

Municipality of Jasper  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
 Tuesday, September 3, 2024 | 9:30 am

Virtual viewing and participation	Due to the ongoing recovery following the Jasper Wildfire Complex this meeting was conducted virtually and available for public livestreaming through Zoom. All meeting attendees participated or observed by electronic means.
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Rico Damota, Councillors Helen Kelleher-Empey, Kathleen Waxer, Ralph Melnyk, Scott Wilson, and Wendy Hall.
Absent	none
Also present	Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer Michael Fark, Director of Recovery Beth Sanders, Director of Urban Design & Standards Mona El Dabee, Energy & Environment Manager Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator Dr. Kristin Pon & Shane Hussey, Alberta Health Services Sean Hynes & Andrea Samaratunga, ATCO Peter Shokeir, The Fitzhugh Bob Covey, The Jasper Local Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton 35 observers
Call to order	Mayor Ireland called the September 3, 2024 Regular Council meeting to order at 9:30am.
Additions or deletions to agenda #366/24	<p>Mayor Ireland, Councillor Melnyk, and Councillor Damota each had requests for additions to the agenda.</p> <p>MOTION by Councillor Waxer that the following items be added to the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.3 Temporary Relaxation of RV Parking Regulations</li> <li>• 5.4 Jasper Municipal Housing Corporation Update</li> <li>• 5.5 Joint Recovery Coordination Centre Update</li> <li>• 9.2 In-Camera Item – Council Human Resources Matter</li> <li>• 9.3 In-Camera Item – Strategic Priorities</li> </ul> <p>FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
Approval of agenda #367/24	<p>MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the agenda for the September 3, 2024 Regular Council meeting as amended with added items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.3 Temporary Relaxation of RV Parking Regulations</li> <li>• 5.4 Jasper Municipal Housing Corporation Update</li> <li>• 5.5 Joint Recovery Coordination Centre Update</li> <li>• 9.2 In-Camera Item – Council Human Resources Matter</li> <li>• 9.3 In-Camera Item – Strategic Priorities</li> </ul> <p>FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
Approval of Regular minutes #368/24	<p>MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the August 27, 2024 Regular Council meeting as presented.</p> <p>FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
Correspondence	<p>Council received correspondence from Colin &amp; Lenie Nilsen; the Mayor of Bow Island; and Mount Allison University all expressing concern for Jasper following the beginning of the wildfire.</p> <p>Council also acknowledged a piece of correspondence received from Shelley Koebel with Gabrielle Investments Ltd yesterday, sent in regards to agenda item 5.2. The correspondence is attached to the minutes.</p>

#369/24	MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that Council receive the correspondence for information.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Alberta Health Services	Alberta Health Services representatives Dr. Kristin Pon, Medical Officer of Health and Shane Hussey, Director of Environmental Public Health, spoke to concerns surrounding air quality and health; monitoring outdoor air; individual actions for residents; and resources available to the public. The presentation slides were a late addition and are attached to the meeting minutes to be included in the public record.			
#370/24	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council receive the presentation for information.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Recovery Effort Positions	Council received a report from Administration with position requests to aid in the Municipality’s recovery following the Jasper Wildfire Complex. Director of Recovery Michael Fark detailed how the positions are intended to provide the Municipality with the critical capacity required to ensure a timely social, economic and housing recovery. Council made slight adjustments to the wording of the recommendation to include the length of term and adding “small business” to the description of one position.			
#371/24	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the establishment of the following two-year term positions to support the social, economic and housing recovery efforts:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One (1) full-time Recovery Operations Project Manager position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time Finance Recovery Coordinator position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time combined Recovery Liaison, Small Business and Information Coordinator position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time Housing/Social Recovery Manager position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time Social Recovery Coordinator position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time Administrative Coordinator position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time Information Technology Coordinator position</li> <li>• One (1) full-time Human Resource Coordinator position</li> </ul>			
		FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Temporary Relaxation of RV Parking Regulations	Council requested information on the effects of the recent temporary relaxation of RV parking regulations within the Municipality. Administration will bring forward an update to the next Regular Council meeting on the subject.			
Jasper Municipal Housing Corporation Update	Council requested information on the status of the Jasper Municipal Housing Corporation and its current projects. Administration will bring forward an update to the next Regular Council meeting on the subject.			
Joint Recovery Coordination Centre Update	Council requested information on how they would receive updates on the Joint Recovery Coordination Centre. Administration did acknowledge work is underway to develop draft Governance and organizational structures for a Recovery Office and a Terms of Reference for a Recovery Committee.			
Notices of Motion	Mayor Ireland indicated he will be bringing the following motion forward to the September 10, 2024 Regular Council meeting:			
	“That Council direct Administration to bring forward recommendations regarding			

the advisability of amending sections 13.6 and 13.7 and any other related provisions of Traffic Safety Bylaw #244 not later than mid-October 2024.”

Councillor Reports Councillor Kelleher-Empey attended a site visit last Thursday to the new Indigenous Lodge at Victor Lake. It is slated to be open next year. On Friday she attended an Evergreens Foundation meeting in Hinton and visited the Seniors.

Upcoming events Council received a list of upcoming events for information.

Move In-camera #372/24 MOTION by Councillor Hall to move in-camera at 11:38am to discuss agenda item:

- 9.1 Third party business interests – FOIP, S. 16
- 9.2 Council Human Resources Matter
- 9.3 Strategic Priorities

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Mr. Given, Ms. Acorn, Ms. Sanders, Sean Hynes, and Andrea Samaratunga also attended the in-camera session. Item 9.2 was removed and item 9.3 was referred to the next Regular Council meeting due to time constraints.

Move out of camera #373/24 MOTION by Councillor Wilson to move out of camera at 1:03pm.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Recess Mayor Ireland called a recess from 1:03pm to 1:30pm

Meeting Extension #374/24 MOTION by Councillor Melnyk that Council extend the September 3, 2024 Regular meeting beyond four hours.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Public Hearing – Clean Energy Improvement Program Tax Bylaw The Mayor called the Public Hearing to order at 1:30pm.

Beth Sanders, Director of Urban Design & Standards and Mona El Dabee, Energy & Environment Manager presented on behalf of Administration.

Mayor Ireland confirmed with Administration that no written submissions were received from the public, nor did any residents register to speak or reach out for more information.

Council was given another opportunity to ask questions of Administration. Administration did recommend two amendments to the definitions section of the bylaw.

Motions arising #375/24 MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council amend Bylaw #263 Clean Energy Improvement Tax Bylaw before giving second reading as follows:

- That section 2.1.13 be replaced with, “‘Owner’ shall include a leaseholder or a manager and any person having authority of an Eligible Property;”
- That a definition of leaseholder be added: “‘Leaseholder’ shall mean a grantee or a Person or other legal entity holding a valid lease or license of occupation with the federal Crown for the use or occupation of land in Jasper National Park, and shall mean Canadian National Railway in respect of lots or land parcels held by Canadian National Railway, and shall mean Jasper National Park of Canada in respect of lots or land parcels held by the Crown;”

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

#376/24

MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council give second reading to the Clean Energy Program Tax Bylaw as amended:

- That section 2.1.13 be replaced with, “‘Owner’ shall include a leaseholder or a manager and any person having authority of an Eligible Property;”
- That a definition of leaseholder be added: “‘Leaseholder’ shall mean a grantee or a Person or other legal entity holding a valid lease or license of occupation with the federal Crown for the use or occupation of land in Jasper National Park, and shall mean Canadian National Railway in respect of lots or land parcels held by Canadian National Railway, and shall mean Jasper National Park of Canada in respect of lots or land parcels held by the Crown;”

FOR  
7 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

#377/24

MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that the public hearing portion of the meeting be adjourned at 2:02pm.

FOR  
7 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

Adjournment  
#378/24

MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that, there being no further business, the Regular Council meeting of September 3, 2024 be adjourned at 2:03pm.

FOR  
7 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

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Mayor

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Chief Administrative Officer



## Gabrielle Investments Ltd.

### SnowDome Coffee Bar, Andromeda Coffee & Coin Clean Laundry

September 2, 2024

#### **Agenda Item 5.2 Recovery Effort Positions - Small Business Recovery after Jasper Wildfire Complex**

Dear Mayor Ireland and Town Council Members,

In the aftermath of the Jasper Wildfire Complex, the destruction of over 30% of the community's structures has had a profound impact, particularly on the small businesses that are the lifeblood of our town's economy and tourism industry. On Patricia Street alone, 19 primarily independent businesses have been destroyed. This does not include the many businesses in Stan Wright Industrial Park or on Connaught Drive. This is a shocking loss that leaves a significant void in the fabric of Jasper's unique and cherished small business culture. To ensure a comprehensive recovery that addresses the economic heart of Jasper, it is essential to include a dedicated position focused on small business recovery within the proposed recovery team.

#### **Considerations:**

- 1. Vital Role of Small Businesses in Jasper's Economy:** Jasper's small businesses are more than just economic entities; they represent the town's identity and are a critical draw for the millions of tourists who visit each year. These businesses offer unique, locally-driven experiences that cannot be replicated by larger chains, and their loss would have a lasting impact on Jasper's appeal as a tourist destination.
- 2. Challenges Faced by Small Businesses:** Unlike larger corporations, small businesses often lack the resources to independently navigate the complexities of recovery after a disaster. They face hurdles such as securing funding, managing insurance claims, rebuilding physical spaces, and retaining customer bases. Many owners have also lost their homes. A position dedicated to assisting these businesses would provide essential support, helping them to recover more swiftly and effectively.

3. **Preserving Jasper's Independent Spirit:** The independent nature of Jasper's businesses is a core part of its charm and appeal. Maintaining this culture is crucial not only for the community's identity but also for the overall recovery of the town's economy. Without targeted assistance, there is a risk that the recovery process may lead to a homogenization of the business landscape, undermining what makes Jasper unique.
4. **Tourism and Economic Recovery:** The recovery of small businesses is directly linked to the broader economic and tourism recovery. Visitors come to Jasper not only for its natural beauty but also for the distinctive shopping and dining experiences plus the unique services offered by local entrepreneurs. A thriving small business sector is essential to re-attracting tourists and ensuring that they have the experiences they seek, which will, in turn, accelerate the overall economic recovery.

In light of the above, I strongly ask Mayor Ireland and Council to seriously address small business recovery with the addition of a full-time Small Business Recovery Specialist to the proposed recovery team. This role would work directly with local entrepreneurs and building owners to provide the guidance, resources, and support needed to rebuild and revitalize Jasper's small business community. We cannot forget that small business owners are residents too. The inclusion of this position aligns with the council's strategic goals of taking active and strategic steps to advance Jasper's interests and ensuring an equitable and holistic recovery for all segments of the community.

By investing in the recovery of our small businesses, we not only preserve the unique character of Jasper but also ensure that our town remains a vibrant and attractive destination for years to come.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Koebel  
Owner  
Mobile: 780 852 8581

Cc: Bill Given - Municipality of Jasper  
Tyler Riopel - Tourism Jasper  
Patti Pavlov - Jasper Chamber of Commerce  
Nancy Robbins - Community Futures West Yellowhead  
MLA Martin Long - Province of Alberta

September 3, 2024

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ATTACHMENT TO  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024  
Regular meeting minutes

# Air Quality and Health

**Dr. Kristin Pon**  
**Medical Officer of Health**

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# Outline

1. Air Quality and Health
  2. Monitoring Outdoor Air
  3. Individual Actions
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# Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)



Health Risk	Air Quality Health Index	Health Messages	
		At Risk Population	General Population
Low Risk	1 – 3	Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.	Ideal air quality for outdoor activities.
Moderate Risk	4 – 6	Consider reducing or rescheduling strenuous activities outdoors if you are experiencing symptoms.	No need to modify your usual outdoor activities unless you experience symptoms such as coughing and throat irritation.
High Risk	7 – 10	Reduce or reschedule strenuous activities outdoors. Children and the elderly should also take it easy.	Consider reducing or rescheduling strenuous activities outdoors if you experience symptoms such as coughing and throat irritation.
Very High Risk	10 +	Avoid strenuous activities outdoors. Children and the elderly should also avoid outdoor physical exertion.	Reduce or reschedule strenuous activities outdoors, especially if you experience symptoms such as coughing and throat irritation.

AQHI - MAQHI - Map (alberta.ca)ap (alberta.ca)



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## Individual Actions

Outdoor Air	Indoor Air
Reduce exposure	Cleaning
Reconsider outdoor activities	Improve air flow
Consider respirator or mask	Filtration
Note: recommendations may vary depending on individual risk factors	

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# Resources

- [ahs.ca/wildfire](https://ahs.ca/wildfire) :
  - [Jasper 2024: Reopening Buildings Homes, and Business After Wildfire](#)
  - [Jasper 2024: Indoor Air Testing After a Wildfire](#)
  - [Hiring an environmental consultant](#)
  - [Hiring a fire restoration contractor](#)



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# Resources

- [Health Information for Air Quality Events](#) (AHS)
  - [Wildfire smoke and your health](#) (MyHealth.Alberta)
  - [Alberta Air Quality Notification Protocol What you need to know](#) (Government of Alberta)
  - [Breathing Smoke or Fumes](#) (MyHealth.Alberta)
  - [Wildfire Smoke and Your Mental Health](#) (AHS)
  - [Smoke Forecast](#)
  - <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Alberta/AlbertaDocuments/asbestos-information.pdf>
  - <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-asbestos-abatement-manual>
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# QUESTIONS