

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
January 9, 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 7:00 p.m.
- Guests:*** **Susan Sarazin – Bylaws**
Would like to discuss Land Use Bylaw. Wants to know if there is a journal or log of applications for permits to use boulevards as driveways. Speaks about not being able to drive across boulevard but some are allowed to park on boulevard.
- Speaks of fire safety hazard on a residence in the Village and not having a valid permit for his home or a fire arrestor on top of his chimney.
- Approval of Agenda:*** **Motion made by Councillor Bishop to approve the Agenda with the addition of the Bylaw Enforcement Agreement as presented. Carried**
- Minutes:*** To accept the minutes of the December 12, 2023 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.
- Motion made by Councillor Bishop to accept the minutes of the December 12, 2023 Regular Council meeting as presented. Carried**
- Business Arising:*** a) **Proposed Procedural Bylaw Amendments – Bylaw #756**
Council was presented with proposed Procedural Bylaw amendments for their consideration.
- Motion made by Councillor Bishop to read Bylaw #756 a first time this 9th day of January, 2024. Carried**
- Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to read Bylaw #756 a second time this 9th day of January, 2024. Carried**
- And by UNANIMOUS CONSENT of Council, a motion made by Councillor Bishop this 9th day of January, 2024. Carried**

**Motion made by Mayor Doell to read Bylaw #756 a third and final time and finally passed this 9th day of January, 2024.
Carried**

Village Foreman Report: Nothing to report.

Administrator Report: Administration has sent out letters to all the service clubs in the Village regarding the Utility Relief Program. Work is underway to complete the 2023 year end reporting. Posters are now up reminding residents of the annual renewal of dog, chicken, and business licenses due by the end of January. The signage quote is now back for the complete replacement of all signs within the Village and came in better than expected. Bylaw Enforcement reports they have seized a dog from a property within the Village last week. Sewer Lagoon project should be going out to tender this week as per MPE, with tender to close in February. Administration received a letter from AB Environment regarding the water situation and drought conditions in the South zone. Currently the Province is rating the situation a 4 out of 5 as per their water management plan, which is considered a Province-wide Emergency. As such, they have put forth some recommendations for Council to consider implementing in the upcoming months, including initiating efforts to monitor water intake relative to water levels, reviewing the terms of water licenses so as to be aware of any conditions that may limit ability to draw water during drought, alerting water managers to prepare to be engaged with officials from the Drought Command Team should conditions of our water license need to be triggered, and to develop a water shortage plan.

Correspondence:

- December Bank Reconciliation
- AB Environment – Water Management Plan
- Municipal Affairs – ACP Grant Approval
- Municipal Affairs – LGFF Program Overview
- Municipal Affairs – LGFF Program
- Fortis Alberta – Estimated Distribution and Transmission Rates
- Town of Coalhurst – Holiday greeting
- EOEP – Munis 101 Registration
- STOPDED – Holiday greeting

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

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

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

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to approve the monthly statement for December, 2023. Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
More talk of people trying to get Land Use Bylaw surveys.
Discussed a cost increase of 6% this year
- b) **Green Acres**
Next meeting is end of January
- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
No meeting in December as no loans to review.
- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Attended conference in Edmonton in November.
- e) **Mayors and Reeves**
Spoke of the drought conditions and how dangerous it is. Much concern about the drought conditions that will impact Southern Alberta. Spoke of Lethbridge implementing restrictions sooner due to concerns.
- f) **Chinook Arch Library System**
Discussed starting more libraries in various communities
- g) **AG Society**
Reviewed minutes as was unable to attend. Ag Society will look at renos for next year (2024) and will look at other grants and improvements to assist with those, as well with the air conditioning project. The last meeting was the final event that Cathy Jakabor will cater. Ag Society gives thanks for her hard work through the years.
- h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
Work continues on the HIRA's. Next meeting upcoming later in January.
- i) **Carmangay Library**
Still discussing with Carmangay librarian regarding having the library come once a month, hopefully to the Seniors.

New Business:

- a) **Donation to Carmangay Junior Bonspiel**
Council was presented with a letter sent by the Carmangay Junior Bonspiel requesting a donation to the Bonspiel, which is set for February 2 and 3, 2024. The Village has contributed to this event before.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to donate \$100.00 to the Carmangay Junior Bonspiel. Carried

b) Bylaw Enforcement Agreement

Council was presented with the proposed agreement for Bylaw Enforcement with the Town of Coalhurst. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct Administration to negotiate with Coalhurst regarding proposed amendments to Section 17 of the proposed agreement, as well as adding clauses for deliverables as discussed.

Carried.

Closed Session: None

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 8:06 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel Doell

Administrator – Jen Durell