

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
December 13, 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 5:59 p.m.
- Guests:*** **Sgt. Tom Howell, Picture Butte Detachment, RCMP**
Was unable to attend this evening but wishes to be on the January agenda.
- Approval of Agenda:*** **Motion made by Councillor Golding to approve the agenda as presented. Carried**
- Minutes:*** To accept the minutes of the November 8, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.
- Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the November 8, 2016 Regular Council meeting. Carried**
- Business Arising:***
- a. Tank Remediation Program**
EBA Tetra Tech plans on sampling the groundwater at the Gazebo site within the next few days. The soil vapour extraction unit at the public works building appears to be working as designed during the last few visits out to Barons.
 - b. Storm Water Project**
A concern was raised that the Village was stopping the free flowing of water in a ditch behind the residents on Blayney Avenue. To allow direct access to the Village property for its maintenance equipment, Public Works put in some dirt and gravel. After getting clarification from MPE Engineering, the project did in fact, have a secondary ditch in front of the swale and that with the installation of a culvert, there would be no problem and not compromise the integrity of this project. Public Works then installed a 10" culvert and groomed the area. AB Environment called to clarify what the Village had done.

Village Foreman Report:

Working on the dump truck – the thermostat seems to be not working well so will be replacing it. Ballasts seem to be gone in some light fixtures in the shops so is fixing lights.

Administrator Report:

AB Transportation required a cost update for the Treated Water Storage Project. Administrator Beck contacted MPE to obtain and this was forwarded to them. New computer and laptops were purchased using the MSI Operational Grant funds. Civic Solutions was here to begin the preliminary 2016 Tangible Capital Asset. On December 8th, Administrator Beck met with Glen Snelgrove, Municipal Assessor to provide him with all development permits. In addition, a meeting was held with Greg Farries, Municipal Website Administrator, to go over the website, ease of access to website, etc. He spoke of offering different services to the municipalities and will submit a proposal for consideration in the future.

Correspondence:

- Town of Taber letter to City of Lethbridge re Southern Alberta Regional Materials Recycling Facility
- Thank You for Barons AG Society
- Prairie Billboards
- Alberta Transportation – Rules for Off-Highway Vehicle Riders
- Brownlee LLP - Emerging Trends 2017
- Bylaw Enforcement Monthly Report for November, 2016
- Alberta Transportation – Funding under AMWWP
- Alberta Transportation – Enhancement Off-Highway Safety Bill
- Carmangay Library 2017 Interim Budget

Financial Reports:

Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statements for November, 2016.

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

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the monthly statements for November, 2016.

Carried

Committee Reports:

a) **ORRSC**

Jaime Thomas from ORRSC is submitting a joint municipal grant application for the 2017 Orthophotography project. There are 42 participating municipalities including Barons. Jordan Walker

attended a meeting whose company does aerial photography. Held the annual organizational meeting with changes to the executive.

b) **Fire Department**

Three members of the department finished up the Level 1 Officer course and are just waiting for marks. The fire engine needed new lights and the rescue vehicle was repaired. The rescue required a new fuel filter as it was plugged tight. As well a new alternator and batteries were required.

c) **Green Acres**

A new organizational meeting was held for the financial committee. As a board member, they have attended a few Christmas suppers at a couple of the Lodges. The board is looking at replacing the Piyami Lodge in Picture Butte due to the age and the issues with the physical structure.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to write a letter of support to Green Acres for their application for provincial funding for the replacement of Piyami Lodge.

Carried

d) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**

Interesting information has come forward regarding a non-profit borrower. Went over all the policies and changed how wages and bonuses etc. was distributed.

e) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**

Elections were held November 9th. The board confirmed that the meetings will be held the same as in previous years. FCSS is trying to build a natural play space in Coaldale. Retreat will be held in January 18 – 20 in Kananaskis. Next meeting will be at the retreat.

f) **Mayors and Reeves**

Spoke about the Carbon Tax – the provincial government wants 30% renewable energy by 2021. Spoke about the Keystone pipeline. Spoke about the MSI. Spoke of the recycling that Lethbridge is going forward with. A trip to China on Feb 13 – 25th for economic development is scheduled.

g) **Subdivision Appeal Board**

No report at this time.

- h) **Chinook Arch Library System**
Attended supper board meeting. Organizational meeting was held with no changes to the current makeup of board members and those will be staying in their positions.
- i) **AG Society**
Discussion held regarding a window in the United Church and AG Society determined that they will pay for it depending on cost. Looking to hire an outside maintenance worker.
- j) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
No report at this time.
- k) **CPO Regionalization Committee**
A meeting will be scheduled in the new year.

New Business:

- a. **2017 Interim Budget**
Council was presented with the 2017 Interim Budget for their consideration.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the 2017 Interim Budget.
Carried

- b. **Enhanced Bylaw Enforcement Program - Community Police Officers (CPO) Agreement**
Council was presented with the Regional agreement for their consideration. Council was asked if they had any concerns or questions.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra that the Village of Barons approve and sign the CPO Regional Agreement for an Enhanced Bylaw Enforcement service, between the communities of Picture Butte, Coalhurst, Coaldale and Barons.
Carried

- c. **Village Holiday Schedule**
As in previous years, the Village Office and Public Works have been closed between Christmas and New Year's. It is suggested that the Office and Public Works be closed between noon on December 22 to January 2nd, 2017 inclusive.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to close the Village Office and Public Works between 12:00 noon on December 22 to January 2nd, 2017.
Carried

d. Wages/Christmas Bonuses

It is the recommendation to grant a cost of living increase of 2.15% to both the Public Works and Administrator. It is also recommended that casual employees receive an increase to \$17.00 per hour. In addition, that a \$50.00 gift certificate to Safeway be given to Franz Zuercher and Byron Fraser in recognition of their contribution to the community of Barons.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to approve a 2.15% cost of living increase for both the Public Works and Administrator.

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve an increase for casual employees to be increased to \$17.00 per hour.

Carried

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to provide a Christmas bonus of \$500.00 for Village Foreman Coulter and Administrator Beck and to provide \$100.00 Christmas bonus to Liz Biddlecombe.

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to purchase two Safeway gift certificates in the amount of \$50.00 for both Byron Fraser and Franz Zuercher.

Carried

Executive Session:

Administrator Evaluation

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to go incamera at 6:45 pm.

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to come out of camera at 6:53 pm.

Carried

Administrator's evaluation will now be held for the period of January 1st to December 31st of each year.

Adjournment:

Adjournment of the meeting was at 6:57 p.m.

Mayor – Ed Weistra

Administrator – Laurie Beck