of the Year event; an annual event to raise funds for care and services for people experiencing homelessness, hurt, and hunger.

23-367 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lapointe

That a member of Council be authorized to bring greetings to the Coldest Night of the Year Walk on February 24, 2024 and that the Town fire pit be made available for the event.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Joint Christmas
Dinner:

The Chief Administrative Officer informed Council of the invitation from Woodlands County to attend a dinner with their Council.

23-368 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lapointe

That Council authorize the attendance of Council Members to attend the joint Christmas Dinner with Woodlands County at the Eagle River Casino on December 7, 2023, at 6:00pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Appointment of
Deputy Mayor:

The Chief Administrative Officer indicated that Deputy Mayor Lapointe's term as Deputy Mayor expires December 31, and a new Deputy Mayor needs to be appointed.

23-369 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council appoint Councillor Paul Chauvet to serve as Deputy Mayor from January 1 to March 31, 2024, as recommended by the Mayor.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Letter of Support for Whitecourt Airport Runway Rehabilitation:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Woodlands County requested a letter of support for a grant application for airport runway improvements.

23-370 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That the Town provide a letter of support to Woodlands County under the Community Airport Program for CYZU – Runway 11-29 Pavement and Electrical Rehabilitation.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Lanctot attended a meeting for the Municipal Planning Commission.

Councillor Schlosser attended Municipal Planning Commission and Whitecourt & District Heritage Society meetings.

Councillor McAree attended the Christmas Parade.

Councillor Baker attended meetings for the Health Professionals Attraction & Retention Committee, Eagle Tower Victim Services, Performing Arts Society and the Tamarack Health Advisory, along with a question and answer session with the Minister of Health.

Councillor Chauvet attended the Policies and Priorities Committee meeting.

Deputy Mayor Lapointe attended the Christmas Parade.

Mayor Pickard met with representatives from Pembina and Canfor, attended a Northern Alberta Elected Leaders meeting, and gave greetings at the Senior 2A Volleyball Championships and the Taekwondo Tournament. The Mayor also attended a Christmas Reception with ATCO Utilities, the Christmas Parade, and a presentation with the Grade Six Classes at École St. Mary School.

23-371 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

23-372 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 85827 – 86098;
- b) November 7, 2023 – Alberta Justice – RCMP Testimonies;
- c) November 9, 2023 – Intact Insurance - Municipal Climate Resiliency Grant Update;
- d) November 16, 2023 – MLA Long Letter of Support for E Venture Initiative;
- e) November 16, 2023 – Thank You Letter to Woodlands County re Rural Municipalities Association;
- f) Town of Whitecourt 2023 Press Releases:
 - i. November 15 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
 - ii. JDA Ventures Welcomed as Newest Community Partner with Naming of JDA Place;
- g) Woodlands County 2023 Media Releases:
 - i. November 22 Council Recap;
- h) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- i) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Closed Meeting: 23-373 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Lac Ste. Anne Foundation per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act; Council Committee Appointments per Section 17 of the FOIP Act; and Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework per Section 21 of the FOIP Act. Time: 4:31pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

23-374 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 6:50pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lac Ste. Anne Foundation: 23-375 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council accept the Lac Ste. Anne Foundation presentation as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Committee Appointments: 23-376 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council appoint Robert Magee to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board for a three year term to expire October 2026, and advertise for any remaining vacancies.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework: 23-377 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council accept Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment: 23-378 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 6:52pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer



OFFICIAL AFFIRMATION

I, Paul Chauvet, do affirm that I will diligently, faithfully, and to the best of my ability, execute according to the law, the office of Deputy Mayor for the Town of Whitecourt, for the period of January 1 – March 31, 2024.

AFFIRMED BEFORE ME at the Town of)
Whitecourt, in the Province of Alberta)
this 27 day of November, 2023.)



Tom Pickard
Mayor – Town of Whitecourt)



Paul Chauvet