

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
February 11, 2025**

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: *None*

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

Minutes: To accept the minutes of the January 14, 2025 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to accept the minutes of the January 14, 2025 Regular Council meeting as presented. Carried Unanimously

To accept the minutes of the January 27, 2025 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the January 27, 2025 Special Council meeting as presented. Carried Unanimously

Business Arising: a) **Bylaw # 765 – Revised Traffic Bylaw**
Council was presented with the revised Traffic Bylaw for their consideration.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to rescind the motion to amend the traffic bylaw to add fines for improper parking. The fine for which shall be set at \$500.00.

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

Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to amend the traffic bylaw to add fines for improper parking. The fine for which shall be set at \$125.00.

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

Motion Carried.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to read Bylaw #765 a first time this 11th day of February, 2025.

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

Motion Carried.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to read Bylaw #765 a second time this 11th day of February, 2025.

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

Motion Carried.

- b) Policy #080 – Customer Code of Conduct**
Council was presented with Policy #080 for their consideration.
Discussion was held.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to adopt Policy #080 – Customer Code of Conduct as presented. Carried unanimously

Village Foreman Report: Got Christmas decorations down and put away. Did some plowing and sanding – a reminder that salt does not work past a certain temperature, and sand has a hard time sticking when the road surface is tightly packed and cold. Have accepted a quote for the roof replacement at the water plant – project should commence within 3-4 weeks. Both furnaces at the old fire hall went out, so repairs to both were required.

Administrators Report: Assessment roll has arrived from the Assessor - Residential assessment up 8% overall, though different assessment classes will see different increases. Assessment notices should be mailed out by February 26th with an appeal deadline of May 5th. We've now received both the parking signage and paint for the handicap stalls to be placed at the legion, seniors and community hall. Once weather permits, Public Works will install the signage, with the painting to follow in the spring/summer. Attended another info

session for Elections Alberta regarding the geospatial data they will be requiring from Municipalities. Letters have been sent out reminding affected property owners to clear up outstanding balances on taxes from 2023 and prior, otherwise this will be registered on title. Work is underway in preparation for the final audit on March 4 and 5. Have spoken with Village Engineers regarding the sewer lagoon project. They were updated by the contractor that the electrical conduit will be arriving the week of February 17th, however there is some concern about completing the project before wet weather arrives. MPE is suggesting that we give until March 10th to complete the project, and if it is not completed by then, then the Village look at liquidated damages.

- Correspondence:**
- January Bank Reconciliation
 - Bylaw Enforcement – December and January Monthly Report
 - FCSS – All Council’s Meeting Save the Date
 - Occupational Health and Safety - Report
 - Palliser School Division – Strategic Planning
 - Lethbridge County – ICS 200 Training

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 January, 2025.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to approve the accounts payable for the month of January, 2025. Carried unanimously

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the monthly statement for January, 2025. Carried unanimously

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
Next meeting upcoming in March
- b) **Green Acres**
Discussed vacancies in Green Acres Buildings. Still working on Abbey Road terrace – Should be available to move into soon. Still having discussions about Piyami and how to move forward
- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Set annual operating budget for this year. Kept interest rates at the same rate.
- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**

Events at the Seniors Drop-in every Friday. Trying to stage things based on age.

e) **Mayors and Reeves**

Discussion on 25% tariffs. Discussed impacts on Canadian small business. Looking at groundwater information. Discussed privatized Doctors in Canada getting paid higher wages than non-private Doctors. Trying to entice more Doctors to work in rural alberta. Discussed housing needs.

f) **Chinook Arch Library System**

Next meeting in April.

g) **AG Society**

Meeting upcoming on Thursday.

h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**

Attended a meeting at the County Office. Discussed the Regional Emergency Management Plans, and the establishment of the Regional Emergency Advisory Committee. We have been asked to put forward two appointees for the Regional Committee, with the hope that the inaugural meeting of this regional committee will take place in April or May. These appointees are to be equal voting members of the committee, must be elected officials, must be able to advise on the Emergency Management plan and program, as well as provide guidance and approve preparedness activities (REMP, annual budgets, training/exercise program) of the Regional Emergency Management Agency (REMA)

We've also been asked to determine who will be the Director of Emergency Management (DEM) for your municipality, as the DEM will also serve as a Regional Deputy DEM and will be part of the REMA.

i) **Carmangay Library**

Movie night is on the 20th – showing Wicked. Carmangay Library comes to the Barons Drop In once a month on the first Thursday of the month from 5-9 pm

New Business:

a) **Bylaw # 766 – Alternative Methods for Advertising Statutory Notices on Planning and Development Matters Bylaw**

Council was presented with the Alternative Methods for Advertising Statutory Notices on Planning and Development Matters Bylaw for their consideration.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to direct administration to amend the draft Bylaw #766 Alternative Methods for

Advertising Statutory Notices on Planning and Development Matters to add Council's preferred method for hosting electronic public hearings.

Carried unanimously

- b) Removal of the American Flag from Flagpole**
Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to remove the American Flag from the Village's Flagpole permanently and replace this with a Blackfoot Confederacy Flag.

Carried unanimously

- c) Policy #082 – Asset Retirement Obligations Policy**
Council was presented with Policy #082 for their consideration.
Discussion was held.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to adopt Policy #082 – Asset Retirement Obligations Policy as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Closed Session: **a) none**

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 8:27 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel Doell

Administrator – Jen Durell