

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
November 12, 2024**

Present: Daniel Doell, Mayor
Ron Gorzitza, Deputy Mayor
Clinton Bishop, Councillor
Jen Durell, Administrator

Absent: Brian Passmore, Village Foreman

Recording Secretary: Jen Durell, Recording Secretary

Call to Order: Call to order at 6:59 p.m.

Guests: *None*

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Councillor Bishop to amend the agenda to include an item titled the “Communication and Support to Council Policy”.

Councillor Bishop for, Mayor Doell and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza opposed.

1 for, 2 against. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to amend the agenda to add an item titled recording and broadcasting council meetings.

Councillor Bishop for, Mayor Doell and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza opposed.

1 for, 2 against. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to amend the agenda to include an item entitled “review of IT services”.

Councillor Bishop for, Mayor Doell and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza opposed.

1 for, 2 against. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to amend the agenda to include an item entitled “review of legal services”.

Councillor Bishop for, Mayor Doell and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza opposed.

1 for, 2 against. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to amend the agenda to include an item titled “Termination of Chief Administrative Advisor Agreement”.

Councillor Bishop for, Mayor Doell and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza opposed.

1 for, 2 against. Motion failed.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the agenda as presented. 2 for, 1 against. Carried.

Minutes:

To accept the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Organizational Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Organizational Council meeting as presented. Carried unanimously

To accept the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Regular Council meeting as presented. Carried unanimously

Business Arising:

- a) **Harassment Policy #078**
Council was presented with Harassment Policy #078 for their consideration. Discussion was held.

Village Foreman Report:

Was away on holidays late October through beginning of November.

Administrators Report:

Attended the LGAA Zone 1 meeting which was a great networking and learning opportunity. The Village Auditors were here October 22 for the pre-audit. A GIC is due for reinvestment in November. Administrator Durell will instruct ATB to reinvest at the current market rate. The scheduled Assessment Review Board hearing on October 17th was cancelled as the assessor and the property owner came to an agreement acceptable to both parties. The Sewer Project is coming along well. The deep well is now set, pumps are installed, trunk main is almost complete and work continues on the electrical components. Had the water reservoir cleaned which was recommended by Alberta Environment. The Blackfoot name sign

has now been delivered and was mounted to the front entrance sign. Attended a meeting with the Village's IT person to discuss the current technological capability and how we can improve – will be reporting back in first quarter of 2025 in preparation for budget considerations. Administration has been asked by a property owner if Council would consider extending Brainard Street to Blayne Avenue, as he would like to subdivide his property.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to amend the agenda to consider the repeal of the rental policy.

Councillor Bishop and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza for, Mayor Doell against.

2 for, 1 against. Motion carried.

Business Arising: b) Repeal of Rental Policy

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to repeal the rental policy.

Councillor Bishop for, Mayor Doell and Deputy Mayor Gorzitza opposed.

1 for, 2 against. Motion failed.

**Motion made by Mayor Doell to reconsider the motion made by Councillor Bishop to repeal the rental policy.
Carried unanimously.**

Correspondence:

- October Bank Reconciliation
- Chinook Arch Library Board – Library Trustee Extravaganza
- Chinook Arch Library Board – Board Report
- Oldman River Regional Services Commission – Member Form Information Sheet
- FCSS – Report to Municipalities
- Lethbridge County – Committee Appointments
- Oldman River Regional Services Commission – NextGen 911
- Occupational Health and Safety – Reports
- Oldman River Regional Services Commission – Member Fee Increase
- Honourable Jason Nixon, MLA, Minister for Seniors, Community and Social Services – Letter re: Piyami Lodge

**Motion made by Councillor Bishop to accept the correspondence as presented.
Carried unanimously**

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

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the accounts payable for the month of October, 2024.

Carried unanimously

Motion made by Mayor Doell to approve the monthly statement for October, 2024.

Carried unanimously

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
Meeting upcoming in December.
- b) **Green Acres**
Discussed Piyami Lodge rebuild and the ongoing advocacy to renovate.
- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Presentation re: digital skills for youth program, program concluded and report of successes. 18 projects total were done through the program.
- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
FCSS is now here on Fridays from 9 – 4 at the Seniors to assist adults, seniors, and youth. A few kids attended the kids session.
- e) **Mayors and Reeves**
Discussion held about Mayors.
- f) **Chinook Arch Library System**
Nothing to report.
- g) **AG Society**
Mistletoe market was this past weekend. Turkey bingo upcoming next weekend. Meeting upcoming this Thursday.
- h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
Work is ongoing to remove Coaldale from the documents already drafted. Lethbridge County officially announced the partnership on November 1 and hosted a media availability with the Reeve, as well as all the Mayors of the communities involved. Mayor Doell attended on the Village's behalf.

i) **Carmangay Library**

Everything is going well at the library. Carmangay library attends Barons once per month. No smoke damage to the library regarding recent fire.

New Business:

a) **Letter of support for Lethbridge County ACP Application**

Council was presented with a letter from Lethbridge County requesting a letter of support for their ACP Application for a study to enhance irrigation networks and accessibility to water. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to write a letter of support for Lethbridge County's submission of a 2024/2025 Alberta Community Partnership grant application in support of the Accessibility to Water Through Enhanced Irrigation Networks Study.
Carried unanimously

b) **Land Acquisition Agreement**

Council was presented with the final land agreement with C. Johnson, L. Louie & K. Johnson for signature. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to sign the agreement with C. Johnson, L. Louie & K. Johnson.
Carried Unanimously

c) **Elections Alberta Agreement**

Council was presented with the proposed data sharing agreement with Elections Alberta. Discussion was held

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to table this agreement until the January Council meeting pending further information.
Carried unanimously

d) **Code of Conduct Amendment – Gifting Restrictions**

Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct Administration to draft an amendment to Bylaw #727, the Councillor Code of Conduct Bylaw to include restrictions on gifts.
Carried unanimously

e) **Term Limits for MPC**

Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct Administration to amend Bylaw #713 to indicate term limits of 4 years for the member at large, pending review or reappointment.

Carried Unanimously

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct Administration to initiate a search and selection process for a member at large in March of 2025.

Carried unanimously

f) Admin Vacation Request

Administrator Durell requests November 18-26, 2024, and December 16 - 17th, 2024 for vacation time.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the vacation request from Administrator Durell.

Carried unanimously

Closed Session: a) None

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 9:45 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel Doell

Administrator – Jen Durell