

**Youth Council Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Unapproved**  
**April 5, 2023**  
**7:00pm – 8:00pm**  
**Hybrid: TEAMS and Lang Rm City Hall**

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**In Attendance**

Ava Bendick  
Colby Mask  
Sorrow Donkin  
Councillor Jib Abitoye  
Kristi Wahl, Administrative Support

**1.0 Welcome, Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement**

**Call to Order Motion** by Colby Mask called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm. Seconded by Sorrow Donkin. CARRIED.

**2.0 Approve Agenda**

**MOTION** by Colby Mask to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councillor Abitoye. CARRIED.

**3.0 Approve Meeting Minutes**

Councillor Abitoye has one change to March's Meeting Minutes, it is approximately 100 Km's of trails not more than. **MOTION** by Sorrow Donkin to approve March's meeting minutes, with change. Seconded by Colby Mask. CARRIED.

**4.0 Presentation**

- a. Barb Holmes, Foreman for Parks; Matt Gabert City Arborist; Rob Selyck City Arborist; Ben Stocks Horticultural
- b. The parks department cuts 383 hectares of grass, and they cut every piece of grass in the city (other than the highway) every 2 weeks. There are 30 000 trees they are responsible for; all trees (other than the green spaces) are pruned every 7 years and green spaces are managed for hazards. Parks is also responsible for 32 playgrounds. When trees are cut down due to illness, hazard or due to construction every boulevard is completely replanted and if it is in a park it is 3 per park tree removed replanted.
- c. Parks is also responsible for the City Cemetery and approximately 100 km's of City Trails.
- d. Last summer and this summer there will be 700 goats that will come to Fort Sask to help maintain and clean up noxious weeds in difficult locations along the river bank.
- e. The City Parks Department uses a biological control program to help reduce toxic chemical use.
- f. Parks hires 39 temporary staff for a total of 51 staff for the summer months.

## **5.0 City of Fort Saskatchewan Council Update**

- a. The recreation survey results were shared with Mayor and Council, here is the council report: [HERE](#) ; out of 11 000 codes provided to community members 1509 responded. Out of the individuals that responded 75% that are 19 and under use the pool. Council will look at cost and what the increase in taxes will be.
- b. The Fire Department presented their Master Plan, currently not meeting requirements of 10 minutes response time and are looking at a second fire house and full time fire team to staff it.
- c. Tax increase this year will be 3% and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the region. Due to growth the City has 1.2 Million extra tax dollars they did not account for and now need to decide what to do with the extra funds.
- d. Veteran Way will go from 4 lanes to 6 lanes, the City is looking at a debenture (an unsecured loan certificate issued by a company, backed by general credit rather than by specified assets) to help cover the cost of the expansion.
- e. Next Council meeting will be reviewing the fees policy.

## **6.0 Youth Advisory Committee Update**

- a. YAC is planning to celebrate Earth Day by Garbage Picking sometime during the week of April 17-22<sup>nd</sup>.
- b. YAC is working on posters for attendees at the May 5<sup>th</sup> Red Dress Event can hold while walking to help raise awareness around Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls and 2 Spirit. The event runs 4:30pm – 8:30pm.

## **7.0 Presentation to Mayor and Council**

- a. May 16, 2023; 2:00pm.
- b. Youth Council members will get together April 17<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> to create presentation.
- c. Councillor Abitoye offered to review presentation prior to council meeting.

## **8.0 Policing Committee Update**

- a. Safer Community initiative; currently the Policing Committee Vice Chair Heather Boonstra, Kristi Wahl (Youth Council Representative) and an RCMP member are meeting with various groups of youth within the Junior High and High Schools.
- b. The information gathered will be compiled and shared with the schools, the Policing Committee and Youth Council, and next steps will then be discussed.

## **9.0 Youth Council Budget**

- a. Attached document.

## **10.0 Guest Speakers**

- a. May – Brian Rogers Waste Water and Water Management
- b. June – Brenna Kelly – Engagement on Urban Forest Protection and Enhancement Plan

## **11.0 Roundtable**

- a. Colby Mask Shared that the Food Bank raised 12 thousand pounds of food in the last spring food bank drive put on by Service Credit Union. The Food Bank is also fundraising for the purchase of the rest of the building they are in.
- b. Kristi Wahl shared that YouthFest is occurring in collaboration with the Legacy Park Family Festival and Youth Council has asked to also promote themselves during the event.
- c. Mental Health week is May 1-7<sup>th</sup>, look for events occurring during that week to boost mental health and bring about awareness.

## **12.0 Next Meeting**

May 3, 2023

## **13.0 Adjournment**

**MOTION** by Colby Mask to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM. Seconded by Sorrow Donkin.  
**CARRIED.**