

Municipality of Jasper
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 22, 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 Helen Kelleher-Empey, Jenna McGrath, Rico Damota, Scott Wilson and Bert Journault
Also present	John Greathead, interim Chief Administrative Officer Gord Hutton, Buildings and Asset Manager Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance and Administration Kayla Byrne, Legislative Services Coordinator Joanne McQuarrie, Fitzhugh 5 observers
Call to Order	Deputy Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.
Approval of Agenda	MOTION by Councillor McGrath to approve the agenda for the December 22, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented. CARRIED
Approval of Minutes	MOTION by Councillor Damota to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented. CARRIED
Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) Update	Council received an update from the municipal Emergency Coordination Centre. Active COVID-19 cases in the community remain high, but are decreasing. The Evergreens Foundation is currently dealing with an outbreak at the Alpine Summit Seniors Lodge. Council extended its gratitude to all healthcare workers. Regular ECC updates are being published on the municipal website.
Council Strategic Priorities	Council will meet for a Strategic Priorities meeting following the December 22 Committee of the Whole meeting.
Councillor Kelleher-Empey	Councillor Kelleher-Empey joined the meeting at 10:24 am.
Request for direction: Utility Fees 2021	Following discussions on 2021 utility fees, Councillors indicated they would like to see a Utility Fees Levy and Collection Bylaw similar to that which was presented at the December 15 meeting, but with no increases to the connection size line and the consumption size line; the intent of this is to highlight that Council has indicated it would like to move forward with a tiered model in the future. Councillors suggested a rate increase of 3.5 % for sewer and water and a 5 % increase for solid waste (garbage and recycling).

All three readings of the Utility Fees Levy and Collection Bylaw are scheduled for the January 5 regular meeting.

Recess

Deputy Mayor Butler called a recess from 11:05 am until 11:12 am.

Operating budget discussion

Councillors discussed tax deferral options for those in need; what the MOST funding could be utilized for; land rent relief from Parks Canada; and other options to reduce municipal expenses.

Administration is expecting to have a better understanding of what the MOST funding can be used for by February.

Council will further discuss the operating budget and service levels at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Adjournment

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey that, there being no further business, the meeting of December 22, 2020 be adjourned at 12:30 pm. CARRIED