

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
October 11, 2016**

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

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

Recording Secretary: Laurie Beck, Administrator

Call to Order: Call to order at 5:58 pm

Guests: **Don Smith – Bylaw #680**
Expressed his concerns with Bylaw #680.

**Christine and Brian Pelrine – Bylaw #680, Main Street,
Newsletter, Bylaw Enforcement**

Does not see any problem with having bees in the community. The Pelrine's believe that they live in a rural area and therefore should be allowed to have chickens and bees. It was brought to their attention that this is an urban municipality within a rural area. Expressed concerns with pollination of flowers, etc. Council suggested that if they could get 80% of residents to agree with residents being able to have chickens or bees then Council would revisit the bylaw. Questioned the purposed of having Bylaw Enforcement. Council explained that the Village will be moving towards a more enhanced Bylaw Enforcement service which will include enforcement of traffic. In 2015, the Village spent \$18,328.73 of which \$13,695.00 was paid for by grant funds – the remaining \$4,633.73 was reflected in taxation. They also questioned the reasoning behind the newsletter and it was explained that the reason for publication was to provide communication with the public and they were provided with the monthly cost of the newsletter. Expressed concerns as to the condition of Main Street. The Village is cleaning up those Village owned properties that had contamination and they are being monitored accordingly. There is still contamination under the street which is related to the land across the street and until this matter is resolved, the Village is at a standstill. Council stated that they could fix the street now but that would mean a substantial increase in the taxes to residents.

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

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the September 13, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to accept the minutes of the September 13, 2016 Regular Council meeting.

Carried

Business Arising:

- a. Stormwater Project**
No report at this time.
- b. Tank Remediation Program**
No report at this time.

Village Foreman Report: Foreman Coulter has been tree trimming but that activity will be ongoing. He indicated that he will have to purchase a new chainsaw but there is room in the budget for this. In addition, time has been spent on fixing vehicles and getting them ready for winter. A new battery has been purchased for the grass truck but it will be installed so that thieves cannot take it again.

Administrator Report: Administrator Beck attended the Sheldon Kennedy “Swift Current” film unveiling at the Yates Theatre. A Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre will be opening in Lethbridge and Medicine Hat in the near future. On September 15th, Mayor Weistra and Administrator Beck attending a meeting at the County regarding the regional review of the Fire Emergency Services within the County. It was decided that a working group will be formed to look at a new partnership model for emergency Management services in the County of Lethbridge area. It will be comprised of the CAO and Fire Chief. The AUMA Convention was good this year. Administrator Beck found it to be great networking with peers and other communities. Administrator Beck sat in an open dialogue with Ministers from AB Transportation, AB Municipal Affairs, AB Environment and AB Solicitor General. When delegates asked the ministers questions, they were very evasive. The AB Government will be ending MSI Funding but do not know what it will be replaced with. Listening to the Premier was interesting in that she asked for municipalities to support her government’s vision. Premier Notley said that this government will continue to spend and will not issue cutbacks as in previous governments. There was not very much support from the delegates when looking around the room. The Village has been working with Bylaw Enforcement to clean up properties. As of Monday, a contractor may be here to clean up a property as ample notice has been provided. This is enforcement is following the Municipal Government Act, Unsightly Premise Bylaw and Land Use Bylaws. There will be an AFRRCs meeting (Alberta First

Responder Radio Communication System) held at the County Office on Thursday to talk about the new government radio system and to look at the differences between mobile vs portable radios and possible mass procurement. An email was received from AMA Insurance stating they have a client whose vehicle was damaged by a pothole in the street and the bottom of the vehicle was impacted. This correspondence has been forwarded to the Village's insurance company.

- Correspondence:**
- Community Foundation invitation to launch of 2016 Vital Signs Report
 - News release - RCMP Picture Butte arrest armed robbery suspect
 - CUPW – Canada Post Review
 - News release – RCMP Picture Butte investigate fatal motor vehicle collision
 - Green Acres Foundation Board request
 - Email – for the month of August RCMP Picture Butte issued 85 traffic violation tickets, mostly on Highways 25, 519 and 23
 - Bylaw Enforcement Report for September 2016
 - Telus – Payphone removal at Barons Hotel

Financial Reports: Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statements for September, 2016.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the accounts payable for the month of September, 2016. **Carried**

Motion made by Councillor Golding to approve the monthly statements for September, 2016. **Carried**

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
No report at this time.
- b) **Fire Department**
Fire Chief Fraser was unable to attend this meeting but does report that the wildland unit is working well now. The total cost to repair the unit was \$2,970.83 versus the original quote of \$6,000. Administrator Beck and Fire Chief Fraser will be attending a meeting on Wednesday regarding the Alberta First Responders' Radio Communication System (AFFRRCS).
- c) **Green Acres**
Discussed what activities occurred during the summer. The Golf Tournament was a success. One of Green Acres lodges is in the midst of construction to expand the room sizes. Looking at purchasing property from the City on the west side but have not

received word. Also looking for future expansion into the north side of Lethbridge and Picture Butte.

- d) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Mayor Weistra will be sitting on the Policy committee for CFLR. They are connecting with another CFLR agencies to add lending resources.
- e) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Zakk Morrison, Director has passed his three month probation period and is now full time. Reviewed a job plan for FCSS. FCSS could be changing on how they currently do programming. Retreat for staff and board members is planned for the 3rd week of January.
- f) **Mayors and Reeves**
Meeting was held at ORRSC facilities. Mostly organizational. The Mayors and Reeves went over a few things that they wish to talk to government about: MSI funding, Bill 6, and other bills.
- g) **Subdivision Appeal Board**
No report at this time.
- h) **Chinook Arch Library System**
No report at this time.
- i) **AG Society**
No report at this time.

New Business:

- a. **Application of Waiver to Bylaw #680 – Keeping of Wild or Domestic Animals**
An email was sent from someone who is interested in purchasing property in Barons but is asking for a waiver of Bylaw #680 as the individual practices Falconry and according to the Bylaw, falcons are prohibited.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra that the Village of Barons will keep Bylaw #680 as is with no changes or waivers.
Carried
- b. **Bylaw #703 – Levying of Utility Rates**
Council was presented with Bylaw #703 for their consideration. As this is the first rate increase since 2012, it was necessary due to Nobleford increasing its rates January 1st, 2017, from \$1.17 cubic meter to \$1.40 cubic meter for potable treated water. This bylaw would take effect January 1st 2017.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to read Bylaw #703 a first time, this 11th day of October, 2016. Carried

Motion made by Councillor Golding to read Bylaw #703 a second time, this 11th day of October, 2016. Carried

And by unanimous consent of Council

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to read Bylaw #703 a third and final time and finally passed this 11th day of October, 2016. Carried

c. FortisAlberta Franchise Fee

Each year the municipality has the opportunity to change the franchise fee percentage. Any changes must be submitted before November 1, 2016.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to make no changes to the current FortisAlberta Franchise Fee percentage. Carried

d. Land Zoning Change Request

A request from Denise Larriviere and Michele Ricard wanting to change the zoning on the downstairs portion of their building to residential as it is now used for only residential.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the request to rezone the downstairs portion of Denise & Michele Ricard's place to residential. Carried

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Adjournment of the meeting was at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor – Ed Weistra

Administrator – Laurie Beck