



MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 PM - Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Council Chambers, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore AB

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor Melissa Langmaid, Councillor Debbie Mitzner, Councillor Jason Montgomery (virtual), Councillor Denise Peterson, Councillor Richard Wegener, and Councillor Brent Wiley

COUNCIL ABSENT:

Mayor Pat Fule

STAFF PRESENT:

Kevin Scoble (Chief Administrative Officer), Jamie Dugdale (Director of Infrastructure, Operations, and Development Services), Mark Pretzlaff (Director of Community and Protective Services), Kara Rusk (Director of Strategic, Administrative, and Financial Services), and Johnathan Strathdee (Manager of Legislative Services)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Langmaid called the March 6, 2024 Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1.1. Traditional Land Acknowledgement for the First Meeting in March (Sa'aikisom)

We honour all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We acknowledge that the ancestral and traditional lands on which we gather are Land of the Blackfoot Confederacy and Treaty 7 territory, a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous peoples, and in particular our neighbors, Siksika Nation on whose traditional territory we work, live, and play, and on whose traditional territory we stand and where Strathmore resides.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 037.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council adopt the March 6, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as presented.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1. Delegation - Wheatland and Area Hospice Society

Resolution No. 038.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wiley

THAT Council take a 5-minute recess.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Langmaid reconvened the March 6, 2024 Regular Council Meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Resolution No. 039.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wiley

THAT Council amend the agenda to discuss item 9.1 Economic Development Action Plan prior to discussing the closed meeting items.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Economic Development Action Plan

5. CLOSED MEETING

Resolution No. 040.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council move In Camera to discuss items related to sections 24(1)(a) and 24(1)(b)(i) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* at 7:45 p.m.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

- 5.1. Strategic Plan Discussion - Advice from officials - FOIP S. 24(1)(a)
- 5.2. Strathmore Affordable Housing Society - Advice from officials - FOIP S. 24(1)(a)
- 5.3. Board Appointments - Advice from officials - FOIP S. 24(1)(a)
- 5.4. Land Item - Advice from officials - FOIP S. 24(1)(a)
- 5.5. Council/CAO Dialogue - Advice from officials - FOIP S. 24(1)(b)(i)

Resolution No. 041.03.24

Moved by Councillor Mitzner

THAT Council move out of Camera at 8:58 p.m.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 042.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council approve the Strathmore Affordable Housing Society Bylaws as presented during the closed meeting discussion under Section 24 (1)(a) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, and Councillor Wegener

AGAINST: Councillor Wiley

CARRIED

Resolution No. 043.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council appoint Ian Anderson to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board for a term ending October 31, 2024.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 044.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council approve the recommendation for 5.4 - *Land Item* as presented in the Confidential Administrative Report and as discussed In Camera;

AND THAT the details of the discussion remain confidential pursuant to section 24(1)(a) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No. 045.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wiley

THAT Council adopt the recommendations of the following agenda reports by an omnibus motion:

- 9.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - February 21, 2024
- 10.3 Wheatland and Area Hospice Society - Letter of Support
- 10.4 Skills for Success - Letter of Support
- 10.5 Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation - Thank You Letter
- 10.6 Library Board Auditor
- 12.2.1 Strathmore Library Board - Organizational Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2024
- 12.2.2 Strathmore Library Board - Regular Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2024
- 13.1 Letter regarding palliative care space at the Strathmore District Health Services site - includes 91 signatures

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes - February 21, 2024

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopt the February 21, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented in Attachment I.

10. BUSINESS

10.1. 2024 Recreation and Cultural Needs Assessment

Resolution No. 046.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council approve a Capital Budget request, in the amount of \$60,000 and funded from the Fiscal Stabilization Reserve, for a Recreation and Culture Needs Assessment.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

10.2. Letters of Support Policy No. 1109

Resolution No. 047.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council adopt Letters of Support Policy No. 1109 as presented in Attachment I.

Resolution No. 048.03.24

Moved by Councillor Montgomery

THAT Council amend the motion to add the following to 7.1 d., 7.2 c., 7.3 d., and 7.4 d.:

"If any concerns or objections are raised then Legislative Services will bring the letter to the next available council meeting for review."

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 049.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wiley

THAT Council amend the Letters of Support Policy No. 1109 to allow for four business days for review instead of two.

FOR: Councillor Montgomery and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Peterson, and Councillor Wegener

DEFEATED

Resolution No. 047.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council adopt Letters of Support Policy No. 1109 as amended to add the following to 7.1 d., 7.2 c., 7.3 d., and 7.4 d.:

"If any concerns or objections are raised than Legislative Services will bring the letter to the next available council meeting for review."

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, and Councillor Wegener

AGAINST: Councillor Wiley

CARRIED

10.3. Wheatland & Area Hospice Society - Letter of Support

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council authorize Mayor Fule to sign the letter to Minister LaGrange regarding support for the Wheatland & Area Hospice Society hospice, as presented in Attachment I.

10.4. Skills for Success - Letter of Support

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council authorize Mayor Fule to sign the letter support for Prospect Human Services - Skills for Success program, as presented in Attachment I.

10.5. Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation - Thank You Letter

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council authorize Mayor Fule to sign the letter thanking the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation for visiting our community.

10.6. Library Board Auditor

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council approve of Orion LLP as the auditor firm for the Strathmore Municipal Library Board.

11. BYLAWS

None.

12. COUNCILLOR INFORMATION & INQUIRIES

12.1. QUESTIONS BETWEEN COUNCILLORS AND COUNCIL STATEMENTS

12.1.1. International Women's Day

Deputy Mayor Langmaid made a comment regarding International Woman's Day being March 8, 2024.

12.2. BOARDS AND COMMITTEES REPORTS

12.2.1. Strathmore Library Board - Organizational Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2024

12.2.2. Strathmore Library Board - Regular Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2024

12.3. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

None.

12.4. ADMINISTRATIVE INQUIRIES

None.

12.5. NOTICES OF MOTION

12.5.1. Cemetery Bylaw Amendments - Councillor Wiley

Resolution No. 050.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wiley

THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a bylaw with the following amendments to Bylaw No. 23-31 as presented in Attachment II of the November 1, 2023 Cemetery Bylaw No. 23-31 Request for Decision as amended:

- That section 8.3(a) be amended to state:

“Monuments sitting on a full-size burial plot are recommended to not exceed a maximum height of three feet (3’) including base, maximum depth of one foot (1’) including base, and a maximum width of two and a half feet (2.5’) not including the base. The Cemetery Coordinator, at their discretion, can prevent monuments considered to be too large for: safety reasons; deemed to impede other plots; or prevent landscaping and maintenance. Where there is a ribbon or base present, all monuments will be placed upon the base or the ribbon.”
- That section 8.4(a) be amended to state:

“Flat grave markers must be flush with the ground and not impede other plots or landscaping and maintenance.”
- That section 13.1 be amended to state:

“The public may visit the cemetery at any time that Strathmore’s regular parks are open.”
- That section 13.8 be deleted in its entirety.
- That section 13.9 be deleted in its entirety.
- That the following be added to section 13 of the bylaw:

“Grave decorations such as, but not limited to, statues, crosses, plaques, benches, and vases must be made of granite, marble, metal craft or another equally durable material. Items made of glass, ceramic, china, or other easily breakable material will be removed immediately and placed in storage. The town will make reasonable efforts to provide written notice to the authorized representative of any disrepair of the grave decorations. The authorized representative will be provided 30 days to contact the Town with a repair or replacement plan. If no contact is made, the Town will hold it for an additional 90 days. If no contact is made at the expiry of 90 days of the removal, the Town will dispose of the grave decoration.”
- That section 13.12 be amended to state:

“Seasonal decorations shall be allowed to be placed one (1) week prior to a holiday but cannot impede maintenance or be a safety hazard. Seasonal decorations that are still in place one (1) week from the conclusion of the holiday will be removed and disposed of without notice.”
- That section 13.13 be deleted in its entirety.
- That section 13.14 be amended to remove the word “benches”.

- That section 13.20 be deleted in its entirety.
- That section 13.22 be amended to state:
"No person shall cultivate any plot without the consent of the Cemetery Coordinator."
- That section 13.26 be amended to state:
"Any memorial tribute or grave decoration considered offensive will be brought to council for the possibility of removal."
- That Schedule 'A' – Penalties section 13 be amended to remove the word "benches" from the item on erecting or constructing; and the word "care" from the item on cultivating.

AND THAT Council direct Administration to develop a permitting process for residents who want to apply for decorations under the condition that they maintain the plot and bring the proposed permit process and revised Cemetery Bylaw to the April 10, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting for Council's consideration.

Resolution No. 051.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council extend the meeting to 10:30 p.m.;

AND THAT Council take a 5-minute recess.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: Councillor Wegener

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Langmaid reconvened the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Resolution No. 052.03.24

Moved by Councillor Peterson

THAT Council take a 2-minute recess.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Langmaid reconvened the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Resolution No. 053.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council direct Administration to provide a cost comparison for the proposed changes to Cemetery Bylaw No. 23-31;

AND THAT the original motion be amended to have the revised Cemetery Bylaw brought to the May 8, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting for Council's consideration.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 050.03.24

Moved by Councillor Wiley

THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a bylaw with the following amendments to Bylaw No. 23-31 as presented in Attachment II of the November 1, 2023 Cemetery Bylaw No. 23-31 Request for Decision as amended:

- That section 8.3(a) be amended to state:

“Monuments sitting on a full-size burial plot are recommended to not exceed a maximum height of three feet (3') including base, maximum depth of one foot (1') including base, and a maximum width of two and a half feet (2.5') not including the base. The Cemetery Coordinator, at their discretion, can prevent monuments considered to be too large for: safety reasons; deemed to impede other plots; or prevent landscaping and maintenance. Where there is a ribbon or base present, all monuments will be placed upon the base or the ribbon.”
- That section 8.4(a) be amended to state:

“Flat grave markers must be flush with the ground and not impede other plots or landscaping and maintenance.”
- That section 13.1 be amended to state:

“The public may visit the cemetery at any time that Strathmore's regular parks are open.”
- That section 13.8 be deleted in its entirety.
- That section 13.9 be deleted in its entirety.

- That the following be added to section 13 of the bylaw:
 "Grave decorations such as, but not limited to, statues, crosses, plaques, benches, and vases must be made of granite, marble, metal craft or another equally durable material. Items made of glass, ceramic, china, or other easily breakable material will be removed immediately and placed in storage. The town will make reasonable efforts to provide written notice to the authorized representative of any disrepair of the grave decorations. The authorized representative will be provided 30 days to contact the Town with a repair or replacement plan. If no contact is made, the Town will hold it for an additional 90 days. If no contact is made at the expiry of 90 days of the removal, the Town will dispose of the grave decoration."
- That section 13.12 be amended to state:
 "Seasonal decorations shall be allowed to be placed one (1) week prior to a holiday but cannot impede maintenance or be a safety hazard. Seasonal decorations that are still in place one (1) week from the conclusion of the holiday will be removed and disposed of without notice."
- That section 13.13 be deleted in its entirety.
- That section 13.14 be amended to remove the word "benches".
- That section 13.20 be deleted in its entirety.
- That section 13.22 be amended to state:
 "No person shall cultivate any plot without the consent of the Cemetery Coordinator."
- That section 13.26 be amended to state:
 "Any memorial tribute or grave decoration considered offensive will be brought to council for the possibility of removal."
- That Schedule 'A' – Penalties section 13 be amended to remove the word "benches" from the item on erecting or constructing; and the word "care" from the item on cultivating.

AND THAT Council direct Administration to develop a permitting process for residents who want to apply for decorations under the condition that they maintain the plot and bring the proposed permit process and revised Cemetery Bylaw to the May 8, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting for Council's consideration.

AND THAT Council direct Administration to provide a cost comparison for the proposed changes to Cemetery Bylaw No. 23.31.

FOR: Deputy Mayor Langmaid, Councillor Mitzner, Councillor Montgomery, Councillor Peterson, Councillor Wegener, and Councillor Wiley

AGAINST: None.
CARRIED

13. CORRESPONDENCE

13.1. Letter regarding palliative care space at the Strathmore District Health Services site - includes 91 signatures

14. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Langmaid adjourned the March 6, 2024 Regular Council Meeting at 10:24 p.m.



Mayor



Director of Strategic, Administrative
and Financial Services