

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Town of Whitecourt**
held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at the Forest Interpretive Centre

Present:	Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Lanctot; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, 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.
Adoption of Agenda:	<u>24-096 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u> That the Agenda be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting:	<u>24-097 Moved by Councillor McAree</u> That the Minutes from the March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Minutes from the April 2, 2024 Special Meeting:	<u>24-098 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u> That the Minutes from the April 2, 2024 Special Meeting be adopted as presented. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Public Input Session:	There were no members of the public wishing to make a presentation.
Visitors and Delegations:	The Chief Administrative Officer introduced Michelle Jones, Executive Director; and Lillian Wisser, CED Project Coordinator, of Community Futures Yellowhead East (CFYE). The CFYE Director provided an overview of the previous year's operations for the agency, including an update on the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund loans. <u>24-099 Moved by Councillor Chauvet</u> That Council recognize the presence of Michelle Jones and Lillian Wisser of Community Futures Yellowhead East. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Business Arising from Visitors and Delegations:	<u>24-100 Moved by Councillor Schlosser</u> That Council accept the presentation from Michelle Jones and Lillian Wisser of Community Futures Yellowhead East as information. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
FireSmart 2023 Annual Report:	The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Community Safety and Fire Chief to provide an overview of FireSmart activities for 2023. The Fire Chief noted that FireSmart work had already begun for 2024 in the Dahl Drive area, and that home assessments were underway. <u>24-101 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot</u> That Council accept the FireSmart 2023 Annual Report as information. - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) Community Fireguard Program:

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the Director of Community Safety to provide further information on the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) Community Fireguard Program.

24-102 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Council accept the recommendation from the Whitecourt FireSmart Working Group, and support the Town of Whitecourt Community Fireguard Program Project Proposal to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA).

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2024 Final Budget:

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that further to Council’s Special Meeting on April 2, the 2024 Final Budget was brought forward to Council for adoption.

24-103 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot

That Council adopt the 2024 Budget as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Street Closure Request – Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Chamber of Commerce was planning its annual Carnival Event from May 3 – 5, 2024, which requires the closure of some streets. It was noted that Administration was working with Chamber representatives to reduce the length of time for the closure on 52 Avenue.

24-104 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council approve the request from the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce for the closure of:

- from 5:00am Tuesday, April 30, to noon on Monday, May 6, 2024, the parking lot on 52 Avenue; and 49 Street, from 50 Avenue to 52 Avenue; and
- from 5:00pm Wednesday, May 1, to noon on Monday, May 6, 2024, 52 Avenue, from 49 Street to 50 Street;

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.

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

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Chauvet.

- MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Chauvet attended the Special Budget meeting, along with meetings for the Golden Triangle Trail Partnership Committee.

Councillor Baker attended a Communities in Bloom Committee meeting and a FireSmart Working Group meeting.

Councillor McAree attended the Special Budget meeting.

Councillor Lapointe requested the Youth Advisory Committee members introduce themselves. Members Carly Lai, Beckett Holloway, and Lucas Boudreau were in attendance. Meetings attended by Councillor Lapointe included the Youth Advisory Committee, pre-Joint Liaison Committee, and Special Budget. She also completed a training module for Community Futures Yellowhead East.

Councillor Schlosser attended the Special Budget meeting and a pre-Joint Liaison Committee meeting.

Mayor Pickard attended the 30th Anniversary Celebrations at Spruceview Seniors Lodge, and was a guest speaker at the Rotary Club meeting. The Mayor also brought greetings to the U18AA Hockey Tournament, and attended the Special Budget meeting and the Business Support Network.

24-105 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-106 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the following items be accepted as information:

- a) Town Accounts – Cheques 87594 – 87729;
- b) Street Improvement 2024 Budget;
- c) March 27, 2024 - Economic Developers Association Announces Board of Directors;
- d) Invitation to Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw Open House;
- e) Town of Whitecourt 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. March 28 – Whitecourt Town Council Update;
- f) Woodlands County 2024 Press Releases:
 - i. March 27 – Council Recap;
- g) Mayor’s Calendar; and
- h) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting recessed. Time: 5:09pm.

The meeting reconvened. Time: 5:14pm.

24-107 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Whitecourt Golf & Country Club – Request for Loan Extension per Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 5:14pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-108 Moved by Mayor Pickard

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 5:29pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

24-109 Moved by Deputy Mayor Lanctot

That Council authorize Administration to enter into an amending agreement for the deferral of debenture loan repayment as requested by the Whitecourt Golf & Country Club.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

Whitecourt Golf & Country Club – Request for Loan Extension:

Adjournment:

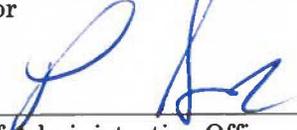
24-110 Moved by Councillor Baker

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 5:31pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer