

Municipality of Jasper
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, December 3, 2024 | 1:30pm
 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 both Zoom livestreaming and in-person attendance.						
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Councillors Helen Kelleher-Empey, Rico Damota, Ralph Melnyk, Scott Wilson, and Wendy Hall.						
Absent	Councillor Kathleen Waxer						
Also present	Christine Nadon, Acting Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Protective & Legislative Services Michael Fark, Director of Recovery Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance & Administration Christopher Read, Director of Community Development Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator Paul Butler, Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce Bob Covey, The Jasper Local Peter Shokeir, The Fitzhugh Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton 10 observers						
Call to order	Mayor Ireland called the December 3, 2024 Regular Council meeting to order at 1:30pm.						
Additions or deletions to agenda #525/24	MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council add the following item to the December 3, 2024 Regular Council meeting agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.1 In-camera – Land & Legal FOIP s.25(1) <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">FOR</td> <td style="width: 30%;">AGAINST</td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Councillors</td> <td>0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table>	FOR	AGAINST		6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Approval of agenda #526/24	MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the agenda for the December 3, 2024 Regular Council meeting as amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 9.1 In-camera – Land & Legal FOIP s.25(1) <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">FOR</td> <td style="width: 30%;">AGAINST</td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Councillors</td> <td>0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table>	FOR	AGAINST		6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Approval of Regular minutes #527/24	MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the November 19, 2024 Regular Council meeting as presented. <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">FOR</td> <td style="width: 30%;">AGAINST</td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Councillors</td> <td>0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table>	FOR	AGAINST		6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Approval of Budget Presentation Meeting minutes #528/24	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the November 26, 2024 Budget Presentation meeting as presented. <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">FOR</td> <td style="width: 30%;">AGAINST</td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Councillors</td> <td>0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table>	FOR	AGAINST		6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Delegations	Executive Director of the Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce Paul Butler came forward to share concerns from his membership regarding the 2025 budget and other financial issues.						
Correspondence RCMP Quarterly Report #529/24	Committee received a quarterly report from the RCMP containing a community policing report and Jasper Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics. MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that Council receive the Quarterly RCMP report for information.						

	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillor	CARRIED
Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre Progress Update	Council received a Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) progress update from Director of Recovery Michael Fark. Highlights include information on interim housing; debris removal; social & economic recovery; recovery mental health resources for residents; and more. There is an open house planned for the afternoon of Saturday, December 14 th at the Jasper Activity Centre which will be advertised right away.		
#530/24	MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council receive the progress update for information.		
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Additional Recovery Positions	Council received a request for decision from Administration regarding additional Outreach workers to focus exclusively on support services specific to the aftermath of the 2024 wildfire. Director of Community Development answered Council’s questions and provided further clarifying information.		
#531/24	MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the establishment of the following additional positions to support the ongoing increased social recovery efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) additional full-time Recovery Outreach Worker positions (1 year term) • One (1) additional full-time Recovery Childcare Worker position (1 year term) 		
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Recess	Mayor Ireland called a recess from 3:15pm to 3:26pm.		
2025-2027 Operating Budget and Capital Budget	Budget discussions began at the November 12th Committee of the Whole meeting; at which External Group Presentations were received, and continued at the November 26th Budget Presentation meeting with focus on departmental budgets. Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance & Administration, reviewed changes made since those meetings to the draft presented today.		
#532/24	MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to amend the budget to reflect the removal of the two proposed positions of Maintenance Worker 2 and Project Coordinator in the Operations department.		
	FOR 4 Councillors	AGAINST 2 Councillors (Melnyk, Damota)	CARRIED
#533/24	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to return to Committee of the Whole with an amended 2025 to 2027 operational budget reflecting a removal of the Project Coordinator and Maintenance Worker 2 positions; and		
	Reconfiguring the credits to the financial stabilization reserve to reflect a total tax increase of not more than 4.9%.		
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
#534/24	MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that Council defer approval of the 2025-2027 operating budget as amended; and		

That Council defer the approval of the 2025-2027 capital budget to the next Regular Council meeting on December 17, 2024.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Jasper-Hakone Sister City Relationship Agreement Council received gifts from Hakone to celebrate their 50+ year relationship which was established in 1972. A small delegation of five Jasperites travelled to Hakone, Japan from November 1st-3rd, along with Councillor Helen Kelleher-Empy. The delegation funded their own travels and were humbled to receive a donation of \$10,000 from the Town of Hakone to support Jasper's recovery following the wildfire.

Notices of Motion none

Councillor Reports Councillor Kelleher-Empy will be attending an Evergreens Foundation meeting this week.

Councillor Hall attended a Yellowhead Regional Library Board meeting yesterday and will be at the Seniors Community Conversation tomorrow.

Mayor Ireland attended many events over the past fourteen days including the media event on November 14th announcing \$3.9 million in grants for small businesses; a Jasper Community Team Society meeting; a tourism-based communities meeting with Banff, Canmore, Sylvan Lake and Drumheller; a West Yellowhead Regional Waste Management Authority meeting with Councillor Wilson on November 18th; a virtual Committee meeting with the Federal Ministerial Group for Jasper's Recovery; a panel discussion with the Tourism Industry Association of Alberta on November 19th followed by the Premier's Dinner; a meeting with Telus regarding the installation of new fibre optics internet in the townsite; a Council advocacy workshop on November 25th; and a Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre engagement workshop with Council on November 27th.

On November 20th & 21st Mayor Ireland attended the Alberta First Responder's Mental Health Conference in Edmonton along with Fire Chief Mathew Conte and Director of Protective & Legislative Services Christine Nadon. The Mayor was invited to deliver the keynote address on the Thursday morning.

On November 28th Mayor Ireland took part in a retrospective interview with the CBC looking over the past four months. He also had a virtual meeting with the Jasper Owner's Group; attended an engagement session and luncheon with Indigenous Partners and representatives from the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre; and made it to a Jasper multi-family apartment celebration in Cabin Creek.

Mayor Ireland attended the Rebuild Jasper Run hosted by MultiSports Canada which took place this past Saturday, November 30th.

Mayor Ireland, Councillor Melnyk and Councillor Kelleher-Empy attended the Rotary Club Seniors Lunch at Jasper Park Lodge today.

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

Move In-camera #535/24 MOTION by Councillor Damota to move in-camera at 4:47pm to discuss agenda item:

- 9. 1 In-camera – Land & Legal FOIP s.25(1)

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Mr. Fark and Ms. Nadon also attended the in-camera session.

Move out of
camera
#536/24

MOTION by Councillor Melnyk to move out of camera at 5:30pm.

FOR
6 Councillors

AGAINST
0 Councillors

CARRIED

Adjournment
#537/24

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that, there being no further business, the Regular Council meeting of December 3, 2024 be adjourned at 5:30pm.

FOR
6 Councillors

AGAINST
0 Councillors

CARRIED

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer