

Municipality of Jasper  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, March 17, 2020 | 1:30 p.m.  
Quorum Room, Jasper Library and Cultural Centre

Present Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Helen Kelleher-Empey, Councillors Scott Wilson, Rico Damota, Jenna McGrath and Bert Journault

Absent Councillor Paul Butler

Also present Mark Fercho, Chief Administrative Officer  
Christine Nadon, Legislative Services Manager  
Kayla Byrne, Legislative Services Coordinator  
Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance and Administration (via Zoom)  
Kathleen Waxer, Director of Community and Family Services (via Zoom)  
Doug Olthof, Local Immigration Partnership Coordinator (via Zoom)  
Fuchsia Dragon, Fitzhugh (via Zoom)  
Dwain Wacko, observer

Call to order Mayor Ireland called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

Additions & Deletions to the Agenda #65/20 MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council advance item 9.1 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information for Jasper to item 8.1; add agenda item 13.1 In Camera: Legal Matter, add item 8.3 electronic meetings policy; add item 8.4 CFS contracts; and delete item 4.1 Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Approval of agenda #66/20 MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the agenda for the regular meeting of March 17, 2020 as amended.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Approval of regular minutes #67/20 MOTION by Councillor Journault – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the March 3, 2020 regular Council meeting as presented.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Culture and Recreation report The Director of Culture and Recreation presented a departmental report, highlighting the delayed completion of the Fitness and Aquatic Centre water slide and facility closures due to COVID-19.

Bylaw Summary Council received a list of bylaws currently in force and those in various stages of readings.

Coronavirus  
(COVID-19)  
Information for  
Jasper  
#68/20

It was confirmed, the Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) has been partially activated, virtually. The ECC is monitoring the COVID-19 situation and will implement measures as they become warranted.

Emergency Social Services has also been activated.

Administration and Community and Family Services are still providing services over the phone and through email. Residents are being encouraged to monitor the municipal website and social media pages for updates.

2020 Operating  
Budget

Administration presented updates and adjustments to the 2020 operating budget.

Councillors acknowledged the community will face financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to save costs, Council directed Administration to review the 2020 budgets and remove any previously approved capital works or purchases that are not underway and not critical this year, and to look at all possible operating budget reductions in service for 2020 to bring the budget as close as possible to a zero percent increase.

Councillors indicated they would also like to consider tax deferrals for residents and businesses.

Dwain Wacko, a local business owner, expressed concerns about being able to pay commercial taxes should his business have to close due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

An updated 2020 budget report will be discussed at the March 24 committee of the whole meeting.

Intermunicipal  
Collaboration  
Framework (ICF)  
– waiver of notice  
#69/20

A waiver of notice was requested to accommodate an April 1, 2020 deadline.

MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that Council waive the two-week notice period to make a decision on the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework between Improvement District No. 12 and the Municipality of Jasper.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Intermunicipal  
Collaboration  
Framework  
#70/20

MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework between Improvement District No. 12 and the Municipality of Jasper as presented.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Electronic Meetings Policy – waiver of notice #71/20

A waiver of notice was requested to implement the policy immediately in response to recommendations for social distancing due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

MOTION by Councillor McGrath– BE IT RESOLVED that Council waive the two-week notice period otherwise required to create a policy for meeting electronically.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Electronic Meetings Policy #72/20

MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council create a policy in order to maximize opportunities for attendance at meetings and consistent with Council’s Procedure Bylaw, Council authorizes any members of Council and staff to attend regular Council meetings and committee of the whole meetings by the way of electronic means, subject to such procedures to be established by the Chief Administrative Officer.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Administration will present draft procedures to accompany this policy at the next committee of the whole meeting.

Recess

Mayor Ireland called a recess from 3:00 pm until 3:07 pm.

Family Resource Network – waiver of notice #73/20

A waiver of notice was requested to accommodate a potential March 31, 2020 deadline.

MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council waive the two-week notice period otherwise required to make a decision on the authorization of the Mayor and CAO entering into a contract with the Children’s Services Ministry should the Municipality of Jasper be offered a contract to act as Hub for the Family Resource Network and deliver Spoke services within the community of Jasper.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Family Resource Network #74/20

MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council authorize the Mayor and CAO to enter into a contract with the Children’s Services Ministry should the Municipality of Jasper be offered a contract to act as a HUB for the regional Family Resource Network and to deliver Spoke services within the community of Jasper.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Local Immigration Partnership – waiver of notice #75/20 A waiver of notice was requested to accommodate an April 1, 2020 deadline.  
MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council waive the two-week notice period otherwise required to make a decision on signing a negotiated agreement between the Municipality of Jasper and Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

FOR 6 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors  
CARRIED

Local Immigration Partnership #76/20 MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to sign a negotiated grant agreement between the Municipality of Jasper and Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada valued at \$791,846 for the continued coordination of the Jasper Local Immigration Partnership from April 2020 to March 2025, as well as contributions to the national coordination of Local Immigration Partnerships and the Community Data Project.

FOR 6 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors  
CARRIED

Correspondence: COVID-19 Council received a letter from resident Niki Wilson, encouraging community members to ‘flatten the curve’ in regards to the spread of COVID-19.

Invitation to Parks Canada Councillors have been receiving numerous comments and questions regarding Parks Canada’s evolving approach towards PHAs. In order to respond knowledgeably to community members, Council has invited representatives from Parks Canada to attend a Council meeting to discuss this matter.

Councillor Reports Councillors Kelleher-Empey and Wilson attended a Community Futures meetings, where it was announced the organization received a grant for the Jasper Downtown Revitalization Project. There will be a Community Futures board of directors’ telephone meeting.

Councillor McGrath attended the Rural Education Symposium, the GYPSD engagement session, the Community Conversations and an emergency Jasper Municipal Library board meeting, where the decision was made to close the library due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Upcoming Events Council received a list of upcoming events.

Councillors also requested a presentation by the assessor.

In Camera  
#77/20

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that Council move in camera at 3:30 pm to discuss agenda item 13.1 Legal Matter.

FOR  
6 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

Revert to public  
meeting  
#78/20

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that Council revert to public meeting at 4:04 pm.

FOR  
6 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

Adjournment  
#79/20

MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that, there being no further business, the regular meeting of March 17, 2020 be adjourned at 4:05 pm.

FOR  
6 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

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Mayor

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Chief Administrative Officer