

Municipality of Jasper
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2020 | 9:30 am
Quorum Room, Jasper Library and Cultural Centre

Virtual viewing and participation	Public viewing and participation during Council meetings is through Zoom livestreaming.
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Bert Journault, Councillors Paul Butler, Rico Damota and Scott Wilson
Absent	Councillors Jenna McGrath and Helen Kelleher-Empey
Also present	Mark Fercho, Chief Administrative Officer Christine Nadon, Legislative Services Manager Kayla Byrne, Legislative Services Coordinator <i>Attended or participated through Zoom:</i> Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance and Administration Yvonne McNabb, Director of Culture and Recreation John Greathead, Director of Operations Joanne McQuarrie, Fitzhugh 8 staff members and observers
Call to Order	Deputy Mayor Journault called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
Approval of Agenda	MOTION by Councillor Butler to approve the agenda for August 11, 2020 as presented. CARRIED
Approval of Minutes	MOTION by Councillor Wilson to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2020 meeting as presented. CARRIED
Public health update and concerns	Councillors inquired about updated signage and communications regarding compulsory face coverings in Jasper. Administration confirmed new posters have been delivered to businesses and messaging has been updated on the municipal website and Facebook page. Mayor Ireland has also done interviews with regional media outlets to accompany a news release issued following the August 4 decision.
Council Strategic Priorities update	Council is having a Strategic Priorities Committee meeting on August 18. Councillors requested an update on the development of municipal housing and the Connaught Drive housing project. Administration noted it has been working with the consultants on the Connaught Drive project, which now requires re-engagement of the business community to determine its interest in the project. Administration noted finding an appropriate time to re-engage businesses can be challenging due to the circumstances related to the pandemic, and sought direction from Council to help determine an appropriate time. It was suggested this item could also be discussed with the JCHC in the near future.

Councillors also inquired about the Municipality's request to extend borrowing past the municipal debt limit. Mayor Ireland will contact AUMA and the Mayor of Canmore to further discuss this item; it was also suggested Council could submit an AUMA resolution to exclude housing corporations from municipal debt limits. It was also suggested this item be discussed with MLA Long.

Reopening of the Activity Centre Councillors discussed a request to approve an additional net deficit of \$70,000 to reopen the Activity Centre starting September 21, 2020 with reduced hours. Councillors discussed different reopening dates and the possibility of utilizing the multi-purpose hall without reopening the Activity Centre to the public. Administration also provided information from user groups regarding their preferred reopening dates.

Administration requested a reopening date prior to October 4. Administration is requesting that Council make a decision at the August 18 meeting to allow time to recall staff and ensure all staff are properly trained. After October 4, Administration will have to do some risk managing to rehire staff.

S-Block Paid Parking Fee Structure Councillors discussed the possibility of increased fees for larger parking stalls; enforcement of street parking; and the application of more paid parking. Councillors suggested making a motion, with appropriate preamble, to direct administration to set fees pursuant to legislation in the municipal Rates and Fees Bylaw.

This item is scheduled to return for decision at the next regular meeting.

Recess Deputy Mayor Journault called a recess at 11:05 am until 11:13 am.

Commercial Cardboard Council discussed service levels, policy and cost implications of making changes to the Commercial Cardboard program in the Operations Department. Councillors noted the importance of working with businesses and having a strong communications campaign to accompany any future changes.

Councillors also suggested engaging AUMA to advocate for extended producer responsibility legislation.

Covid-19 Tax and Utility Deferral Update Administration noted many property owners have paid the full amount of their tax bill. It was also noted the figures presented in today's report will be updated in September, when taxes are due. Councillors inquired about the possibility of retroactively waiving penalties should Council defer taxes past September 1. Councillors also inquired about the municipal pre-authorized payment program.

This item will return for further discussion in September.

Municipal Stimulus Program (MSP) Update Jasper has received an allocation for funding from the Municipal Stimulus Program for specific municipal projects. Councillors inquired about the conditions of the funding; requested more information on those conditions and a list of eligible projects.

Draft Council Correspondence Policy	<p>Councillors suggested edits to the draft correspondence policy, which included wording around misrepresentations of facts and that letters should not be personal in nature.</p> <p>This policy is scheduled to return for decision at the next regular meeting.</p>
Communications Coordinator	<p>Councillors discussed the service levels and resource allocation required to provide corporate communications services for the Municipality of Jasper. Councillors indicated their support for more municipal communications, but would like to further discuss service levels – particularly service levels dedicated to municipal social media communications.</p>
Jasper Day Proclamation	<p>Councillors discussed possible dates and activities for the proposed Jasper Day, a day to celebrate Jasperites. Councillors suggested engaging with the public to help set dates and activities.</p>
Correspondence: Mandatory Masks	<p>Council received letters encouraging mandatory mask wearing. These items had been received after the deadline for the August 4 agenda.</p> <p>Councillors thanked community members for taking the time to engage with Council.</p>
Other new business	<p>An update on the municipal bulk-water fill station was requested.</p>
Meeting extension	<p>MOTION by Mayor Ireland that Council extend today’s meeting beyond four hours.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
In Camera	<p>MOTION by Councillor Wilson that Council move in camera at 1:27 pm to discuss agenda item 13.1 HR Matter: staffing – FOIP, S 24 at 1:27 pm.</p>
Revert to open meeting	<p>MOTION by Councillor Damota that Council revert to open meeting at 2:12 pm.</p>
Adjournment	<p>MOTION by Councillor Wilson that, there being no further business, the meeting of August 11, 2020 be adjourned at 2:13 pm.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>