

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
March 8, 2016**

Present: Ed Weistra, Mayor
Ron Gorzitza, Deputy Mayor
Sel Golding, Councillor
Dan Coulter, Village Foreman

Absent: Byron Fraser, Fire Chief

Recording Secretary: Laurie Beck, Administrator

Call to Order: Call to order at 5:55 pm

Guests: **Don Smith – Concerns re Public Works**
Mr. Smith did not speak to Council as a whole regarding his concerns regarding the Public Works nor did he stay for the meeting.

Angelica & Lee Zucciatti – Bylaw Governing Chickens
Angelica and Lee attended the meeting to speak to the current bylaw that does not allow chickens. They would like to have this bylaw revised to allow them to have three chickens but no roosters. A few communities do allow for chickens but they are mostly cities. They wish to raise them just for eggs and have talked to their neighbours about their proposal. They suggested that they would have 10 x 13 coop, enough to house 12 chickens. Council expressed their concerns re disease. Administrator Beck will research similar sized communities in Alberta to see what they do. Council defers this to the next meeting in May.

Mayor Weistra abstained from this discussion.

Approval of Agenda: **Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the agenda as presented. Carried**

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the February 9, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2016 Regular Council meeting. Carried

To accept the minutes of the February 25, 2016 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2016 Special Council meeting. Carried

Business Arising:

a. Stormwater Project

An abandoned well was discovered in the expanded ditch section of the project. Apparently this well was abandoned in the 1980's but was not identified on land titles or any survey done of the area. A course of action will be determined by Conoco Phillips once they have obtained the well file. An amount of \$9,700 was quoted by Conoco Philips to complete the re-abandonment of the well. MPE Engineering has been questioned as to who is responsible for this cost. In the meantime, the contractor has been instructed by MPE Engineering to continue the progress work outside of the abandoned well lease area.

b. Tank Remediation Program

An email was sent at the end of February from Alberta Environment & Parks that the RMP's should be completed, approved and sent within the next week.

Village Foreman Report:

Put in a new urinal valve in the Community Hall. Currently Foreman Coulter is working on putting in the window in the old firehall but having some difficulties. The Lyons' water line was worked on as it had a leak. Their waterline is only 4 feet deep and only a 1 inch line. Dan will obtain a quote for to push through a new waterline for the Lyons.

Administrator Report:

Applied for a Canada Summer Job grant that is being offered by the Federal government. In addition, a \$2,500 grant from FortisAlberta for trees in the Village's recreational areas was applied for as well as a grant up to \$7,500 for air conditioning. This grant is contingent upon the success of having the highest energy savings per capita during Earth Hour. A meeting with MP Rachel Harder gave Council the opportunity to voice some concerns. Assessment notices went out March 1st and the appeal period for assessments is over April 30th. Administrator Beck advised Council that the 2016 assessment is balanced to the Assessor's. Received a call from a resident that used to live here and she wished to thank the Village for sending a copy of the newsletter to her each month. Sent a refund cheque of \$367.67 to J. Macedo for tax prepayments he made for the 2016 year, as the property has been sold. An email was received requesting the sale proceeds from a property that the Village became owner of as a result of last year's public sale. Administrator Beck transferred the

amount from the separate bank account to the general municipal account. As per the MGA, the Village was satisfied that there were no debts that were secured on the title. A cheque of \$12,038.66 was issued for this amount. The Bylaw Enforcement Officer has drafted a resident complaint form to encourage those making complaints to fill them out accordingly.

Correspondence:

- AUMA – Mayor’s Caucus meeting in Edmonton
- LAPP – Data Collection Request
- RCMP – Picture Butte Detachment Stats for January, 2016
- Jubilee Reciprocal Insurance – General Meeting
- Email – World Elder Abuse Awareness
- ATCO Energy – Marketing campaigns
- Bylaw Enforcement Report – January, 2016
- AUMA re Linear Property Taxation Symposiums
- Bylaw Enforcement schedule for March, 2016
- Bylaw Enforcement Report – February, 2016
- RPAP – Review of Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan (RPAP)
- RCMP – Picture Butte Detachment Comparison Stats for January/February 2012 – 2016

Financial Reports:

Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statement for February, 2016.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the accounts payable for the month of February, 2016.

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the monthly statement for February, 2016.

Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
No report at this time.
- b) **Fire Department**
To date cost of repairs to the Wildland vehicle is \$4,355.97. There is a little more to do on it but the vehicle is performing much better. Chief Fraser, Mayor Weistra and Administrator Beck attended the Lethbridge County Council regular meeting to discuss entering into a contract with the County. After repairs, the new pumper engine is now in service. There are still a few decals that are needed on the engine. Members of the Fire Department will start their Level 2 training tomorrow. The Quick Response Truck is still awaiting decaling. Discussion was held regarding the Spring Bingo.

- c) **Green Acres**
No report at this time.
- d) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Have two new federal ministers in charge of the Western Diversification and there seems to be some conflict. CFLR is still trying to obtain their goal.
- e) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Amanda Lawrence spoke of the “Seven Habits of Successful People”. They are teaching this in schools now. Yearend Report to municipalities will be forthcoming. Interviews have been scheduled for a new director. Funding increases may not be as much as they initially thought so they are being cautious.
- f) **Mayors and Reeves**
A speaker from the Rural Physician Association made a presentation. Spoke of the importance of this program. Presentation made by the Taber administration regarding their proposed recycling program.
- g) **Subdivision Appeal Board**
No report at this time.
- h) **Chinook Arch Library System**
No report at this time.
- i) **AG Society**
Questioned as to whether the Village would do the pancake breakfast this year. The hall is seeing a lot of rentals this year. Glen Turner will be calling the bingo for the Fire Department.

**Motion made by Mayor Weistra that the Village will provide the pancake breakfast for the Family Fun Day on July 9th.
Carried**

New Business:

- a. **Bylaw #701 – Emergency Municipal Bylaw**
Council was presented with Bylaw #701, the revised Emergency Municipal Bylaw for their consideration.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to read Bylaw #701 a first time this 8th day of March, 2016. Carried

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to read Bylaw #701 a second time this 8th day of March, 2016. Carried

And by unanimous consent of Council

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to read Bylaw #701 a third and final time and finally passed this 8th day of March, 2016.
Carried

- b. Local Authority Pension Plan (LAPP) Training**
Because the LAPP is changing their reporting systems, it is a requirement to take training on the new system. There are two portions to the training. The first date that is open is Tuesday, April 19th in Calgary and the second date is May 10th in Lethbridge.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to have Administrator Beck attend the two sessions held in Calgary and Lethbridge.
Carried

- c. Recycling**
This item was brought forth from the Planning/Budget meeting held on February 25th for discussion by Council.

The recycling trailer is in need of repair as the bottom is rotting out. Removing the recyclables by hand from inside the trailer is hard as there is not a lot of space. There are a lot of issues with respect to persons throwing out household garbage and other items into the trailer. Discussion. Had an issue with safety at the recycling site. It was suggested that Foreman Coulter obtain a quote for the repair of the trailer. Put in the newsletter that the trailer will not be available for a month due to repairs.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to obtain a quote for the repair of the recycling trailer.
Carried.

- d. Amounts Added to the Tax Roll**
Two accounts need to have amounts added to the tax roll. These charges stem from outstanding utility amounts.

T. Smith - \$502.34
M. Devries - \$159.00

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to have the outstanding amounts for the two accounts added to their respective tax rolls.
Carried

e. Forgiveness of Interest on Utility Account.

A letter was submitted by the Barons Legion #160 requesting a waiver of the interest for Mr. M. deVries. The current amount owing for penalties and not counting the principle is \$430.72. Last time a payment was made for utilities on this account was Jan 2, 2013. The current amount owing on the account is \$871.72 after a payment of \$210.00 made March 2, 2016. In September, 2015, a motion was made that the majority of the outstanding amount would be applied to his tax account (\$824.38).

Mayor Weistra abstained from this decision.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to not forgive the penalties on the account held by M. deVries as per the Legions request. Carried

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

Adjournment of the meeting was at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor – Ed Weistra

Administrator – Laurie Beck