

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
June 13, 2023**

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

Recording Secretary: Jen Durell, Recording Secretary

Call to Order: Call to order at 1:02 p.m.

Guests: Bob Baird – Village Scrap Metals, Volunteer Policy for Special Projects

Baird states there is a need for volunteer help around the Village. Suggests donations for public assets, or volunteers to clean up Fire Hall. Should have a Volunteer Policy with public feedback to support Public Works. Would like to see more community participation and ways for residents to “give back”.

Baird states that the Village has scrap metals which are saleable. Should implement a one-time cleanup of such. Alternatively, start a once weekly clean up of appliances, etc.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Doell to instruct Administrator Durell to investigate Volunteer Policies and Committee creation. Carried.

Approval of Agenda: **Motion made by Councillor Gorzitza to approve the agenda with the amendment of the Budget meeting date as presented. Carried**

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the May 9, 2022 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Doell to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2023 Regular Council meeting. Carried

To accept the minutes of the May 25, 2022 Budget Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the May 25, 2023 Budget meeting. Carried

Business Arising:

a) **Bylaw #751**

Council was presented with the Meeting Procedures Bylaw #751 for their consideration.

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to read Bylaw #751 a first time this 13th day of June, 2023. Carried

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Doell to read Bylaw #751 a second time this 13th day of June, 2023. Carried

And by UNANIMOUS CONSENT of Council, a motion made by Deputy Mayor Doell this 13th day of June, 2023. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to read Bylaw #751 a third and final time and finally passed this 13th day of June, 2023. Carried

Village Foreman Report:

Mowing almost caught up. Some of the sprinkler control boxes need to be repaired and twenty heads were replaced. At the gazebo, the paving stones have been removed. The tin work at the Community Hall should start soon. Red Cap who worked on the generator project, brought out the operator binders. The Village could also obtain a maintenance package through them at a cost of \$1,500.00 per year while it is on warranty. Thinking about painting the garbage cans/planters.

Administrator Report:

Tax notices have now gone out as of May 31, with the payment deadline of Aug 1. The change over to the summer utility billing has been completed. The 2022 Statistical Information Return and 2023 Taxation Bylaw has been sent to Municipal Affairs. The Village has been having difficulties with Epcor and the cost of electricity being billed. Administration has contacted them and complained of same. There was one development application received by the office over the last month, which was forwarded to the MPC for their consideration. All MSI grant applications have now been submitted to Municipal Affairs. Administration has been in contact with MPE Engineering to begin the sewage lift station project, which is now in the planning and design stages. The casual help wanted poster has been up at Canada Post and the Village Office window for 3 weeks now - closing date is June 14th. Administrator Durell has been in contact with Palliser Schools pertaining to buses off the Bus Route in the Village. Palliser apologizes but speaks of their difficulty in accessing their "pull in" if they have to stay on the prescribed route. There were a few Bylaw related complaints received over the last month, including the use of OHV's within the Village limits. These are being handled by Peace Officer Herasemluk.

Administrator Durell attended a meeting at the Lethbridge County office relating to the Emergency Management Partnership; lots of great ideas were brainstormed, and a tentative timeline has now been agreed upon for this project. Administration has now transferred the costs of the cleanup order at 120 King Street to the property owners' account as per the court order. Administration has been in contact with Alberta Health Services, as well as the Fire Inspector regarding the closure of the property at 120 King Street, and it has been reported that AHS will be moving forward to remove the occupant from the premises and board it up so no further occupation can occur. Administration has also been in contact with the Village lawyer relating to the title clean-up of the Hotel site, as well as receiving advice as it relates to some bylaw related issues. The by-election is now completed, and all reporting of results done to Municipal Affairs. Administrator Durell has contacted Fortis Alberta to move forward with electrifying the power poles for the Christmas lights project and has ordered the 6 pole mounted lights for the same. One of the Village's GIC's is maturing in July, which Administrator Durell will instruct them to re-invest at the current interest rate. Administration purchased a cake and Mayor Doell was given a certificate to present to the Barons Seniors in recognition of Seniors Week, which was June 5 – 11.

Correspondence:

- Yellowhead County – Alberta Provincial Election
- Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Invitation to Ukrainian Day Celebration
- Alberta Municipalities – Municipal Leaders Caucus
- Nobleford Heritage Society – Heritage Day Invitation
- Town of Coaldale – Summer Fest Invitation
- May Bank Reconciliation
- Fortis Alberta – Facilities Web Map
- K. Armstrong – Tree Removal
- County of Lethbridge CLC – AGM Save-The-Date
- Carmangay Horticultural Society – Invitation for Carmangay Parade
- ATB Financial – GIC Investment

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

Financial Reports:

Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statements for the month of May, 2023.

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

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to approve the monthly statement for May, 2023. Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
Unable to attend the meeting.
- b) **Green Acres**
A retreat was held. Was unable to attend this year.
- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
No report at this time.
- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
No report at this time.
- e) **Mayors and Reeves**
Attended the meeting. No one else.
- f) **Chinook Arch Library System**
These meetings are held quarterly so no report at this time.
- g) **AG Society**
Attended the meeting/ Some discussion re: Community Hall.
- h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
No report at this time.
- i) **Carmangay Library**
Meetings are held quarterly. No report at this time.

New Business:

- a) **July/August Regular Council Meetings**
As in previous years, Council was asked to consider the necessity of having regular Council meetings in the summer. This would also include having no newsletter for these months.

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to not have any Council meetings or newsletters in July or August unless some emergent issues arise, then a special meeting of Council will be called. Carried

COUNCILLOR GORZITZA LEFT THE MEETING AT 2:16 P.M.

- b) **Tree Removal**
A letter was received by the Village Office requesting Council’s consideration to remove a boulevard tree in front of a property on King Street.

The Village's response to this is that Council will consider approving the removal of the tree provided that the individual re-apply for a development permit and it being approved.

- c) **Request for Office Closure**
Administrator Durell will be away at the LGAA Conference from June 26 – 29. Laurie Beck will be providing office coverage for that time; however, Laurie is unavailable on June 27th and 28th due to her attendance at the LGAA Conference.

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to close the Village Office on June 27th and 28th, with June 26th be open to the public.
Carried

- d) **Request for Speedbumps**
Mayor Doell wishes to explore the possibility of installing speed bumps throughout the Village to curb the excessive speeding on certain streets within the Village. No action is needed.

Closed Session:

- a) **Administrator's Six (6) Month Evaluation**
FOIP ACT – 17(4)(f)

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to go incamera to discuss the Administrator's six (6) month evaluation as per FOIP Act – 17(4)(f) at 2:30 pm.

Carried

Motion made by Mayor Bishop to come out of camera at 2:35 p.m.
Carried

Adjournment:

Adjournment of the meeting was at 2:36 p.m.

Mayor – Clinton Bishop

Administrator – Jen Durell