

Municipality of Jasper
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2020 | 9:30 am

Conducted virtually through Zoom

Virtual viewing and participation	This meeting was conducted virtually through Zoom. Public viewing and public participation during Council meetings is through Zoom livestreaming.
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Paul Butler, Councillors Jenna McGrath, Helen Kelleher-Empey, Rico Damota, Scott Wilson and Bert Journault
Also present	John Greathead, interim Chief Administrative Officer Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance and Administration Kayla Byrne, Legislative Services Coordinator Christine Nadon, Legislative Services Manager Christina Martin, Jasper Artists Guild Rob Hubick, Greg Key & Herb Robinson, Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society Marianne Garrah, Habitat for the Arts Joanne McQuarrie, Fitzhugh Bob Covey, Jasper Local 13 observers
Call to Order	Deputy Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
Approval of Agenda	MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey to approve the agenda for November 10, 2020 with the following addition: - 14.4 Deliberative Matter – existing agreement CARRIED
Approval of Minutes	MOTION by Councillor McGrath to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting as presented. CARRIED
Presentations	Council received external budget requests from Jasper Artists Guild (JAG), Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society and Habitat for the Arts. Councillors asked clarifying questions. All presentations can be found in the November 10 agenda package.
Recess	Deputy Mayor Butler called a recess from 10:55 am until 11:05 am.
Public health update and concerns	Councillors discussed virtual meetings of its boards and committees. Councillors indicated any committee member should be able to request to virtually join in-person meetings. Administration has implemented mandatory face coverings in the Fitness and Aquatic Centre for all people, including those with medical exemptions. Administration indicated refunds will be administered to pass holders with medical exemptions. Councillors inquired if the temporary face covering bylaw will have to be updated. At this time, the bylaw may remain unchanged.

Council Strategic Priorities Update	None.
Brief Updates: 2021 Utility Fees	<p>Administration presented a report to aid in the development of the 2021 Utility Fees Bylaw, which sets the user fees for municipal water, sewer, garbage and recycling services.</p> <p>Councillors asked clarifying questions, focusing on system equity; rates; implementation; and timelines. Councillors indicated that a base-rate based on meter size and a flat consumption rate may be the most appropriate option. Councillors noted they will have to discuss how to best implement higher utility rates for upcoming years.</p> <p>This item will be further discussed at the next meeting.</p>
2021 Municipal Tax Requisition	<p>Administration inquired if Council required any other information on the 2021 municipal tax requisition prior to the public budget meetings.</p> <p>Councillors inquired about hours of operation for culture and recreation facilities; the uncertainty of revenue from culture and recreation programming; and transfers to reserves. Councillors noted the Municipality has tools to administer tax relief to residents and businesses if needed. Council will continue to discuss service levels throughout the ongoing budget discussions.</p>
Recess and Councillor Damota	Deputy Mayor Butler called a recess from 1:03 pm until 1:30 pm. Councillor Damota left the meeting at 1:03 pm.
Alberta Municipal Wastewater Partnership	Administration made a recommendation that Council support a funding application to the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership (AMWWP). This item, with a waiver of notice, is scheduled to return for a decision at the next meeting.
COVID-19 Tax and Utility Deferral Update	Council reviewed an update on the municipal COVID-19 tax and utility deferral, which included a split between residential and non-residential for outstanding taxes and utility fees.
ICIP Update	<p>Council reviewed an update on the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). Councillors inquired about the level of commitment for projects outlined in the funding application. Administration is expected to meet with a grant advisor to further discuss the logistics of this funding.</p> <p>A request for decision with a waiver of notice for the ICIP funding agreement is scheduled to return at the next regular meeting.</p>
Outdoor recreation and entertainment opportunities	<p>Councillor McGrath inquired about options to establish support for outdoor recreation and entertainment opportunities during the pandemic. Councillors discussed creating parameters in order to best establish municipal support.</p> <p>Councillors also discussed annual support for the World Tree. Administration suggested the World Tree organizers submit a formal request to Council and Administration.</p>

Administration noted it will help with community initiatives whenever possible, however, staff agreed creating parameters for support would be beneficial.

Other new
business

Councillors requested that Administration explore cross country ski track grooming responsibilities at Centennial Park, noting that some years the park is tracked, but other years it is not.

Council
representation on
boards and
committees

Councillor McGrath and Mayor Ireland are scheduled to attend a Municipal Inclusion Committee meeting. It was noted this committee was not included in Council's list of boards and committees at its annual organizational meeting; this will be addressed at a future meeting.

Upcoming events

Council received a list of upcoming events.

In Camera

MOTION by Mayor Ireland that Council move in camera at 3:35 pm to discuss agenda items 14.1, 14.2, 14.3 and 14.4.

CARRIED

Revert to open
meeting

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey that Council revert to open meeting at 4:23 pm.

CARRIED

Adjournment

MOTION by Councillor Journault that, there being no further business, the meeting of November 10, 2020 be adjourned at 4:23 pm.

CARRIED