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

held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at the Town Office Large Boardroom

Present:

Mayor Pickard; Deputy Mayor Schlosser; Councillors Baker, Chauvet, Lapointe, Lanctot, and McAree; 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.

Adoption of Agenda:

21-382 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That the Agenda be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the October 25, 2021 Organizational Meeting of Council: 21-383 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That the Minutes from the October 25, 2021 Organizational Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes from the October 25, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council: 21-384 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That the Minutes from the October 25, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public Input Session:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that a submission had been received from Ashley Rose, of 75 Feero Drive, requesting that Council review admission requirements at Town facilities pursuant to provincial COVID-19 restrictions.

21-385 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That the information from the Public Input Session from Ashley Rose be accepted as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21-386 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council direct Administration to look at other municipalities not using the Restrictions Exemption Program and weigh options for operation of Town facilities for Council's consideration at a future meeting.

Votes in Favour of the Motion: Councillors Chauvet, Lanctot and Lapointe.

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

- MOTION DEFEATED.

Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta – Expression of Interest Application Support: The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Town has completed several projects over the years through the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) and introduced the Director of Community Safety to provide highlights of the proposed project.

21-387 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council acknowledges and supports the vegetation management project included in the Expression of Interest Application submitted to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Development Agreement 6684600 Alberta Ltd. – Whitecourt Ford Stormwater Servicing at 4144 Kepler Street: The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the property owner of 4144 Kepler Street requested access to the municipal right of way for the installation of stormwater services to address ponding issues experienced on the site. He introduced the Director of Planning & Development who advised that some drywells installed on the Whitecourt Ford property were not functioning as originally intended and reviewed the work and security requirements.

21-388 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council authorize the Town to enter into a Development Agreement with 6684600 Alberta Ltd. for the purposes of installing a municipal stormwater service to 4144 Kepler Street.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Request for Street Closure – Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade: The Chief Administrative Officer reviewed a request from the Whitecourt and District Chamber of Commerce for the annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 4.

21-389 Moved by Councillor Lapointe

That Council approve the street closure and parade route for the Annual Christmas Parade, between 6:00 – 9:00pm, along with the setup and use of light towers at the Rotary Park gravel parking lot; the use of the Town parking lot on 52 Avenue; and use of the Town bonfire pit from 6:30 – 9:00pm on Saturday, December 4; subject to the conditions of Policy 31-005 Parade/Procession/Demonstration/Events; and that Council be authorized to attend the event.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) 2021 Convention:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) 2021 Convention, was scheduled for November 23 - 26 and that the Town has, in the past, sent members to the Convention to provide an opportunity to network with the Town's rural counterparts and learn about impacts on municipal government from a rural perspective.

21-390 Moved by Councillor Chauvet

That Council accept the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) 2021 Convention as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meet and Greet with Woodlands County Council:

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the new Town and Woodlands County Councils typically organize a get together after a general election so that Council Members have the opportunity to be introduced.

21-391 Moved by Councillor Schlosser

That Council be authorized to attend a Meet and Greet with Woodlands County Council on November 9, 2021, from 5:00 – 7:00pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cancellation of November 2021 Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting: The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Administration recommended the cancellation of the November Policies and Priorities Committee meeting as the budget presentations that would normally be heard at that meeting would not be available.

21-392 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council cancel the November 15, 2021 Policies and Priorities Committee meeting.

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

Votes in Opposition of the Motion: Councillor Baker.

- MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Reports:

Councillor Baker attended Communities in Bloom meeting, a Community Services Advisory Board orientation, Ad Hoc Building Committee meeting, and an orientation with the Whitecourt/Woodlands Performing Arts Society.

Councillor Chauvet attended the George Cuff governance presentation.

Councillor Lapointe attended an orientation for Community Futures Yellowhead East, and the Trunk or Treat Event sponsored by the Whitecourt and District Chamber of Commerce.

Councillor Lanctot attended the Munis101 workshops.

Councillor McAree attended Munis101 workshops, the George Cuff governance presentation.

Deputy Mayor Schlosser attended the Ad Hoc Building Committee meeting, and George Cuff governance presentation.

Mayor Pickard attended the George Cuff governance presentation, Municipal Tours and Munis101 workshop. He was honoured to receive the first poppy from the Legion. He met with the local MLA, and also met with Woodlands County Mayor and Councillor Deane. He also made a cheque presentation to a Vitalization Grant program recipient.

Council discussed the composition of the Ad Hoc Building Steering Committee and added an alternate Council appointee.

21-393 Moved by Deputy Mayor Schlosser

That Councillors Baker and Lapointe be appointed to the Ad Hoc Building Committee, with Councillor Schlosser as the alternate member.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

21-394 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council accept the Councillor Reports as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Items of Information:

21-395 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the following be accepted as information:

a) Town Accounts - Cheques 76700 - 76896;

- b) October 8, 2021 NGPS Letter re Career Exposure Boot Camps Summer 2021;
- c) October 25, 2021 Chamber of Commerce Letter re Congratulations;
- d) October 25, 2021 Telus Email re Congratulations;
- e) October 25, 2021 Press Release re COVID-19 Update;
- f) October 27, 2021 Alberta Municipal Affairs Email re MSI Allocation Estimates:
- g) October 27, 2021 Woodlands County October 26 Recap;
- h) October 28, 2021 Woodlands County Council Appointments;
- i) October 29, 2021 Press Release re Council Update;
- j) West Central Air Shed October Newsletter;
- k) Mayor's Calendar; and
- 1) Council Calendar.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Agreements:

21-396 Moved by Councillor Baker

That Intermunicipal Agreements be deferred to Closed Meeting per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Closed Meeting:

21-397 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council go into Closed Meeting to discuss Intermunicipal Agreements per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Time: 4:44pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21-398 Moved by Councillor McAree

That Council revert to the Regular Meeting. Time: 6:45pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Intermunicipal Agreements:

21-399 Moved by Councillor Lanctot

That Council accept Intermunicipal Agreements as information.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment:

21-400 Moved by Councillor McAree

That the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned. Time: 6:48pm.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer