Municipality of Jasper Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 17, 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

Beth Sanders, Director of Urban Design & Standards Bernd Manz, Interim Director of Operations & Utilities

Michael Fark, Director of Recovery

Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator Paul Butler, Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce

Peter Shokeir, The Fitzhugh Bob Covey, The Jasper Local Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton

30 observers

Call to order

Mayor Ireland called the September 17, 2024 Regular Council meeting to order at 9:30am.

Additions or deletions to agenda #392/24

MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council add the following items to the September 17, 2024 Regular meeting agenda:

- 3.2 Business arising from the minutes
- 6.5 Jasper Transit Service
- 6.6 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
- 9.1 In-camera Land & Legal matter
- 9.2 In-camera Legal matter

FOR AGAINST 6 Councillors 0 Councillors

CARRI

Approval of agenda #393/24

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the agenda for the September 17, 2024 Regular Council meeting as amended with the addition of:

- 3.2 Business arising from the minutes
- 6.5 Jasper Transit Service
- 6.6 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
- 9.1 In-camera Land & Legal matter
- 9.3 In-camera Legal matter

FOR AGAINST 6 Councillors 0 Councillors

CARRIED

Approval of Regular minutes #394/24

MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the September 10, 2024 Regular Council meeting as presented.

FOR AGAINST

6 Councillors 0 Councillors CARRIED

Business arising from minutes

Council requested information from Administration regarding the status of the Parks Canada office at which residents can request copies of their home plans. Ms. Sanders confirmed it is open and will email the details to Council which are also linked on the Municipality's website.

Councillor Hall joined the meeting at 9:37am.

Delegations – Jasper Park Executive Director of the Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce Paul Butler attended the meeting to introduce himself in his new role and share the concerns of the business community. He also thanked Council for including a member of the

Chamber of Commerce

Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce in the formation of the Recovery Advisory Committee which is in the process of being established. Mr. Butler did ask for consideration for one of the positions approved at the September 3, 2024 to be more directly related to "Small Business Recovery". CAO Bill Given clarified that was his understanding of the motion made that day. Council did ask if this motion's wording could be clarified at the next Regular Council meeting.

Correspondence

Council received a proclamation request from CN Rail.

#395/24

MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council proclaim September 23-29, 2024 as Rail Safety Week.

FOR AGAINST

7 Councillors 0 Councillors CARRIED

Tax Relief & Revenue Losses

Council received a report detailing the loss of properties within the townsite following the Jasper Wildfire Complex and subsequent effects on the property tax system as well as other revenue streams. CAO Bill Given outlined options for moving forward; timelines to be considered; and a breakdown of parts of the approved municipal budget.

#396/24

MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve, subject to provincial financial support, cancel or refund the Municipal portion of property taxes and the Evergreens Requisition, according to the criteria as presented;

That Council request the Government of Alberta to cancel or refund 2024 education tax levy to be consistent with the cancelled portions of Municipal property taxes cancelation criteria as presented; and

That Council request the Government of Alberta provide funding to offset losses in core municipal revenue from 2024 to 2027.

FOR AGAINST

7 Councillors 0 Councillors CARRIED

Mayor Ireland called a recess from 10:48am to 11:00am.

Council
Remuneration –
Post 2025 Election

Council received recommendations and alternatives regarding Council remuneration following the scheduled 2025 election. Council remuneration is typically reviewed by the outgoing Council prior to the commencement of nominations for the next municipal election. A general municipal election will be held in 2025, which means prospective candidates may submit their nomination papers starting January 1, 2025 as per the Local Authorities Election Act.

#397/24

MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration make the report and recommendations available for public feedback until October 8, 2024; and

That Council direct Administration return to the October 22, 2024 Council meeting with this report and a summary of public input.

FOR AGAINST

7 Councillors 0 Councillors CARRIED

Appointments to Jasper Recovery Advisory Committee Council received a report from Administration at the September 10, 2024 Regular meeting with a first draft of a Terms of Reference for the Recovery Advisory Committee. Appointments were discussed that day, as well as additional members for consideration, but motions to appoint Council members were left until today's meaning for further time to consider.

#398/24

MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Recovery Advisory Committee by adding: as

• 1.6 Upon the Committee's first meeting the members shall select a Chair and Vice-Chair by a majority vote.

FOR AGAINST 7 Councillors 0 Councillors

#399/24

MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that Council make the following appointments to the Recovery Advisory Committee:

- Councillor Wendy Hall
- Councillor Ralph Melnyk
- Councillor Kathleen Waxer as alternate

FOR AGAINST 7 Councillors 0 Councillors

CARRIED

CARRIED

Parcel CH Access Road & Spruce Avenue Development Tender Award #400/24 Council received a request for decision regarding the Parcel CH Access Road & Spruce Avenue Development Tender Award. Interim Director of Operations & Utilities Bernd Manz reported on the bidding process; bids received; scope of work; and estimated timelines.

MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council:

- Award the 'Parcel CH Access Road & Spruce Avenue Road Development' Tender to Jasper Concrete Ltd in the amount of \$1,227,229.75 (excluding GST) as the lowest evaluated bidder;
- Direct Administration to initiate a Local Improvement Bylaw process to recover the servicing costs the Parcel CH Access Road from benefitting adjacent parcels; and
- Fund the Spruce Avenue Road Development from the Housing Reserve (\$220,000) and the Financial Stabilization Reserve (\$90,000).

FOR AGAINST 7 Councillors 0 Councillors

CARRIED

Jasper Transit Service Council requested information on the schedule for the Jasper Transit Service as it restarted today and discussed considerations with Administration.

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Council asked if there were any special events being planned to acknowledge September 30th as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Administration noted that posts have already begun on social media to encourage learning opportunities. Mr. Given also has been in contact with Parks Canada who confirmed they are unable to plan a large event with invited partners due to the constraint on accommodations at this time.

Notices of Motion

none

Councillor Reports

Councillor Waxer was in Toronto last weekend for a family event and attended a fundraiser for Jasper which was very well supported.

The Jasper-Hakone Committee met last week. Councillor Kelleher-Empey will be representing the Municipality of Jasper on the delegation scheduled for this fall but has insisted on paying for her travel and accommodations with her own personal funds.

Upcoming events

Council received a list of upcoming events for information.

Move In-camera #401/24

MOTION by Councillor Damota to move in-camera at 12:28pm to discuss agenda item:

- 9.1 Land & Legal matter
- 9.2 Legal matter

FOR AGAINST 7 Councillors 0 Councillors

CARRIED

Mr. Given and Ms. Acorn also attended the in-camera session.

Move out of camera	MOTION by Councillor Waxer to move out of camera at 1:39pm.			
#402/24	FOR	AGAINST		
	7 Councillors	0 Councillors		CARRIED
Adjournment #403/24	MOTION by Councillor I business, the Regular Co 1:40pm.			
	FOR	AGAINST		
	7 Councillors	0 Councillors		CARRIED
	Mayor			

Chief Administrative Officer