

MINUTES of REGULAR Meeting #2023-22 of the Council of the City of Whitehorse called for 5:30pm on Monday, December 11, 2023, in Council Chambers, City Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Laura Cabott  
Councillors Dan Boyd  
Kirk Cameron  
Jocelyn Curteanu  
Michelle Friesen  
Ted Laking  
Mellisa Murray

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Jeff O'Farrell  
Director of Community Services Krista Mroz  
Director of Corporate Services Valerie Braga  
Director of Development Services Mike Gau  
Director of People and Culture Lindsay Schneider  
Director of Operations and Infrastructure Tracy Allen

Mayor Cabott called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

## **CALL TO ORDER**

## **AGENDA**

### **2023-22-01**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

## **MINUTES**

### **2023-22-02**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting dated  
November 27, 2023 be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

## **DELEGATE SUBMISSIONS**

Allison Camenzuli, Chair of the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce asked a number of questions on the 2024 to 2027 Capital Expenditure Plan, highlighting the Chamber's priorities.

Allison Camenzuli, Chair of  
Whitehorse Chamber of  
Commerce – 2024 to 2027  
Capital Expenditure Plan

Ramesh Ferris spoke regarding the Snow and Ice Control Policy (SICP) Accessible Stall motion being considered by Council. The delegate commended the idea but explained that it doesn't do enough to meet the needs of people with mobility disabilities. The delegate's recommendation was to instead

Ramesh Ferris – Motion –  
Snow and Ice Removal  
Accessible Stalls

put all City accessible stalls, curb cuts, para-ramps, and transit stops at a Priority 1 level under the SICP, and that the sidewalks on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Main Street, Front Street, and Grey Mountain Access Road should become the City's responsibility at a Priority 1 for snow removal.

Eva von Flotow, as a person with a mobility disability, spoke on the struggles encountered that resulted from others being unaware of potential barriers to accessibility. The delegate urged Council to consider this perspective.

Eva von Flotow – Motion –  
Snow and Ice Removal  
Accessible Stalls

Gurdeep Pandher stated that snow accumulation creates challenges for many members of the community and clearing it would improve the quality of life for these people. The delegate acknowledged that budgets may be a hurdle and encouraged Council to find a way to improve snow clearing.

Gurdeep Pandher – Motion –  
Snow and Ice Removal  
Accessible Stalls

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Development Services Committee**

Councillor Laking presented a Notice of Motion for discussion at the next Regular Council meeting December 11, 2023, proposing the City write to appropriate Ministers requesting clarity on how many homes Whitehorse is expected for help Canada meet its immigration targets and to express the urgency of federal infrastructure funding.

Notice of Motion – Councillor  
Laking – Federal Funding for  
Major Infrastructure

### **City Operations Committee**

In response to Councillor Friesen's Motion on including accessible parking spaces in the Snow and Ice Control Policy, analysis was completed and provided to Council for consideration. Administration responded to questions from Committee members and provided additional information on current operational standards and procedures, enforcement details and data, the plausibility of resizing accessible stalls, and the potential of further research. Answers were also shared on financial items, such as a local area tax and the 2022 snow clearing budget.

Snow and Ice Control – On-  
Road Accessible Parking  
Spaces – For Information  
Only

Ramesh Ferris stated that City policies as well as the Operating and Capital Budgets need to ensure everyone has equitable access to services. The delegate suggested the solution is not creating another committee but taking action so that everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Delegate Ramesh Ferris –  
Snow and Ice Removal Policy

Delegate Eva von Flotow spoke on personal experiences as someone in a wheelchair and those of senior family members. The delegate explained that changes to the Snow and Ice Control policy and ensuring adequate funding is in place will greatly improve the quality of life for many individuals.

Delegate Eva Von Flotow –  
Snow and Ice Removal Policy

Marney Paradis, representing the Porter Creek Community Association, presented statistics from the Canadian Survey on Disability 2022, and recommended implementing a policy to ensure the 31.4% of Yukoners who reported a disability can move through the City with the same freedom as everyone else.

Delegate Marney Paradis,  
Porter Creek Community  
Association – Snow and Ice  
Removal Policy

Delegate Sharon Shorty shared a personal story of a short walk downtown that was unnecessarily dangerous for someone with a mobility disability, pointing out that while bicycle lanes and paths are made safe for cyclists, walkways are often left unsafe. The delegate urged Council to look at the policy and consider everyone coming forward to speak on this issue.

Delegate Sharon Shorty –  
Snow and Ice Removal Policy

Zak Endress spoke to Council about the state of barrier-free accessible parking stalls and bus stops during the winter, stating most do not meeting proper accessibility codes and are unsafe for people with mobility issues.

Delegate Zak Endress –  
Snow and Ice Removal Policy

Bria Lemoine expressed that Whitehorse is a city of snow, cold temperatures, and ice, and that it isn't fair to those with disabilities to have to work harder than others just to navigate their city.

Delegate Bria Lemoine –  
Snow and Ice Removal Policy

Delegate Chris Derham expressed that change in policy and the City's approach to accessibility is needed. The delegate suggested the City could and should be doing more to prioritize equal access in the city.

Delegate Chris Derham –  
Prioritizing Accessibility

### **Community Services Committee**

Julie Frisch, representing the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition, shared concerns about the motion put forward by Councillor Murray on November 27, 2023. The Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition supports equitable access to free transit for all community members but believes non-government organizations should have been consulted before placing the burden to distribute the passes on them.

Delegate Julie Frisch, Yukon  
Anti-Poverty Coalition - Free  
Public Transit

A Committee member requested clarification on Councillor Murray's Motion on Free Transit passes adopted on November 27, 2023. It was confirmed that the Motion does not call for any means-testing and that eligibility was left open.

New Business – Free Transit  
Passes Distribution

Committee members posed questions on the accessibility of Shipyards Park playground and washrooms. Administration confirmed that the playground equipment is not maintained during the winter, but that if access to the playground equipment was desired, a carpet could be laid across the ice for safer crossing. It was also noted that facility hours will be provided and access to the washrooms are available via after-hour event bookings.

New Business – Accessible  
Playgrounds

An update on the Jekyll Playground Replacement was requested; Administration responded that the project was still under assessment.

New Business – Jekyll  
Playground Replacement

Deputy Mayor Murray proclaimed December 10 to be Human Rights Day in the city of Whitehorse.

Proclamation – Human Rights  
Day (December 10)

Deputy Mayor Murray proclaimed December 6 to be National Day of Action Against Violence Against Women in the city of Whitehorse.

Proclamation – National Day  
of Action Against Violence  
Against Women (December 6)

### **Public Health and Safety Committee**

There was no report from the Public Health and Safety Committee.

### **Corporate Services Committee**

#### **2023-22-03**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council approve the proposed Work Plan from the  
Housing and Land Development Advisory Committee.  
Carried Unanimously

Housing and Land  
Development Advisory  
Committee Work Plan and  
Update

#### **2023-22-04**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council direct that Bylaw 2023-27, a bylaw to adopt the  
2024 to 2027 Capital Expenditure Program, be brought forward  
for 2nd and 3rd reading under the bylaw process.  
Carried Unanimously

Public Input Report – 2024 –  
2027 Capital Budget Bylaw

Administration presented a bi-monthly update on forthcoming procurements with an anticipated value greater than \$100,000 for January and February of 2024. Further information was provided on specific projects. It was also confirmed upcoming procurement information is available to the public via the City website.

Upcoming Procurements  
(January/February) – For  
Information Only

**2023-22-05**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council direct the 2023 operating budget for youth programming grants be increased in the amount of \$82,967 and federal grant revenue be increased in the amount of \$82,967 to allow for funding redistribution to the Boys and Girls Club of Yukon provided by the Building Safer Communities Fund Contribution Agreement.

Budget Amendment –  
Building Safer Communities  
Fund

Carried Unanimously

**City Planning Committee**

**2023-22-06**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council direct that Bylaw 2023-30, a bylaw to amend the zoning of 68 Mascot Street from RCS – Comprehensive Residential Single Family to RCSx – Comprehensive Residential Single Family (modified) to allow for the development of a living suite, be brought forward for second and third reading under the bylaw process.

Public Hearing Report -  
Zoning Amendment - 68  
Mascot Street

Carried Unanimously

**2023-22-07**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Council direct that Bylaw 2023-33, a bylaw to amend the zoning of the 1302 Centennial Road to allow for the development of up to 10 dwelling units, be brought forward for consideration under the bylaw process.

Zoning Amendment - 1302  
Centennial Street

Carried Unanimously

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

With the agreement of Council, the motion was withdrawn.

Motion – Councillor Friesen –  
Snow and Ice Removal  
Accessible Stalls

**2023-22-08**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT the City of Whitehorse write to all appropriate federal Ministers requesting that it be provided clarity on how many homes the community of Whitehorse is expected to develop to help Canada meet its immigration targets; and

Motion – Councillor Laking –  
Federal Funding for Major  
Infrastructure

THAT the City of Whitehorse express the urgency to the federal Ministers to be provided with further federal infrastructure funding so that investments in major infrastructure and services necessary for housing development can begin immediately.

Carried Unanimously

**2023-22-09**

Following considerable discussion, it was duly moved and seconded

THAT Council direct that the Provisional 2024 Operating Budget be amended by allocating an additional \$220K to provide additional resources to address accessibility concerns with respect to snow and ice removal and enforcement in respect of parking stalls, crosswalks, para-ramps, curbs, bus stops, and sidewalks; and

THAT Council direct that the 2023 Capital Budget be amended to include a new project titled 'Snow and Ice Control Accessibility Review' for the purposes of completing a review of the Snow and Ice Control Policy, the Maintenance Bylaw, and the motion titled 'Snow and Ice Control Policy Accessible Stalls' using an accessibility lens, in the amount of \$30,000, funded from the General Reserve; and

THAT administration be directed to return to Council with the results and recommendations of this review by the end of May 2024.

Carried Unanimously

Motion – Councillor Laking –  
Snow and Ice Control  
Accessibility Budget

**BYLAWS**

**2023-22-10**

It was duly moved and seconded

THAT Bylaw 2023-33, a bylaw to amend the zoning of the 1302 Centennial Road to allow for the development of up to 10 dwelling units, be given First Reading.

Carried Unanimously

**BYLAW 2023-33**  
Zoning Amendment - 1302  
Centennial Street  
FIRST READING

**2023-22-11**

It was duly moved and seconded

THAT Bylaw 2023-27, a bylaw to adopt the 2024 to 2027 Capital Expenditure Plan, be given Second Reading.

Carried Unanimously

**BYLAW 2023-27**  
2024 - 2027 Capital  
Expenditure Plan  
SECOND READING

**2023-22-12**

It was duly moved and seconded

THAT Bylaw 2023-27 be given Third Reading.

Carried Unanimously

**BYLAW 2023-27**  
2024 - 2027 Capital  
Expenditure Plan  
THIRD READING



**2023-22-13**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Bylaw 2023-30, a bylaw to amend the zoning at 68  
Mascot Street to allow for the development of a living suite, be  
given Second Reading.

Carried Unanimously

**BYLAW 2023-30**

Zoning Amendment - 68  
Mascot Street  
SECOND READING

**2023-22-14**

It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Bylaw 2023-30 be given Third Reading.

Carried Unanimously

**BYLAW 2023-30**

Zoning Amendment - 68  
Mascot Street  
THIRD READING

**2023-22-15**

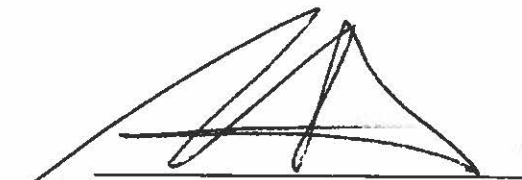
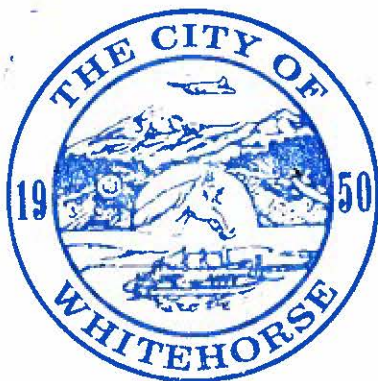
It was duly moved and seconded  
THAT Bylaw 2023-35, a bylaw to provide for the terms and  
conditions of employment for Management and Confidential  
Exclusion employees for the period January 1, 2023 to  
December 31, 2025, be given Third Reading.

Carried Unanimously

**BYLAW 2023-35**

Management and  
Confidential Exclusion  
Employment Bylaw  
THIRD READING

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:34p.m. **ADJOURNMENT**

  
Laura Cabott, Mayor  
Corporate Services