

Municipality of Jasper  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda**  
February 11, 2025 | 9:30 am  
Jasper Library & Cultural Centre – Quorum Room

**Notice:** Council members and a limited number of staff are in Council chambers for meetings. Members of the public can attend meetings in person; view meetings through the Zoom livestream; or view archived Council meetings on YouTube at any time. To live-stream this meeting starting at 9:30 am, use the following Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87657457538>

**1. Call to order** Deputy Mayor Waxer to chair meeting

**2. Additions to agenda**

**3. Approval of agenda**

3.1 February 11, 2025 Committee of the Whole agenda attachment

**4. January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole minutes** attachment

4.1 Business arising from minutes

**5. Delegations**

**6. Correspondence**

**7. New business**

7.1 Development of Recovery Strategic Priorities attachment

7.2 Parcel HI Roadway Naming attachment

7.3 2024 Property Tax Relief Measures attachment

**8. Motion Action List** attachment

**9. Councillor upcoming meetings**

[9.1 Council appointments to boards and committees](#)

**10. Upcoming events**

[Jasper Recreation Facilities Grand Reopening](#) – 5pm, February 19, Jasper Activity Centre

[AB Munis President’s Summit on Civility & Spring Municipal Leader’s Caucus](#) – March 5-7, Edmonton

[Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference & Tradeshow](#) – May 29 to June 1, Ottawa

**11. Adjournment**

Municipality of Jasper  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, January 28, 2025 | 9:30am  
Jasper Library and Cultural Centre, Quorum Room

Virtual viewing and participation	Council attendance is in Council chambers at the Jasper Library and Cultural Centre. This meeting was also conducted virtually and available for public livestreaming through Zoom. Public viewing and participation during Council meetings is through Zoom livestreaming and in person attendance.
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Kathleen Waxer, Councillors Helen Kelleher-Empy, Wendy Hall, Ralph Melnyk, Rico Damota and Scott Wilson
Absent	none
Also present	Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer Christine Nadon, Director of Protective & Legislative Services Beth Sanders, Director of Urban Design & Standards Michael Fark, Director of Recovery Lucas Sherwin, Town Planner Isla Tanaka, Town Planner Logan Ireland, Recovery Project Manager Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator Peter Shokeir, The Fitzhugh Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton 15 observers
Call to Order	Deputy Mayor Waxer called the January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 9:30am and began with a <a href="#">Traditional Land Acknowledgement</a> .
Additions or deletions to agenda #50/25	MOTION by Councillor Hall that Committee add the following item to the January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7.4 AB Munis President’s Summit on Civility &amp; 2025 Spring Municipal Leader’s Caucus</li></ul>
	FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors                      CARRIED
Approval of agenda #51/25	MOTION by Mayor Ireland that Committee approve the agenda for the January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting as amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Add 7.4 AB Munis President’s Summit on Civility &amp; 2025 Spring Municipal Leader’s Caucus</li></ul>
	FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors                      CARRIED
Business arising from January 14, 2024 minutes	none

Correspondence – Governor General  
Committee received correspondence from the Governor General of Canada conveying thanks to Mayor Ireland and admiration for the individuals she and her husband met at the Royal Canadian Legion, Alpine Seniors Summit Lodge, and the Jasper Municipal Library during her visit in October 2024.

#52/25  
MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey that Committee receive the correspondence for information.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Director Report – Urban Design & Standards  
Committee received a report from Director of Urban Design & Standards Beth Sanders reviewing the work accomplished between August and December of 2024. Highlights included details on town planning, housing, staffing, service trends, communications and engagement. The report can be found in the agenda package.

#53/25  
MOTION by Councillor Melnyk that Committee receive the report for information.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

In-Town Contractor Camps, Interim Residences & Laydown Requests  
Committee received a report from Administration on the need to address potential changes to legislation and plans for contractors and residents seeking temporary spaces within the townsite to support wildfire recovery efforts. CAO Bill Given reviewed the report with Director of Recovery Michael Fark and Ms. Sanders assisting in answering Committee questions.

#54/25  
MOTION by Councillor Damota that Committee recommend Council support in principle the approach to In-Town Contractor Camps, Interim Residences, and Laydown Requests as proposed; and

That Committee direct Administration to return with legislative changes as required to implement the changes.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Temporary Pop-Up Business Village for Displaced Businesses  
Committee received a report regarding a Pop-Up Business Village concept, providing temporary spaces for wildfire impacted businesses to resume operations in a centralized and visible location. Town Planners Lucas Sherwin & Isla Tanaka were available to answer Committee questions, as was Recovery Project Manager Logan Ireland.

#55/25  
MOTION by Councillor Hall that Committee recommend Council approve the Pop-Up Business Village initiative on Connaught Drive public washrooms parking lot as presented.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillor	CARRIED

<p>AB Munis President's Summit on Civility &amp; 2025 Spring Municipal Leader's Caucus #56/25</p>	<p>Councillor Melnyk requested Committee discuss his potential attendance at the AB Munis President's Summit on Civility &amp; 2025 Spring Municipal Leader's Caucus coming up in March in Edmonton.</p> <p>MOTION by Councillor Hall that Committee recommend Council approve the attendance of Councillor Melnyk at the AB Munis President's Summit on Civility &amp; 2025 Spring Municipal Leader's Caucus in Edmonton March 5-7, 2025.</p>						
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">FOR</td> <td style="width: 33%;">AGAINST</td> <td style="width: 34%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 Councillors</td> <td>0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table>	FOR	AGAINST		7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
<p>Motion Action List  #57/25</p>	<p>Administration reviewed the Motion Action List.</p> <p>MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey that Committee approve the updated Motion Action List with the removal of the following item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First section of Jasper Seniors Society item And a date change for the following item:</li> <li>• Second section of Jasper Seniors Society item</li> </ul>						
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FOR	AGAINST						
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
<p>Councillor upcoming meetings</p>	<p>none</p>						
<p>Upcoming Events</p>	<p>Council reviewed a list of upcoming events.</p>						
<p>Move In-camera #58/25</p>	<p>MOTION by Councillor Hall to move in-camera at 10:57am to discuss agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11.1 Land Matter, Third Party Confidence FOIP s.16(1)(b)</li> <li>• 11.2 Intergovernmental Relations FOIP s.21(1)(a)</li> </ul>						
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">FOR</td> <td style="width: 33%;">AGAINST</td> <td style="width: 34%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 Councillors</td> <td>0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table> <p>Mr. Given and Mr. Fark also attended the in-camera session.</p>	FOR	AGAINST		7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
<p>Move out of camera #59/25</p>	<p>MOTION by Councillor Melnyk to move out of camera at 12:54pm.</p>						
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<p>Adjournment #60/25</p>	<p>MOTION by Mayor Ireland that, there being no further business, the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 28, 2025 be adjourned at 12:54pm.</p>						
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FOR	AGAINST						
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					

## AGENDA ITEM 7.1

### REQUEST FOR DECISION

**Subject:** Development of Recovery Strategic Priorities  
**From:** Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer  
**Reviewed by:** Michael Fark, Director of Recovery  
**Date:** February 11, 2025

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#### Recommendation:

- That Committee direct Administration to seek feedback on the draft Recovery Strategic Priorities from the Recovery Advisory Committee and return to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

#### Alternatives:

- That Committee recommend Council approve the draft Recovery Strategic Priorities as presented.
- That Committee recommend Council approve the draft Recovery Strategic Priorities as amended.
- That Committee receive the report for information and take no further action.

#### Background:

On September 10, 2024, Council approved the terms of reference for the Recovery Advisory Committee (RAC). The RAC was established under the Joint Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) to provide community-based advice and guidance on Jasper's recovery and rebuilding efforts. The committee's mandate includes offering feedback on housing redevelopment, economic stabilization, infrastructure restoration, environmental recovery, and community well-being. The RAC consists of representatives from Municipal Council, Parks Canada, local businesses, economic development organizations, and the general public.

On January 28, 2025, Council approved the addition of *Wildfire Recovery* as a focus area within the 2022-2026 Strategic Priorities.

#### Discussion:

To develop the draft *Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities*, Administration reviewed a range of locally developed guidance documents and government recovery frameworks to ensure a comprehensive and evidence-based approach.

Local reports provided insights into housing shortages, workforce challenges, economic recovery, climate resilience, and infrastructure needs, while broader government frameworks, including the *Jasper National Park Management Plan (2022)* and Alberta's *Higher Ground: Tourism Sector Strategy*.

The draft *Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities* are intended to be complimentary to Council's existing priorities and are designed to be comprehensive, adaptable, and community-driven, ensuring that Jasper's recovery efforts address both immediate needs and long-term sustainability. They emphasize housing redevelopment, recognizing the urgent need for workforce and permanent housing, while also prioritizing economic recovery by leveraging partnerships to restore Jasper's tourism sector and local businesses.

The priorities integrate infrastructure resilience and environmental stewardship, ensuring that rebuilding efforts align with climate adaptation strategies and preserve Jasper's small mountain community character. Additionally, they emphasize inclusive decision-making, ensuring that residents, businesses, and stakeholders have a meaningful role in shaping recovery initiatives. This structured yet flexible approach allows the Municipality to respond effectively to evolving recovery challenges while maintaining alignment with provincial and federal recovery frameworks.

Referring the draft priorities to the Recovery Advisory Committee (RAC) will strengthen the final strategy by incorporating community-driven insights while maintaining alignment with Council's long-term strategic goals. Once RAC feedback is received, the priorities will be finalized and returned to Council for approval.

**Strategic Relevance:**

- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.
- Recognize the fundamental importance of our tourism economy.
- Increase awareness and understanding of our unique conditions with other orders of government and funders.
- Take active and strategic steps to advance Jasper's interests.

**Inclusion Considerations:**

Referring the Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities to the Recovery Advisory Committee ensures that community members, businesses, and organizations have a direct voice in shaping Jasper's recovery efforts.

**Relevant Legislation:**

- [Council Strategic Priorities \(2022-2026\)](#)

**Financial:**

Referring the draft Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities to the Recovery Advisory Committee has no immediate financial impact.

**Attachments:**

- 2022-2026 Council Strategic Priorities with Draft Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities

## Jasper Strategic Priorities 2022-2026

Community Health	Housing	Relationships	Environment	Organizational Excellence	Advocacy	Wildfire Recovery
<b>To foster a healthy community, we....</b>	<b>To address housing, we...</b>	<b>To maintain strong relationships, we...</b>	<b>To demonstrate care for our environment we...</b>	<b>To advance organizational excellence we....</b>	<b>To advocate with, and on behalf of, our community we...</b>	<b>To further Jasper's recovery we...</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build our internal capacity to advance our housing priorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nurture our most important relationships which are those within our organization.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value the unique opportunities and responsibilities arising from our location inside a National Park and World Heritage Site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empower our staff by investing in the training and tools they require.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen our voice by partnering with those who share our interests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with all parties to deliver interim, seasonal staff, and rebuild workforce housing in ways that address immediate needs while not sacrificing our future.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and enhance recreational and cultural opportunities and spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in infrastructure to support housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate and engage with residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on prevention, mitigation, and preparation for natural disasters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrust our staff to develop healthy relationships with the people they serve.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute our voice to support community, industry, and partners in their advocacy efforts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with industry partners, provincial and federal governments to see Jasper achieve its share of the province's vision for tourism expenditures of \$1.3 billion by 2035.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable and facilitate events that provide opportunities to increase community connections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in developing community focused housing units.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage other municipalities, orders of government and advocacy associations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase opportunities for active transportation and transportation alternatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactively plan for and invest in the maintenance and management of our natural assets and built infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness and understanding of our unique conditions with other orders of government and funders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify opportunities to resource and implement programs that promote resilient rebuilding efforts while increasing the supply of permanent housing.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embrace our growing diversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate others in developing diverse housing options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, and associations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include an environmental lens into our decision making and operational plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure residents receive quality service that provides strong value for dollar.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pursue the acquisition of tools and authorities to enhance service delivery, equity and affordability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure recovery planning and implementation is driven by local needs and empowers residents and businesses to meaningfully participate in rebuilding their community.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage and create opportunities for greater inclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore increasing the number of units available for municipal staff accommodation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue along the path of Reconciliation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine our services to ensure they are providing the expected environmental benefits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pursue alternative revenue sources and equitable distribution of costs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take active and strategic steps to advance Jasper's interests, including the acquisition of land-use planning and development authority and attaining Resort Municipality Status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that recovery and rebuilding projects uphold Jasper's unique small mountain community character and preserve its distinctive built heritage.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize the fundamental importance of our tourism economy.</li> </ul>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage the opportunity to review systems and practices, making bold improvements and lasting advancements.</li> </ul>

## AGENDA ITEM 7.2

### REQUEST FOR DECISION

**Subject:** Parcel HI Roadway Naming  
**From:** Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer  
**Prepared by:** Marley Pollock, Town Planner  
**Reviewed by:** Beth Sanders RPP, Director of Urban Design & Standards  
**Date:** February 11, 2025

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#### **Recommendation:**

That Committee recommend Council approve the name "Fireweed Avenue" for the roadway on Parcel HI; and;

That Committee direct Administration to initiate the required legislative steps to implement the road name.

#### **Alternatives:**

- That Committee choose a different name for the roadway.
- That Committee direct Administration to engage the community about the name for the roadway on Parcel HI and return to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.
- That Committee receive the report for information and take no further action.

#### **Background:**

Following the damage caused by the Jasper Wildfire Complex, the Municipality of Jasper and Parks Canada have been working together through the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) to support rebuilding efforts. A key focus of this recovery is providing interim housing for displaced residents. A total of 320 interim housing units are scheduled to arrive by the end of February.

To facilitate utility connections and allow tenants to obtain insurance, civic addresses must be assigned to the parcels where these units will be placed. Parcel HI is being converted into a roadway, which requires a name to establish the necessary civic address for one of the interim housing sites (Parcel HF). Without a designated civic address, the interim housing cannot be occupied.

Under the authority of the Municipal Government Act (MGA), Council has the power to enact bylaws for naming streets within the municipality. However, there is no comprehensive framework governing street naming, as bylaw #149 – Jasper Street Naming and Address Numbering Bylaw was primarily established to facilitate a one-time change. According to the bylaw, Council retains the authority to name or rename streets within the municipality. The administration, while responsible for implementing Council-approved Street names through signage installation, does not have independent authority to assign street names. Additionally, Policy D-013 – Municipal Assets Naming outlines that while Administration may recommend names for public assets, final approval must be granted by Municipal Council

#### **Discussion:**

Promptly assigning a name will enable the issuance of civic addresses in time for utility installation and the occupancy of interim housing units arriving in February 2025. Alternative approaches, such as revising the name or conducting public engagement, could be considered but would likely introduce delays, potentially affecting the timely setup of utilities and tenant accommodations. Given the temporary nature of the housing and the



urgency of implementation, administration advises proceeding with this name now while subsequently completing the formal naming process.

Administration recommends the name "Fireweed Avenue" to align with Jasper's existing naming conventions and honor a native plant species known for its role in post-wildfire regrowth. The name "Fireweed Avenue" reflects local environmental resilience and recovery, a theme that resonates with all community members following the 2024 wildfire event. For communities rebuilding after a wildfire, fireweed serves as a reminder of nature's resilience. Its quick growth and bright flowers demonstrate how communities can recover over time, offering a sense of hope as the landscape gradually restores itself.

**Strategic Relevance:**

- Invest in infrastructure to support housing.
- Ensure residents receive quality service that provides strong value for dollar.
- Take active and strategic steps to advance Jasper's interests.
- Invest in developing community focused housing units.

**Inclusion Considerations:**

Assigning a road name promptly ensures essential workers have access to interim housing.

**Relevant Legislation:**

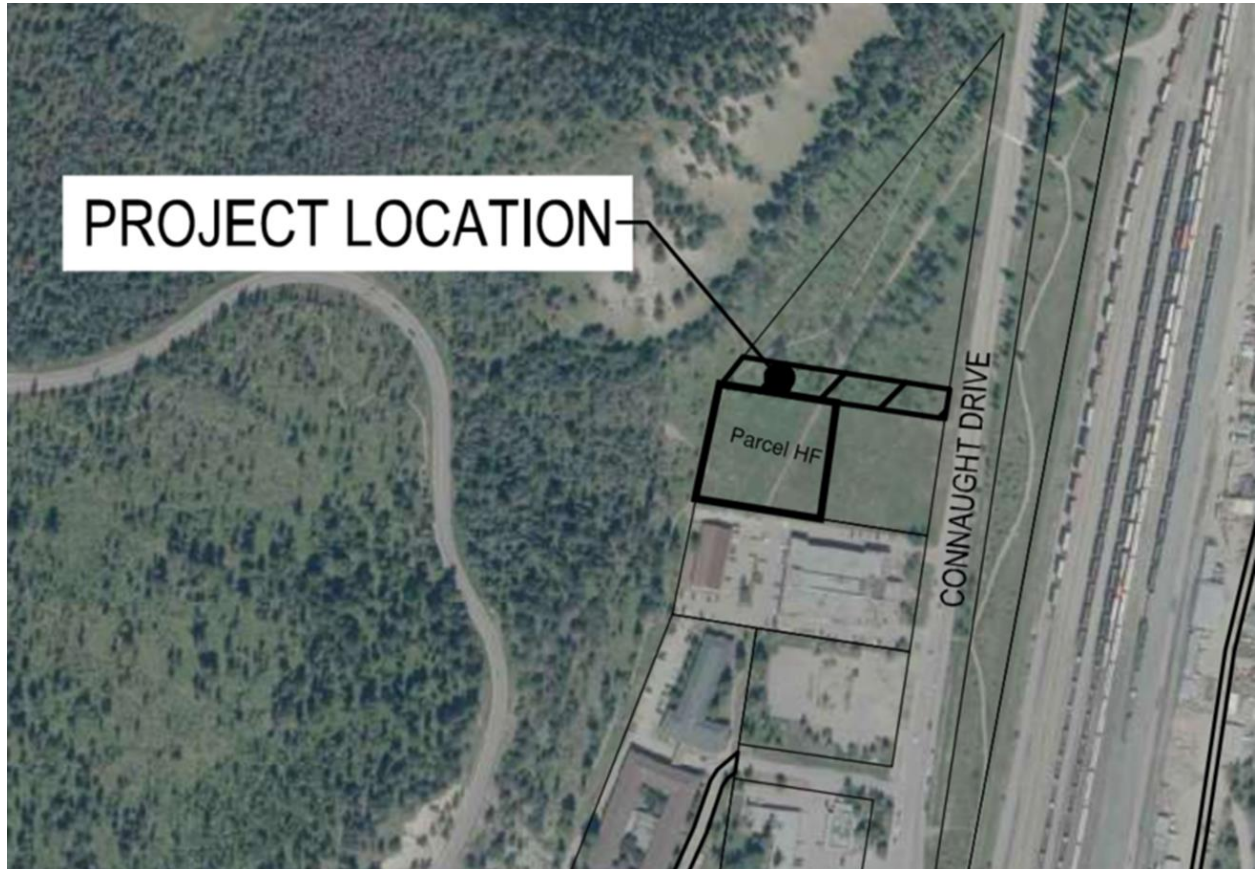
- [Alberta Municipal Government Act](#)
- [Street Naming and Numbering Bylaw \(Bylaw #149\)](#)

**Financial:**

The financial impact is minimal, limited to the cost of installing a few road signs. Coordination with emergency services is already underway to ensure proper recognition of the new road name and associated civic addresses.

**Attachments:**

- Map – Parcel HI



## AGENDA ITEM 7.3

### REQUEST FOR DECISION

**Subject:** 2024 Property Tax Relief Measures  
**From:** Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer  
**Reviewed by:** Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance & Administration  
**Date:** February 11, 2025



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#### Recommendations:

That Committee recommend Council approve funding the required 10% municipal contribution toward tax relief for the 2024 year from the Financial Stabilization Reserve.

#### Alternatives:

- That Committee direct Administration to revise the funding strategy and return to a future committee.

#### Background:

The 2024 wildfire resulted in the loss of approximately 30% of the structures in the municipality, including over 800 housing units, leading to a property tax assessment loss of approximately \$283 million. The community was also evacuated from July 22 to August 16, 2024, further impacting municipal revenues. In response to these financial pressures, on September 13, 2024, Council formally requested financial support from the Government of Alberta to assist with tax relief and revenue stabilization.

#### Discussion:

On February 6th, the Government of Alberta approved funding support, including:

- A grant of up to \$1,908,000, reflecting a 90:10 contribution split between the province and the Municipality of Jasper, to provide property tax relief for all properties during the evacuation period and for damaged and destroyed properties from July to December 2024.
- Forgiveness of \$1,114,555 in 2024 education property taxes for evacuated, damaged, and destroyed properties.
- Up to \$3,051,000, reflecting a 90:10 contribution split between the province and Jasper, to offset other municipal revenue losses for 2024.

The total cost of the 2024 tax relief program would be \$2.2M. To fulfill the 10% municipal contribution requirement toward 2024 tax relief, Jasper must allocate \$220,000. Administration is recommending that these funds be drawn from the Financial Stabilization Reserve, in accordance with Council Policy B-112, which allows reserve funds to be used for tax rate stabilization.

Funding the 10% municipal contribution from the Financial Stabilization Reserve allows the municipality to meet the provincial funding requirements for the 2024 tax relief program without affecting service levels or increasing the tax burden on remaining property owners. Using reserve funds aligns with Council Policy B-112, which designates reserves for tax rate stabilization and revenue shortfalls. This approach ensures that eligible property owners receive the full tax relief benefit, as approved by the province, and that the municipality fulfills its financial obligations under the funding agreement.

An alternative approach would be to identify other funding sources, such as reallocating funds from operating budgets or other reserves. This could require adjustments to planned expenditures and may affect other municipal priorities. Additionally, delaying a decision to seek alternative funding could create uncertainty for property owners awaiting tax relief.

If the municipality does not provide its 10% contribution, the tax relief program would be reduced. Property owners affected by the wildfire would receive less financial support, which may increase financial strain on those who lost homes and businesses. This would also be inconsistent with previous Council direction to pursue financial support and relief measures for affected taxpayers.

Allocating the required funds from the Financial Stabilization Reserve is the most direct option to ensure that tax relief is provided as planned, while maintaining stability in municipal finances.

### **Sequence of Property Tax Assessment and Relief Implementation:**

1. **Early April** – Affected taxpayers will receive their 2025 property tax assessment notice, which will reflect the property value as of December 31, 2024.
  - For leaseholders with destroyed properties, the assessment will include only the land value.
2. **Before June 15** – 2025 property tax notices will be sent to property owners showing tax relief measures for the 2024 tax year will be applied as a credit toward the 2025 tax bill.

### **Strategic Relevance:**

- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.
- Communicate and engage with residents.
- Ensure residents receive quality service that provides strong value for dollar.
- Pursue alternative revenue sources and equitable distribution of costs.

### **Inclusion Considerations:**

Providing tax relief will support equity and economic stability in the community, particularly for displaced residents and businesses affected by the wildfire. Ensuring fair taxation adjustments for property owners who suffered significant losses will contribute to a more inclusive and sustainable recovery process.

### **Relevant Legislation:**

- [Alberta Municipal Government Act](#)
- [Council Policy B-112 – Reserves Policy](#)

### **Financial:**

The total municipal contribution required for the 2024 tax relief program is \$220,000. As of December 31, 2024, the financial stabilization reserve had a total balance of \$1,825,000.

### **Attachments:**

- Ministerial Letter – Municipality of Jasper Revenue Stabilization



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR118134

February 5, 2025

His Worship Richard Ireland  
Mayor  
Municipality of Jasper  
PO Box 520  
Jasper AB T0E 1E0

Dear Mayor Ireland:

The magnitude of the 2024 wildfire has resulted in significant challenges for the Municipality of Jasper, including the sudden and unforeseen decrease in the assessment base and loss of operational revenue from tourism-related sources.

The Government of Alberta recognizes the resulting revenue shortfall could impact service delivery and place additional financial hardship on property owners. We also recognize that the wildfire has resulted in displacement of some residents to Hinton and surrounding areas. As interim housing will prioritize essential workers, and will not accommodate all those displaced, this will create barriers for residents to remain connected to employment and community supports in the Municipality of Jasper.

Given the unique recovery challenges impacting the Town of Jasper, I am pleased to inform you that the Government of Alberta has committed funding support for 2024 tax relief, revenue stabilization, and regional transit service.

This includes support for relief to Jasper property owners for their 2024 property taxes, as follows:

- A grant of up to \$1,908,000, reflecting a 90:10 contribution split between the province and Municipality of Jasper, to support relief of municipal property taxes for all properties during the evacuation, and for damaged and destroyed properties from July to December 2024.
- The amount of \$1,114,555 will be cancelled from the 2024 education property tax levy to enable forgiveness of education property taxes for all properties in Jasper during the evacuation, and for damaged and destroyed properties from July to December 2024. Alberta Education is processing this decision, and the adjustment will be reflected on an upcoming invoice.

.../2

The Government of Alberta will also provide a grant of up to \$3,051,000, reflecting a 90:10 contribution split between the province and Jasper, to offset municipal revenue losses for 2024. In addition to the significant support being provided through the Disaster Recovery Program, this revenue stabilization funding will help ensure Jasper has access to the financial resources required to deliver municipal services and continue the recovery process.

We recognize that the municipality has requested additional revenue stabilization support for the 2025-2027 municipal fiscal years, and the Government of Alberta will consider these additional amounts on an annual basis. Given the timelines for preparing and finalizing the 2025 budget for the municipality, the province will provide a response for the 2025 fiscal year as soon as possible as part of Budget 2025.

Finally, approved support by the Government of Alberta will also include a one-time 2024/25 conditional grant of \$2,000,000 to support the provision of interim regional transit service between the municipalities of Hinton and Jasper. This funding is intended to support the procurement of regional transit services by the municipality to alleviate the challenges faced by displaced Jasper residents and workers residing in Hinton and nearby communities.

Municipal Affairs staff will prepare conditional grant agreements and follow up with your chief administrative officer to obtain the appropriate signatures.

Thank you for the continued commitment you have shown in serving your community. Your dedication to the ongoing recovery and community well-being is laudable, and I look forward to our continued collaboration in the wildfire recovery efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ric McIver". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ric McIver  
Minister

cc: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer, Municipality of Jasper

## MOTION ACTION LIST

SHORT TITLE	REQUESTED (DATE)	RESPONSIBLE (WHO)	COUNCIL MOTION (DESCRIPTION)	TARGET (DATE)	STATUS
Jasper Skatepark Committee	March 19, 2024	CAO and Director of Finance & Administration	That Council authorize, in principle, interim financing to the Jasper Skatepark Committee, not to exceed \$150,000, with loan details to be presented to Council following completion of the Skatepark construction.	May 2025	
Moving Traffic Enforcement	July 9, 2024	Director of Protective & Legislative Services	That Committee direct Administration to return to a future Committee of the Whole meeting with additional information on moving traffic enforcement, including the proposed scope of work and an outline of anticipated equipment requirements.	February 2025	
Climate Change Adaptation Plan	August 27, 2024	CAO	That Council direct Administration to proceed with developing a five-year Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan with internal resources and present the plan at a future Committee of the Whole Meeting in spring 2025.	April 2025	
Parcel CH Access Road & Spruce Avenue Development Tender Award	September 17, 2024	CAO	That Council direct Administration to initiate a Local Improvement Bylaw process to recover the servicing costs the Parcel CH Access Road from benefitting adjacent parcels.	March 2025	
Jasper Seniors Society	October 22, 2024	CAO & Director of Community Development	That Council direct Administration to work with the Jasper Seniors Society and other interested parties to develop a plan for seniors' centre that will meet future demand.	March 2025	
Council Remuneration Review	October 22, 2024	CAO and Director of Protective & Legislative Services	That Council direct Administration to maintain the current remuneration model, incorporate the indicator of mountain towns, and return to a future Committee meeting.	February 2025	

<b>Transit Bus RFP</b>	<b>November 19, 2024</b>	<b>CAO</b>	That Council direct Administration to reissue an RFP in spring of 2025 for the procurement of electric buses and/or any other viable zero emission options.	<b>April 2025</b>	
<b>Strategic Priorities – Wildfire Recovery</b>	<b>January 14, 2025</b>	<b>CAO</b>	That Committee direct Administration to develop draft Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities, leveraging existing guidance documents and previous public engagement processes, and return to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.	<b>March 2025</b>	
<b>Property Tax Receivable Write-off Request – Provincial Building</b>	<b>January 14, 2025</b>	<b>CAO and Director of Finance &amp; Administration</b>	That Committee recommend Council direct Administration to keep the amount set as a Property Tax receivable in the amount of \$35,136.62 and return the matter to a future Committee of the Whole meeting in early March 2025.	<b>March 2025</b>	
<b>Utility Rate Model</b>	<b>January 21, 2025</b>	<b>CAO and Director of Finance &amp; Administration</b>	That Council direct Administration to host a workshop to review the utility rate model with interested stakeholders.	<b>June 2025</b>	
<b>In-Town Contractor Camps, Interim Residences &amp; Laydown Requests</b>	<b>January 28, 2025</b>	<b>CAO</b>	That Committee direct Administration to return with legislative changes as required to implement the changes.	<b>March 2025</b>	