

Municipality of Jasper
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 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 Rico Damota, Councillors Jenna McGrath, Helen Kelleher-Empey, Paul Butler and Bert Journault (via Zoom)
Absent	Councillor Scott Wilson
Also present	Mark Fercho, Chief Administrative Officer 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 Joanne McQuarrie, Fitzhugh five staff members and/or observers
Call to Order	Deputy Mayor Damota called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
Approval of Agenda	MOTION by Councillor McGrath to approve the agenda for September 8, 2020 as presented. CARRIED
Approval of Minutes	MOTION by Councillor McGrath to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2020 meeting as presented. CARRIED
Business arising from the minutes	Councillors inquired about the Skate Park Committee’s CFEP application deadline. In an email, the Skate Park Committee stated the application deadline has changed to June 15, 2021. Councillor Butler will contact the committee to confirm the new deadline and any follow-up actions. Councillors inquired about cardboard collection services. This item will be further discussed at future meetings.
Public health update and concerns	Council will hold a special meeting this afternoon to discuss compulsory face covering exemptions in regard to physical activities.
Council Strategic Priorities update	Council confirmed its next Strategic Priorities Committee will be September 15 at 9:30 am. Councillors requested that tax equity and the municipal assessor contract be discussed at the upcoming Strategic Priorities Committee meeting. Councillors will attend a Human Resources Committee meeting to further discuss hiring a new chief administrative officer and other related logistics.

Council will also have an intergovernmental meeting on September 22.

Councillors requested an update on municipal staff housing.

Health and Safety
Audit Report

The Director of Culture and Recreation presented the 2020 municipal health and safety audit report. The Municipality received an overall score of 82%. The auditors found that the Municipality is committed to health and safety procedures, and recommended that the Municipality continue with annual training and move forward with the municipal preventative maintenance program.

A full summary of the report can be found in today's meeting agenda package.

Councillors requested more clarity on the recommendations within the report. The Director of Culture and Recreation will forward more information including an example of previous follow-up action lists for managers.

COVID-19 Tax and
Utility Deferral
Update

The Director of Finance and Administration presented a COVID-19 tax and utility deferral update, highlighting 13% of property taxes and 26% of utility fees are outstanding; staff noted these percentages are similar to previous years.

Councillors asked clarifying questions. Administration confirmed there have been no requests to extend fee deferrals, which expired on September 1.

2021 Budget
Process

Administration recommended that Council consider a target dollar amount or percentage increase for the 2021 budget process; and recommended that Council set a final decision date for the upcoming operating budget.

Councillors requested a budget process approach that integrates Council's efforts to set service levels and service needs based on its priorities.

This item will be further discussed at future meetings.

Recess

Deputy Mayor Damota called a recess from 11:04 am until 11:10 am.

JCHC Succession
Plan

Council discussed possibilities for a Jasper Community Housing Corporation succession plan.

Councillors suggested this report be discussed at a JCHC meeting rather than at a Council meeting and that the JCHC hold an AGM, allowing an opportunity for proposed changes and plans to be discussed with all shareholders.

Public attendance
at Council
meetings

Council indicated its comfort with how meetings are currently being conducted; meetings are closed to public in-person attendance, however, all meetings are live-streamed on Zoom and archived on YouTube. People who do not use Zoom or Youtube can always call into a Council meeting using a telephone.

Correspondence:

Council received a letter advocating for Jasper's pedestrians and for ways the Municipality can promote active transportation. Council will discuss this topic at future meetings and

Pedestrian
Prioritization

recommended Ms. Toop's sentiments are shared with an existing local sidewalk reconfiguration committee.

Waste Water
Treatment Plant
Classification

Council received notice that the Municipality is requesting a classification change for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The plant is currently classified as a Class IV facility. The Municipality believes the Jasper plant should be classified as a Class III facility.

Council
representation

Councillor McGrath will attend the weekly Community Conversations, a Library board meeting and a Municipal Inclusion Committee meeting.

Some councillors will participate in the Jasper Victim Services charity golf tournament.

Councillor Kelleher-Empey will attend a Community Futures meeting and will participate in the organization's upcoming business walk.

Mayor Ireland will attend a Jasper Yellowhead Museum meeting.

It was noted the upcoming Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce AGM conflicts with Council's upcoming Strategic Priorities meeting.

Upcoming events

Council received a list of upcoming events.

Adjournment

MOTION by Mayor Ireland that, there being no further business, the meeting of September 8, 2020 be adjourned at 12:16 pm.

CARRIED