

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
April 11, 2023**

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

Recording Secretary: Jen Durell, Recording Secretary

Call to Order: Call to order at 1:01 p.m.

Guests: Kara Hickman – Annexing 9 feet of Village Boulevard and relocating fence to encompass trees, grading of property and boulevard, gravel fill for drainage on boulevard, stump removal.

Discussion was held.

Motion made by Mayor Doell that the Village will remove the stump and the wooden walkway from the boulevard.

Carried.

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

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the March 14, 2022 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the March 14, 2023 Regular Council meeting. Carried.

To accept the minutes of the March 21, 2022 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2023 Special Council meeting. Carried.

Business Arising:

a) **Quotation for Subdivision costs**
Administration has received a line item quote from the surveyor as requested by Council. Based on the quotation provided, the project will cost less than originally quoted, as the surveyor was able to complete all fieldwork in one trip.

**Motion made by Mayor Doell to accept the quote from
Brown Okamura and Associates as presented.
Carried.**

Village Foreman Report: Foreman Passmore reports that things have been going well. Aquatech Diving Services were out to complete the ROV inspection of the water reservoir. A cleaning will have to be done within the next year or two based on their report, but overall, the reservoir is in good condition. Foreman Passmore reports that there will be lots of work to do this upcoming summer and he is preparing accordingly. Foreman Passmore will be busy for the next few weeks prepping for and placing the water and sewer services for the recently purchased property on King Street, and that locates for underground utilities have been requested so he can begin the project. Foreman Passmore reports some drainage issues around the Village with the recent warm weather and snow melt.

Administrator Report:

The by-election posters are now up, and Municipal Affairs has been notified of the resignation of Mayor Weistra and the upcoming by-election. Administrator Durell has sold the property known as 227 King street, and the agreement has been signed regarding developing within one calendar year of purchase. Administrator Durell has been in contact with Xplornet regarding the decommissioning of the tower located at 201 Main street. There appears to be some confusion on their end as to which tower they own and where their items are located, and Administration is waiting for them to return emails as to which tower is actually being decommissioned. Administrator Durell has contacted the Village Lawyer regarding cleaning up the land title for the hotel site, as well as transferring the title for the property on King Street to the new owners. Administrator Durell reports that the LAPP year end has now been submitted and closed. Administrator Durell has been in contact with AB Transportation regarding our BMTG grant funds. Tax notifications have now been sent away for registration with AB Land Titles. Administrator Durell has now posted the summer help posters up and there has been 1 application in so far. Administrator Durell has been in talks with Bylaw Enforcement and he reports that given the recent warm weather, he will soon start enforcement for unsightly/untidy complaints. Plans are underway for enforcement of the unsightly property, and resolution will be imminent. Administrator Durell has the 3rd draft of the budget ready for Council, so we will have to set a date for our next budget meeting. Administrator Durell has been approached by the Barons Senior Citizens Centre with a request for the consideration of Council to purchase a cake

for them in light of their upcoming 50th anniversary celebration on May 6th, 2023.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to set the next budget meeting date for April 28th, 2023. Carried.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to purchase a cake for the Barons Seniors in honour of their 50th Anniversary celebration on May 6, 2023. Carried.

Correspondence:

- Alberta Health Services – President and CAO Announcement
- FCSS – Annual Funding Contribution
- Alberta Environment – Annual Waterworks Inspection Report
- Municipal Affairs – ACP Program Acceptance
- Town of Barrhead – EPR Program changes letter
- March Monthly Statement
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch #160 – Parking
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch #160 – Fence Line

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

Financial Reports: Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statements for the month of March, 2023.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the accounts payable for the month of March, 2023. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Doell to approve the monthly statement for March, 2023. Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
The next meeting is upcoming in May.
- b) **Green Acres**
A meeting was held at the beginning of April to discuss the 2022 Audited Financial Statements, and to go over documents with their Financial Advisor. The next meeting is upcoming at the end of April.

- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Attended a meeting at the beginning of April to sign documents and become familiar with CFLR. Mayor Doell also attended some further training for CFLR via Zoom. Next meeting is upcoming at the end of April.

- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Mayor Doell attended the meeting in Coaldale on April 6th and was brought up to speed with FCSS and their mandate. Council and Administration attended the FCSS All Council's meeting later that evening in Coaldale, which was well attended. Lots of information shared by FCSS as to who they are and what services they offer in the communities they serve.

- e) **Mayors and Reeves**
Meeting is upcoming in April.

- f) **Chinook Arch Library System**
Deputy Mayor Gorzitza attended a supper meeting. Discussion was held regarding the financial reports.

- g) **AG Society**
Meeting is upcoming April 12th.

- h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
None.

- i) **Carmangay Library**
Next meeting is scheduled for May 1st.

New Business:

- a) **Water Reservoir Funding Contribution Request**
The Village received a letter from the Town of Nobleford regarding a rehabilitation project for two of their raw water reservoirs. They are requesting a financial contribution from the Village of Barons in the amount of \$127,000.00, which would reflect 13% of the total cost of the project.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to instruct Administration to write a letter to the Town of Nobleford to deny their request at this time. Carried

b) Account Write Offs

Three outstanding accounts with charges stemming from 2018 need to be written off.

C. Scharbiak, Tax roll #37 – \$4,488.24

C. Scharbiak, Tax roll #38 - \$8,839.87

C. Scharbiak, fire fighting costs - \$24,562.91

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to write off three accounts whose combined total is \$37,891.02.

Carried

c) Fortis Approval

Fortis Alberta has provided the Village with the approval for the streetlight mounted Christmas Decorations, with some conditions attached.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept Fortis Alberta's approval as submitted.

Carried

d) Benchmark Assessment Consultants Agreement

Benchmark Assessment Consultants have provided the Village with a new five-year agreement. It is to be noted that it is a 12% increase over the previous contract.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept and sign the agreement with Benchmark Assessment Consultants as written.

Carried

e) 123 Blayney Avenue Sewer Line

A resident approached Administration to report that after discovering a sewer leak in their basement, Roto-Rooter had determined that the sewer line leading off the main to the house is sagging in spots.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to instruct Administration to investigate further.

Carried

f) Royal Canadian Legion request

The Village has received a letter from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #160 requesting that Council consider amending the Traffic

Bylaw to disallow overnight/long term parking on Main Street, to implement signage reflecting same, and consider designating the North side of the 200 block of Main Street, from 201 Main Street to 215 Main Street as Legion Parking only.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to deny the request from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #160 to amend the Traffic Bylaw, and to further deny the request to designate “Legion Only” parking on Main Street, as this is a public roadway with parking available for all to utilize.

Carried

g) Royal Canadian Legion Fencing

The Village has received a letter from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #160 requesting that Council give their permission for the Legion to use the existing fence of the neighboring property to construct their proposed new fence.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to deny the request from the Barons Legion #160 and instruct them to obtain a Real Property Report to ensure their proposed fence is within their property boundaries.

Carried.

Closed Session: None

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 2:55 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel Doell

Administrator – Jen Durell