

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
October 8, 2024**

Present: Daniel Doell, Mayor
Ron Gorzitza, Deputy Mayor
Jen Durell, Administrator
Brian Passmore, Village Foreman

Virtual: Clinton Bishop, Councillor

Absent: ***None***

Recording Secretary: Jen Durell, Recording Secretary

Call to Order: Call to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing: Bylaw #761 – Land Use Bylaw Amendments
In attendance: Kattie Schlamp, Planner, ORRSC, R. Raymond, C. Raymond, S. Sarazin, S. Prost

**Motion made by Mayor Doell to open the Public Hearing.
Carried unanimously.**

K. Schlamp spoke to the need to make amendments to the bylaw.

S Sarazin questions if this will be applied equally throughout the community.

K. Schlamp explains that it depends on location where some locations where more shielding might be required - a corner lot may require more than a property in the middle of a block.

S Sarazin wants to know if the amendment is required as the “shall” makes things equal throughout the community as opposed to the “may” where it will be applied unequally.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to close public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Guests: **Jackie Seely – Municipal Relations, STARS Air Ambulance**
Thanks Council for allowing her attendance at the meeting.

Next year STARS celebrates 40 years of operation, and they operate at no cost to patients. STARS relies on partnerships with the province and municipalities to help fund operations. STARS also dispatches for HALO and HERO air ambulance from their centralized dispatch centre in Calgary.

Their fleet of helicopters are airborne ICU's with state-of-the-art equipment, including night-vision capabilities, and have access to transport physicians to guide care while airborne.

STARS invites the Village to partner with them through their Municipal Partner Program and contribute \$1 per capita for 2025 to support missions.

Approval of Agenda:

Administrator Durell asks for Council's consideration to add Bylaw #761 – Land Use Bylaw Amendment to Business Arising

Motion made by Mayor Doell to approve the agenda with the amendment as requested. Carried unanimously.

Minutes:

To accept the minutes of the September 10, 2024 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2024 Regular Council meeting as presented. Carried unanimously

To accept the minutes of the September 19, 2024 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2024 Special Council meeting as presented. Carried unanimously

To accept the minutes of the October 3, 2024 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the October 3, 2024 Special Council meeting as presented. Carried unanimously

Business Arising:

a)

Telus Agreement

Council was presented with the amended agreement with TELUS for their consideration. JD Miller from Shockware was present to answer any questions from Council. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to sign the agreement with TELUS as presented. Carried unanimously.

b)

Repeal of Rental Policy

The Village currently has a policy which states that the Village will not rent out any municipally owned building or any tools. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to repeal the policy.

In favour: Councillor Bishop

Opposed: Mayor Doell, Deputy Mayor Gorzitza

1 for, 2 opposed. Motion Failed.

c) Bylaw #761 – Land Use Bylaw Amendment

Council was presented with Bylaw #761 for their consideration. Discussion was held. Kattie Schlamp, Planner from ORRSC explained to Council the error in the bylaw and why the need for the correction.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to read Bylaw #761 a second time this 8th day of October, 2024.

Carried unanimously

And by UNANIMOUS CONSENT of Council, a motion made by Councillor Bishop this 8th day of October, 2024. Carried

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to read Bylaw #761 a third time this 8th day of October, 2024.

Carried unanimously

Village Foreman Report:

Had sand delivered in preparation for winter. Got quotes for plow blade for the town truck. Had 1 quote for the roof on the water plant. Have been working on trimming elm trees – working on Noble Street. A hydrovac was out at sewer lagoon trying to find the pipe that connects the pumphouse to the ponds. Foreman Passmore reports that his annual holidays are upcoming in a couple weeks.

Councillor Bishop questions how many trees we are expected to lose with the work being done. Foreman Passmore indicates that so far, we have lost 3 poplar trees with the arbourist's work, and 2 trees from their work. He suspects that we may see 2-3 more removals from the arbourist before the work this year is completed.

Administrators Report:

Attended the annual AB Municipalities conference which was a great networking and learning opportunity. A GIC is due for reinvestment in November. Administrator Durell will instruct ATB to reinvest at the current market rate. The Village's ACP application for the design study of the water plant has been submitted. The Village Auditors will be here October 22 and 23 for the pre-audit. Assessment Review Board hearing is upcoming on October 17th. The sewer lagoon project is coming along in a timely

manner. They have now completed the laying of the trunk main other than the tie in and are well underway on the work inside the new pumphouse. The new deep well is on site waiting for installation, and the new pumps arrived last week. We continue to have bi-weekly progress meetings between the Village, MPE Engineering, and the contractor.

- Correspondence:**
- September Bank Reconciliation
 - Community Peace Officer Monthly Report – August/September
 - Town of Nobleford – Thank you card
 - Alberta Municipal Affairs – Carbon Tax impact
 - Occupational Health & Safety – Reports
 - RMA – Membership Fees
 - Oldman Watershed Council – Request for Support

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the correspondence as presented. Carried unanimously

- Financial Reports:** Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statement for the month of September, 2024.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to approve the accounts payable for the months of September, 2024. Carried unanimously

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the monthly statement for September, 2024. Carried unanimously

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
Next meeting in November
- b) **Green Acres**
Attended meeting in September. Abbey Road Terrace is almost complete. Green Acres has been looking into the possibility of fixing up Piyami lodge, and what Green Acres can do considering the Lodge provincially owned.
- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Things have slowed down but still approving loans. Trying to get more rural loan applicants. Asked for an update for the Blackfoot sign but have not heard back yet.
- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Seniors Expo Oct 23. Transport is available. Pickup location will be at the Seniors drop in at 10 am and will take them to Coaldale and back.
- e) **Mayors and Reeves**

Nathan Neudorf was in attendance at the last meeting. Spoke of irrigation in Southern Alberta and the U of L.

f) **Chinook Arch Library System**

Nothing to report.

g) **AG Society**

Gearing up for turkey bingo and mistletoe market. Considering installing a dishwasher in the kitchen.

h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**

New agreements omitting Coaldale have now gone out for re-signing by the parties.

i) **Carmangay Library**

Next meeting in November

New Business:

a) **Green Acres Support Letter**

Council was presented with a letter from Green Acres requesting a letter of support for their advocacy to have Piyami Lodge in Picture Butte rebuilt. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to write a letter of support for Green Acres and their ongoing advocacy to have Piyami Lodge rebuilt. Carried unanimously.

b) **ATCO Franchise Fee**

The Village is in receipt of a letter from ATCO Gas relating to our franchise agreement with them. Currently our franchise rate is 14.97%. Each year, Council has the opportunity to change this rate. This fee is paid to the Village in exchange for access for utilities to enter Municipal lands.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to keep the ATCO gas franchise fee at the same rate of 14.97% for 2025. Carried unanimously.

c) **AG Society Turkey Bingo Donation Request**

Council was presented with an RFD (Request For Decision) relating to the request for donation to the Barons AG Society for their annual Turkey Bingo.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to donate \$100.00 to the Barons AG Society in support of their Turkey Bingo. Carried unanimously

d) **Harassment Policies Review**

Council was presented with the current harassment policies for their review.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to put up signage stating non-tolerance of abusive language or behaviour in municipal buildings. 2 for, 1 against. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct Administration to come back to council in two months with an RFD and any amendments suggested for the policies.
Carried unanimously.

Closed Session: a) None

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 8:52 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel Doell

Administrator – Jen Durell