

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
May 10, 2016**

Present: Ed Weistra, Mayor
Ron Gorzitza, Deputy Mayor
Sel Golding, Councillor

Absent: Byron Fraser, Fire Chief
Dan Coulter, Village Foreman

Recording Secretary: Laurie Beck, Administrator

Call to Order: Call to order at 5:59 pm

Guests: None

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

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the March 8, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the March 8, 2016 Regular Council meeting. Carried

To accept the minutes of the March 17, 2016 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2016 Special Council meeting. Carried

To accept the minutes of the April 21, 2016 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2016 Special Council meeting. Carried

Business Arising:

a. Stormwater Project

The abandoned well that was found was in fact not owned by ConocoPhillips Canada and they suspect that it was likely a water well. The contractor was instructed to take precaution in maintaining the well during backfill and to

proceed with the culvert works. Land Titles is not allowing the subdivision to be registered as it was presented so Halma Thompson Land Surveys needed to draft up a descriptive plan for this subdivision. A quote has been received from Phoenix Fence for the chain link fencing behind the properties on Blayney Avenue. Total cost is approximately \$16,361.02. Discussion. Additional fencing should continue to the west at the southerly part of the village property.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to extend the fence from the south east corner to the southwest corner and to accept and award the quote received from Phoenix Fence. Carried

b. Tank Remediation Program

Currently Alberta Environment is working on the review letters for the Remedial Management Plans for both sites. After EBA Engineering spoke with Alberta Environment, the approval for the RMP (Remedial Management Plan) for the gazebo site should be approved shortly. For the town shop site, Environment will not consider a RMP as there is a potential risk present to the adjacent property. It is suggested that there needs to be some persuasion to the resident to allow access for indoor air quality testing, which may prove to be a challenge.

c. Bylaw Governing Chickens

Council was presented with a survey that was done of other village municipalities who may allow chickens within their jurisdiction. Out of 65 communities, only 10% of the municipalities allow chickens and then only with certain conditions.

MAYOR WEISTRA ABSTAINED FROM DISCUSSION.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza that the Village will not change the current bylaw to allow chickens within the Village of Barons. Carried

Village Foreman Report:

Experiencing pressure problems with one of the water distribution pumps. It is suspected that it could be related to the electrical panel. The Village Foreman will be calling Hagen Electric to look at. Fixing potholes along Duke Street. Cleaned up Railway Avenue between Milnes and Main Street in preparation for

paving. Preparing all summer maintenance equipment for the season. Still working on the Old Firehall.

Administrator Report:

The Town of Coaldale received grant approval from Alberta Municipal Affairs through the Alberta Community Partnership program for Peace Officer Regionalization. Administrator Beck re-invested a matured GIC for \$220,773.03 for another year. The Office received a complaint regarding too many dogs at one property. The Bylaw Enforcement Officer was provided the information for investigation. The 2015 MSI Grant reporting is ongoing. Administrator Beck provided a Certificate of Completion and pictures of the new Emergency Command Vehicle to FCC Canada as per the approval of the grant. The 2016 assessment saw a reduction of 556,600 over the assessment for 2015. After the 60 day Assessment Appeal period was over, the Village saw a reduction in the total assessment by 90,220. ATB Financial advised the Village that the Mastercard was fraudulently used for purchases made in Brazil. These charges were reversed and new cards were issued. Palliser Regional Schools will again provide gopher control on the baseball diamonds in exchange for mowing of the school grounds for the summer. Two local quotes were received for the repair of the recycling trailer. The overlay on Railway Avenue from the rail tracks to Main Street should happen sometime this spring for the cost of the allocated grant monies. All audited financial statements and returns were sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs. The Jubilee Insurance Exchange and Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange will be merging. This will provide cost savings, a better spread of risk by diversifying programs and claims risks and would provide a simplified governance model for municipalities. Alberta Municipal Affairs will be touring the province to discuss impacts and implications of the revised MGA. Elected Officials are invited to the Lethbridge session held on July 15th at 8:00 to 11:00 am. The Village received approval from Canada Employment for the Temporary Summer Student Program. It will be a 9 week, 40 hour a week position that will start May 16 and end July 19th, 2016.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to sign the new Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Subscriber Agreement.

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to send Deputy Mayor Gorzitza and/or Councillor Golding to the Alberta Municipal Affairs session held in Lethbridge on July 15, 2016.

Carried

Correspondence:

- Canadian Badlands Tourism Annual Conference
- Mayors & Reeves letter to Minister of Health
- AUMA – Grant in Lieu of Taxes
- Alberta Seniors and Housing – Planning to Age in Place
- Town of Taber – support for funding application
- MLA David Schneider email re the RPAP Program
- RCMP Picture Butte – February Stats
- Mayor Caucus meeting notes
- FortisAlberta re Earth Hour Challenge
- Alberta Historical Resource – Heritage Awards
- Farm Safety Centre request for donation
- Crowsnest Pass letter to Minister of Health re RPAP Program
- Alberta Municipal Affairs – creation of Safety Codes Authority
- Bylaw Enforcement schedule for April, 2016
- Alberta Municipal Affairs – Village of Big Valley application to the Alberta Community Partnership
- FCSS – New appointment, Director Zakk Morrison
- Alberta Municipal Affairs – Consolidation of four Government Boards
- AUMA – 2016 Provincial Budget Analysis
- Canadian Revenue Agency – Small Business Job Credit
- AUMA – Update on Federal Infrastructure Funding
- EMS Foundation – Capsules of Life
- RCMP Picture Butte – Traffic Enforcement Stats for March
- Alberta Invitation to Minister's Tour
- Nobleford Special Meeting of Council Minutes, March 30, 2016
- Bylaw Enforcement Report – March, 2016
- Bylaw Enforcement Schedule for May, 2016
- Village of Lomond – Parade invitation
- Thank You from Carmangay Curling Club
- Town of Granum – Parade invitation
- Bylaw Enforcement Report – April, 2016
- AUMA – Offering assistance to Ft. McMurray and area
- ORRSC – Holiday coverage for Planner

Financial Reports:

Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statements for March & April, 2016. The updated bank balance as of April 30, 2016 is \$75,298.52. An income/expense statement was presented to Council, covering the first four months of 2016.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the accounts payable for the months of March and April, 2016. Carried

Motion made by Councillor Golding to approve the monthly statements for March and April, 2016. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to accept the income/expense statement for the period ending April 30, 2016. Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
May 25th offering training on the GIS as new items have been introduced since last year.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra for Administrator Beck to attend May 25th GIS training in Lethbridge.

Carried

- b) **Fire Department**
Great support for the Bingo – the fire department raised over \$2,000.00 which will be matched by the government for the Fort McMurray relief. This Saturday will be the final test day for Level 2 and then they will be done with 1001 certification. The fire ban will remain despite the little precipitation that we have received.

In follow up to the March 30th Joint Emergency Services Mayor's/Reeve and CAO's meeting, the municipalities have agreed to meet with Emergency Response Management Consulting (ERMC). Council is asked for their availability to attend this meeting. In addition, Fire Chief Fraser and Administrator Beck should be in attendance. Suggested meeting dates: May 16 or 17 in the evening.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to offer the dates of May 16 or 17th at the times suggested for the meeting with ERMC.

Carried

- c) **Green Acres**
No report at this time.
- d) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
CFLR is looking to obtain a credit card that could be used by all the offices in Alberta, enabling airmiles to be collected. Four loans were approved and three loans were written off. The Financial Statement will be completed by June 1st.
- e) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
No report at this time.
- f) **Mayors and Reeves**
Report from Wildrose Party re carbon tax, MSI funding cuts and the desire to know more about how the linear tax is going to be

distributed. AHS is recruiting for new board members for the Health Advisory Board. Michelle Treneault spoke to the group regarding assets – setting up a plan to look at your assets and to get the money for the projects. Next meeting will be held in Taber. Discussion held regarding Ft. McMurray fires.

g) **Subdivision Appeal Board**

Attended one appeal in Coaldale. Interesting appeal.

h) **Chinook Arch Library System**

No report at this time.

i) **AG Society**

July 9th Parade Day/Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast will be from 8:00 – 10:00 and the parade at 11:00 am. In keeping with previous years, the cost of breakfast would be a donation of money or food which will be distributed between the food banks in Claresholm and Lethbridge.

New Business:

a. **Seniors Week – June 6th to 12th, 2016**

Seniors' Week will be June 6 – 12, 2016. Council was asked if they wish to do as in previous years and purchase a cake and have the mayor present it to them.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to proclaim June 6th to 12th as Seniors' Week in the Village of Barons and to purchase a cake in recognition thereof. Carried

b. **Public Sale Date/Reserve Bids**

Council was presented with the fair market assessment for the following properties that will be offered at the Public Auction. Council is asked to set the public auction date and set the reserve bids for these properties that are in tax arrears. It is suggested that the Public Auction date be set for July 27, 2016.

Plan/Block Lot

Plan 2605X, Block 8, Lots 34 – 36

Reserve Bid

\$76,530.00

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to set the tentative date of July 27, 2016 as the Public Auction date for the above noted properties that are in tax arrears and that it should be held at 10:00 am at the Village Office. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to set the reserved bids as presented for the properties that are to be sold at the Public Auction. Carried

c. Administrator Vacation Request

Administrator Beck is requesting the following dates as vacation days:

May 18 & 19th

June 22 – 28th

July 11 – 14th

Motion made by Councillor Golding to approve the Administrator's vacation request. Carried

d. 2016 Southern Alberta Summer Games

The games will be held in Lethbridge from July 6 – 9, 2016. As in previous years, the Village contributed towards the cost of the coordinator for all communities within the County of Lethbridge.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to pay the Town of Coaldale the fee of approximately \$125.00 towards the hiring of a Regional Games Director. Carried

e. Legion Request

A man hurt himself coming out of the legion. The Legion would like to change the step to come out approximately 2 inches which would mean encroaching onto the sidewalk.

MAYOR WEISTRA ABSTAINED FROM DISCUSSION.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to allow the Legion to hire a contractor to adapt the steps and to provide a waiver of an encroachment onto the sidewalk by two inches.

Carried

f. MPC Appointment

Two persons expressed interest in the vacant Municipal Planning Committee position. Discussion held.

MAYOR WEISTRA ABSTAINED FROM DISCUSSION.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to nominate Linda Couchman as the member at large to sit on the MPC for the Village of Barons. Carried

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 7:09 p.m.

Mayor – Ed Weistra

Administrator – Laurie Beck