MINUTES of REGULAR Meeting #2025-14 of the Council of the City of Whitehorse called for 5:30pm on Monday, July 7, 2025, in Council Chambers, City Hall.

PRESENT:

Mayor Kirk Cameron

Councillors Dan Boyd

Paolo Gallina Jenny Hamilton Eileen Melnychuk Anne Middler Lenore Morris

ALSO PRESENT:

City Manager Jeff O'Farrell

A/Director of Community Services Keri Rutherford

Director of Corporate Services Valerie Braga

Director of Development Services Lindsay Schneider

Director of People, Culture, and Technology Landon Kulych

Mayor Cameron called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA

2025-14-01

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

Carried Unanimously

MINUTES

2025-14-02

It was duly moved and seconded THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting dated June 24, 2025 be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

DELEGATE SUBMISSIONS

Liz Reichenbach spoke in opposition to allowing snowmobile access on non-motorized trails in the McPherson and Hidden Valley areas. The delegate questioned the accuracy of survey results used to justify the plan, recommended stronger bylaw enforcement and trail education, and urged Council to either reject or delay the proposed trail plan to allow for more informed public input.

Liz Reichenbach – Whitehorse North Trail Plan

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Mayor Cameron advised that a Public Hearing was scheduled at this meeting to hear any submissions with respect to the Zoning Amendment related to 10 Eldorado Drive.

Zoning Amendment – 10 Eldorado Drive

Administration confirmed that at least 3 written submissions were received on this item, all in support.

Written submissions

Mayor Cameron called three times for submissions with respect to the Zoning Amendment related to 10 Eldorado Drive.

Zoning Amendment – 10 Eldorado Drive

There were no members of the public present to speak.

Hearing no submissions come forward, Mayor Cameron declared the Public Hearing for Zoning Amendment – 10 Eldorado Drive now closed.

Public Hearing Closed

Mayor Cameron advised that a Public Hearing was scheduled at this meeting to hear any submissions with respect to the proposed Zoning Amendment at 14 Tarahne Way.

Zoning Amendment – 14 Tarahne Way

Administration confirmed that at least 14 written submissions were received on this item, with 9 in opposition and 5 in support.

Written Submissions

Mayor Cameron called three times for submissions with respect to the proposed Zoning Amendment at 14 Tarahne Way.

Zoning Amendment – 14 Tarahne Way

Maija Pumphrey spoke in support of new amenities in Whistle Bend but opposed the proposed drive-through, citing concerns that it contradicts the City's Sustainability Plan by increasing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting unhealthy lifestyles, generating additional waste, and reducing walkability and community connection. It was noted that drive-throughs often benefit franchises over local businesses and may limit opportunities for a more inclusive, locally based food economy.

Maija Pumphrey

Tiara Topps spoke in strong opposition to the proposed drivethrough, stating it contradicts the Whistle Bend Master Plan and City sustainability goals. Concerns included increased traffic, safety risks, environmental impacts, noise, reduced property values, and negative health outcomes. It was noted that a drive-through may limit access to a sit-down community hub for residents with mobility challenges.

Tiara Topps

Megan Foreman and Chris Shelley, on behalf of Northern Vision Development, spoke in support of the proposed zoning amendment, stating the development would provide essential services for Whistle Bend residents, reduce travel downtown, and support a complete, livable community. The speakers noted a drive-through could improve viability by helping attract long-term tenants, though no final decision has been made. Civil works could begin next summer, with construction expected in the fall.

Megan Foreman and Chris Shelley, Northern Vision Development

Hearing no further submissions, Mayor Cameron declared the Public Hearing for the proposed Zoning Amendment at 14 Tarahne Way now closed.

Public Hearing Closed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Health and Safety Committee

Delegate Rick Karp spoke to Council on community safety, calling for greater clarity on the operation of local supportive housing facilities, including the Hearth and 405 Alexander Street. As requested by Committee members, the delegate confirmed a desire for better communication from the groups managing these facilities and the need for Mayor and Council to be informed on this matter.

Delegate Rick Karp – Community Safety

Delegate Daniel Sokolov, a resident of Takhini North, raised concerns about escalating costs, project oversight, and supports for vulnerable tenants at the Hearth supportive housing project, urging Council to seek clearer information regarding this project.

Delegate Daniel Sokolov – Community Safety

Corporate Services Committee

Administration provided the semi-annual procurement update in accordance with the Procurement Policy, summarizing activity from January to June 2025. In response to a question from a Committee member, Administration explained that sustainability is considered through procurement criteria and reported when relevant to larger contracts.

Semi-Annual Procurement Report (January – June) – For Information Only

Administration presented the bi-monthly update on anticipated procurement projects over \$100,000 for July and August 2025, as required by the Procurement Policy. In response to a question from a Committee member, Administration explained that the facility lifecycle cost analysis will assess long-term building performance, identify impacts, and support planning to extend facility lifespan.

Upcoming Procurements – For Information Only

2025-14-03

After discussion, it was duly moved and seconded THAT Council direct that Bylaw 2025-32, a bylaw to amend the Fees and Charges Bylaw, be brought forward for consideration under the bylaw process with the revised fee structure setting a rate of \$20 per meter per day for the first six months of a Street Occupancy Permit, and \$10 per meter per day for any days thereafter.

Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendment – Street Occupancy Permits

Carried (5-2)

IN FAVOUR: Mayor Cameron, Councillors Gallina, Melnychuk,

Morris and Middler

OPPOSED: Councillors Hamilton and Boyd

City Planning Committee

2025-14-04

It was duly moved and seconded THAT Council authorize Administration to commence the procurement of planning services for project 720c00925 Whistle Bend South Master Plan.

Commencement Report – Whistle Bend South Master Plan

Carried Unanimously

Development Services Committee

There was no report from the Development Services Committee

No report

City Operations Committee

There was no report from the City Operations Committee

No report

Community Services Committee

2025-14-05

It was duly moved and seconded THAT Council authorize Administration to enter into a Trail Construction Agreement with the Contagious Mountain Bike Club for construction of a new type 3 single-track recreational trail in the Mount McIntyre Recreational Area and update the City Trail Maintenance Policy to include this trail.

Carried Unanimously

Trail Development Application

– Amanda Taylor Memorial

Connector

2025-14-06

It was duly moved and seconded THAT Council authorize Administration to enter into a Trail Construction Agreement with the Contagious Mountain Bike Club for construction of a new single-track recreational trail connector on Grey Mountain and update the City's Trail Maintenance Policy to include this trail once complete.

Trail Development Application

– Yellow Brick Road

Connector

Carried Unanimously

After being duly moved and seconded, the decision to approve or not approve the Whitehorse North Trail Plan as a guiding document was postponed to the August 11, 2025 Regular Council meeting.

Motion to Postpone – Whitehorse North Trail Plan

Delegates Michael Grooms and Arwen Rowe-Duguay spoke to Council, raising concerns about the shift to a lottery-based preschool registration system at the Canada Games Centre. They emphasized the importance of continuity in early childhood programming and highlighted the lack of notice, consultation, and communication around the change. In response to Council questions, the delegates confirmed families were notified shortly before registration opened and that City staff were presented with alternative options.

Delegate Michael Grooms and Arwen Rowe-Duguay – CGC Preschool Registration Changes

Delegate Anthony Bier, representing the Contagious Mountain Bike Club, spoke to Council in support of two trail development applications meant to improve safety, rider experience, winter access, as well as reduce user conflicts. In response to Council questions, the delegate explained the concept of a pump track and outlined the Club's maintenance agreement with the City.

Delegate Anthony Bier, Contagious Mountain biking Club – Trail Development Applications

Delegate Brad Halt, a resident of Takhini North, spoke to Council in support of the Amanda Taylor Memorial Connector, sharing that the trail is intended to honour a dedicated community member and former Contagious Mountain Bike Club board member who passed away in 2022. The proposed 900-metre trail would connect two sections of the Mount McIntyre trail network and was developed in collaboration with local trail users and organizations.

Delegate Brad Halt – Amanda Taylor Memorial Connector

Delegate Keith Lay, speaking as an associate of Active Trails Whitehorse Association, urged Council to refer the Whitehorse North Trail Plan back to administration for further consideration. In response to Council questions, the delegate clarified their role with the association, spoke to past commitments made through the 2020 Trail Plan to develop neighbourhood trail plans using charrettes, and emphasized the importance of transparency and community-driven planning.

Delegate Keith Lay, Active Trails Whitehorse Association – Whitehorse North Trail Plan

BYLAWS

2025-14-07

It was duly moved and seconded THAT Bylaw 2025-32, a bylaw to amend the Fees and Charges Bylaw to reflect the addition of fees for metered parking spaces under the Street Occupancy Permit section, be given First Reading.

BYLAW 2025-32 Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendment - Street **Occupancy Permits** FIRST READING

Fees and Charges Bylaw

Carried (5-2)

IN FAVOUR: Mayor Cameron, Councillors Gallina, Melnychuk,

Morris, and Middler

OPPOSED: Councillors Hamilton and Boyd

2025-14-08 **BYLAW 2025-32**

It was duly moved and seconded THAT Bylaw 2025-32 be given Second Reading.

Amendment – Street **Occupancy Permits** Carried (5-2) SECOND READING

Mayor Cameron, Councillors Gallina, Melnychuk, IN FAVOUR:

Morris, and Middler

OPPOSED: Councillors Hamilton and Boyd

2025-14-09

It was duly moved and seconded THAT Bylaw 2025-30, a bylaw to acquire Lot 130 in the Hillcrest Subdivision from the Government of Yukon, be given Third Reading.

BYLAW 2025-30

Land Acquisition - Lot 130 Hillcrest Subdivision THIRD READING

Carried Unanimously

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. ADJOURNMENT

Kirk Cameron, Mayor

Corporate Services