

Municipality of Jasper  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, May 26, 2020 | 9:30 am

Electronic Meeting	The May 26, 2020 regular meeting was conducted virtually through Zoom. All meeting attendees participated or observed by electronic means.
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Scott Wilson, Councillors Paul Butler, Bert Journault, Helen Kelleher-Empy, Jenna McGrath and Rico Damota
Also present	Mark Fercho, Chief Administrative Officer Christine Nadon, Legislative Services Manager Kayla Byrne, Legislative Services Coordinator Greg Van Tighem, Director of Protective Services Lisa Daniel, Childcare Services Manager Fuchsia Dragon, Fitzhugh Brett Ireland, Bearhill Brewing Pattie Pavlov, Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce Penny Bayfield, Wildflowers Parent Board 111 staff members and observers
Call to order	Mayor Ireland called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.
Approval of agenda #157/20	MOTION by Councillor Journault – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the agenda for the regular meeting of May 26, 2020 as presented.  FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors                      CARRIED
Approval of regular minutes #158/20	MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empy – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the May 19, 2020 regular Council meeting as presented.  FOR 7 Councillors                      AGAINST 0 Councillors                      CARRIED
ECC Update	<p>The province is encouraging Albertans to wear non-medical masks when out in public places where keeping a distance of two metres is difficult. The municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) is supporting this recommendation and will continue the local promotion of mask-wearing. Council agreed to also support this recommendation.</p> <p>Several Jasper-based doctors are also encouraging the use of masks; a letter from the doctors was included in the agenda package.</p> <p>The ECC will be adding new signage at the town’s entrances and throughout the business sector, encouraging people to practice physical distancing and adhere to all other public health directives.</p> <p>The ECC and municipal staff are working to determine the best course of action to reopen playgrounds, tennis courts and the skate park.</p>

Councillors inquired about safe reopening procedures and resources.

Public Spacing in Public Places

Mr. Brett Ireland presented renderings to follow-up his presentation on public spacing in public places from the May 12 Council meeting.

Council directed Administration to return to the June 2 meeting with proposed changes to the Commercial Use of Public Spaces Bylaw, which could allow all businesses to expand from beyond their storefront if they choose.

Council indicated it is in favour of exploring a sidewalk expansion option similar to that of Canmore's; and that accessibility for all must be considered.

While proposed expansions would be available to all businesses in the downtown core, along Patricia Street and Connaught Drive, Councillor McGrath and Mayor Ireland noted they both have businesses in the proposed expansion area, however, an expansion would not have any pecuniary interest for their respective businesses.

It was also noted the Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce (JPCC) has contacted almost every business along Patricia Street and Connaught Drive. A full report from the JPCC is expected to be included in an upcoming agenda package.

Physical/Social Distancing Methods Used by Canadian Towns & Cities

Council reviewed several physical distancing methods being used by Canadian cities and towns.

Bylaw Summary

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

Tax Rate Bylaw – 3<sup>rd</sup> reading #159/20

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empy – BE IT RESOLVED that Council read for the third and final time Bylaw #227, the Taxation Rates Bylaw 2020, being a bylaw of the Municipality of Jasper in the province of Alberta to authorize the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable property within the Municipality of Jasper for the 2020 taxation year.

FOR	AGAINST	
6 Councillors	1 Councillor (Councillor Wilson)	CARRIED

Virtual Meetings and Public Participation Discussion

Council indicated it was in favour of pre-registering members of the public who wish to speak at Council meetings prior to the meeting. To help with meeting facilitation, the Zoom chat during Council meetings has been disabled. The virtually raising of hand during a meeting does not guarantee a member of the public will be acknowledged by the chair.

Council also noted it was in favour of shortening the notice time for presentations from two weeks to one week.

Wildflowers Childcare Daycare and Out of School Care Re-opening #160/20

Following discussions on budget, timelines, guidelines and current daycare and out of school care needs, Council made the following motion:

MOTION by Councillor McGrath – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to reopen Wildflowers Childcare Daycare and Out of School Care at the beginning of June with funding to come from reserves if necessary and with the direction that Administration investigate other sources of funding and report back to Council.

FOR	AGAINST	
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED

Administration and Council will also look into timelines pertaining to remaining Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) grant funds.

The Wildflowers Parent Board also offered a \$10,000 contribution towards the reopening of the daycare. Council did not accept the contribution and indicated the board should save their funds for a project of their choice.

Correspondence: Municipal Revenue, Jasper Hotel Tax

In response to a letter regarding a hotel tax, councillors noted the only way the Municipality can collect revenue is through user fees and property taxes. The Municipality of Jasper, Banff and Canmore have been lobbying for years for alternative revenue sources for tourism communities.

Connaught Washroom Closure

In response to a letter regarding the closure of the Connaught Street washroom, councillors indicated the reopening of this washroom should be a high priority as it is the only community public washroom that is wheelchair accessible.

JAG reopening

In response to a letter from the Jasper Artists Guild (JAG) regarding a gallery reopen date of June 20, Council directed Administration to look into the logistics of this request and work with JAG to realize the proposed reopen date.

Public spacing

Council received letters in response to the public spacing in public places proposal.

Wildflowers Childcare Daycare and Out of School Care Reopening

Council received numerous letters regarding the reopening of Wildflowers Childcare Daycare and Out of School Care.

Other correspondence

Council also received letters regarding municipal service reductions and bylaw enforcement.

Other New Business:

Councillor Damota requested a Human Resources Committee in the near future.

Councillor McGrath noted, through her personal membership with the Jasper Local Food Society, that the Jasper Community Garden does not have access to

running water due to a lack of municipal resources needed to turn on the irrigation line. A detailed report on municipal service reductions is expected to be provided to Council in the near future, which will allow Council to further discuss reductions throughout the community.

Councillor Reports

Councillor McGrath will continue attending the weekly Community Conversations and will attend the Jasper Community Team Society AGM and an upcoming school board meeting. Councillor McGrath also attended trauma informed training.

Councillor Kelleher-Empey has been invited to speak at a Community Futures event regarding the effect of COVID-19 on the region; and also noted there are new grant funding opportunities through Community Futures for regional businesses.

Upcoming Events

Council received a short list of events.

Adjournment #161/20

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that, there being no further business, the regular meeting of May 26, 2020 be adjourned at 1:10 pm.

FOR  
6 Councillors

AGAINST  
0 Councillors

CARRIED

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Mayor

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Chief Administrative Officer