

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
February 14, 2017**

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 6:00 p.m.

Guests: None

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

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the January 10, 2017 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Golding to accept the minutes of the January 10, 2017 Regular Council meeting. Carried

Business Arising:

a. Tank Remediation Program
Based upon the results of groundwater monitoring and sampling conducted at the site for 2016, Tetra Tech presents the following recommendation:

- Drill three additional boreholes, to be completed as shallow groundwater monitoring wells immediately adjacent to, and within the former tank nest (historical source area). The new wells will aid in characterizing any residual hydrocarbon impacts that may be still be present at the site.
- Continue the semi-annual groundwater monitoring program and analytical suite in 2017 including the three newly installed wells, and excluding 08MW01 and 08MW03 where PHC concentrations have consistently been less than the laboratory detection limits.

Village Foreman Report: Fixed the control valve at the water plant. A broken water line at the Village community hall as well as a resident was frozen up, so was repairing these. In addition, Foreman Coulter spent quite a bit of time on snow removal. Currently is working on repairing the

grass truck. At the recent audit of the water system done by Alberta Environment, the Village failed the audit as Foreman Coulter forgot to obtain the required four different water analyses from the provincial lab and only obtained two. A letter from Alberta Environment will be forthcoming.

Administrator Report:

Worked with Metercor providing them with names, addresses, contact numbers, meter numbers and account numbers of all meters within the village. This is needed to ensure that they have all the information required for the new program. In addition, they will be calling people first to set up times to gain access to the buildings/homes for installation of the new meters. If no contact information such as phone numbers is available, they will send out letters instead. The project is scheduled to begin March 1st and end March 25th. All of this information is being put in the Village newsletter so everyone is aware that Metercor will be contacting them. The Village auditors were here February 6th and 7th to finish the 2016 audit. Administrator Beck and Fire Chief Fraser attended a meeting at Lethbridge County regarding Risk Management of Emergency Services and Emergency Management in the region. In attendance were representatives from the City of Lethbridge, Lethbridge County, Towns of Coaldale, Coalhurst and Picture Butte and Villages of Nobleford and Barons. A risk analysis will be sent in March, with feedback required by the end of March. An additional workshop will then be scheduled to go over the assessment and a framework will be started to respond to the identified risks. Currently there is another project that is being done and that one is an update to the Resource Sharing Agreement that was signed by all communities in Southern Alberta. Assessment Notices will go out February 15th with the appeal period over by April 16th. Overall assessments have gone down by 25,380 or 0.14% decrease in assessments from 2016. Reminder of Planning meeting on February 23rd at 5:30 and March 13th meeting with Rachel Harder at 1:00 pm. Working on risk assessment for Barons water system as Alberta Environment requires it to be completed. Fortis Alberta put out their 2017 approved rates. Residential customers will see an increase of 11.7%, Street lights increase 8.7%, increase to business 7.2 – 10.7%.

Correspondence:

- Coaldale and District Municipal Enforcement blurb
- RCMP Picture Butte Detachment Yearly Stats
- New Minister of Municipal Affairs – Hon. Shaye Anderson
- Solar Friendlies Municipalities Workshop
- South Saskatchewan Regional Plan amendments coming into effect February 16, 2017.
- RCMP – Fentanyl Drug Sheet

- Canadian Postmaster and Assistants Association letter of concern re absence of a recommendation by them for postal banking
- Mark Murphy – Joint CPO (Community Police Officer) Program patrols
- Mark Murphy – January hours
- Sgt. Tom Howell, RCMP Picture Butte Detachment, December stats
- AUMA – Oil and Gas Celebration Day – February 13, 2017

Financial Reports: Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statements for January, 2017.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the accounts payable for the month of January, 2017. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the monthly statements for January, 2017. Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
No report at this time.
- b) **Fire Department**
Have two people enrolled in an Ice Rescue course next weekend. A fellow will be coming to test all SCBA and compressor as we will have to start yearly certification on these. In the process of ordering the final items that was part of the MSI grant from 2016. Chief Fraser would like to know if the Village would provide the annual honorariums quarterly as a possible incentive to new members.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to provide quarterly honorariums instead of annual to fire department members. Carried

- c) **Green Acres**
The board discussed possibility of building a seniors lodge on the west side. A parcel of land has been offered adjacent to the U of L at no cost.
- d) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
No report at this time.
- e) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Reviewing the HR policies. Presentment of these to the board for approval at the next meeting. FCSS is looking at providing a

program encouraging and offer assistance to people with their taxes. The annual All Council's meeting will be held March 9th at 6:00 pm at the Heritage Inn Hotel in Taber. As dinner will be served, the number of attendee's is required.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to send Deputy Mayor Gorzitza and Councillor Golding to the All Council's meeting in Taber, March 9th, 2017. Carried

f) **Mayors and Reeves**

Presentations were made from the MLA's. Castle Park, change in portfolio's and MSI grant funding were some of the topics discussed. Presentation made by AHS regarding the removal of acute beds from rural areas. ORRSC is trying to get planning funding from the Alberta government. Discussion about HALO which is a similar program to STARS. They are looking for communities to support them.

g) **Subdivision Appeal Board**

No report at this time.

h) **Chinook Arch Library System**

No report at this time.

i) **AG Society**

Putting in a handicap accessory into the men's washroom. Nobleford asked if the AG Society had any storage but they were declined. Barons AG Days will be from 1:00 to 5:00 on February 16th.

j) **Emergency Advisory Committee**

No report at this time.

k) **CPO Regionalization Committee**

No report at this time.

New Business:

a. **Website – Interstrategy Contact**

Council was presented with the contract for their consideration. A few highlights of the contract for services include:

- Active Website and Wordpress Management
- Posting and Updating Materials on the Website
- Management and Hosting of Villages Domains and Website
- Digital Communications Consulting
- Social Media Management
- Newsletter Management

- Analytics and Reporting
- IT Support and Consulting

Motion made by Councillor Golding to approve and sign the contract between Interstrategy Inc. and the Village of Barons.
Carried

b. LGAA Conference – April 4 – 7th, 2017

The Local Government Administrators Association's (LGAA) annual conference will be held in Red Deer April 4th to 7th, 2017.

Motions made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to have Administrator Beck attend the annual LGAA conference in Red Deer.
Carried

c. AWWOA Annual Conference – March 13 – 17th, 2017

Alberta Water and Wastewater Annual Conference will be held in Banff March 13 – 17th. Both Foreman Coulter and Assistant Zuercher need to attend in order to keep their water/wastewater licences as they require a certain number of Education Units per year.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to have Forman Coulter and Assistant Zuercher attend the AWWOA Conference in Banff.
Carried

d. Rescheduling of April 11th Council Meeting Date

Council is asked to consider choosing a different date to have the April regular Council meeting or consider not having a meeting.

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to not have a regular Council meeting in April and that if any business requires attention, a special meeting will be called.
Carried

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Adjournment of the meeting was at 7:27 p.m.

Mayor – Ed Weistra

Administrator – Laurie Beck