

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
September 9, 2025**

Present:

Daniel Doell, Mayor
Ron Gorzitz, Deputy Mayor
Clinton Bishop, Councillor
Jen Durell, Administrator

Absent:

None

Recording Secretary:

Jen Durell, Recording Secretary

Call to Order:

Call to order at 7:03 p.m.

Guests:

Clinton Bishop – Statement

Approval of Agenda:

Motion made by Mayor Doell to approve the agenda with the additions as presented. **Carried Unanimously**

Minutes:

To accept the minutes of the June 10, 2025 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitz to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2025 Regular Council meeting as presented. **Carried Unanimously**

To accept the minutes of the July 30, 2025 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to accept the minutes of the July 30, 2025 Special Council meeting as presented. **Carried Unanimously**

To accept the minutes of the August 25, 2025 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to accept the minutes of the August 25, 2025 Special Council meeting as presented. **Carried Unanimously**

To accept the minutes of the September 2, 2025 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitz to accept the minutes of the September 2, 2025 Special Council meeting as presented. **Carried Unanimously**

Business Arising: None

Village Foreman Report: Mowing and tree trimming.

Administrators Report: Administration has started the adjustment of all tax rolls affected by the error in the Education Tax. Attended the LGAA Conference, as in previous years there were great learning and networking opportunities. Distributed food bank donations from Family Fun Day to the Picture Butte Food Bank – The Village collected \$284 in cash, as well as 112 pounds of food during breakfast. Submitted our Statement of Financial Expenditures for our LGFF Operating grant, as the provinces new portal went live. Submitted our annual Insurance renewal forms. The GIC's that matured in July have been reinvested, as well as the GIC which was cashed in in June. Attended numerous meetings over the summer. Administration has a meeting tomorrow, September 10 with the Town of Nobleford to execute the MOU for the water plant and sewer lagoon. Public Works Foreman position will be advertised in due course. Had all Village fire extinguishers inspected.

Correspondence:

- Chinook Arch Board Report
- June Bank Reconciliation
- APS Compliance Report for 2024 Annual Pension Year
- Bylaw Enforcement – June Monthly Report
- Bylaw Enforcement – July Monthly Report
- Green Acres Foundation - Municipal Requisition Fact Sheet
- Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction - Proclamation of the Access to Information Act and Regulations
- Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction - Proclamation of the Protection of Privacy Act and Regulations
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police - Change of Command
- Town of Picture Butte - Jamboree Days Invitation
- Town of Coalhurst - Miners Days Invitation
- FCSS - All Councils Thank You
- Village of Carmangay - Parade Invitation
- Town of Nobleford - Heritage Days Invitation
- July Bank Reconciliation
- August Bank Reconciliation
- Breea Tamminga, Regional Emergency Management Coordinator – ICS 300 Training

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

Financial Reports: Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statement for the month of June, July and August, 2025.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to approve the accounts payable for the months of June, July and August, 2025.

Carried unanimously

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitz to approve the monthly statement for June, July and August, 2025.

Carried unanimously

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC**
Cost of service went up 35% this year. Discussed budgets.
- b) **Green Acres**
Nothing to report at this time
- c) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)**
Nothing to report at this time
- d) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)**
Attended a meeting. Councillor Bishop attended an information session in Nobleford
- e) **Mayors and Reeves**
Spoke of the AGLC wanting to ensure that no one is double booking fundraiser events.
- f) **Chinook Arch Library System**
Discussed how placements were going. Discussed financial reports. Discussed staffing.
- g) **AG Society**
Break over summer. Family Fun Day had a good turn out. Meeting upcoming Thursday.
- h) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
Attended a Directors of Emergency Management meeting. Discussed hazards in our area this season, as well as the work underway to update the Regional Sharing Agreements
- i) **Carmangay Library**
Meeting upcoming

New Business:

- a) **Bylaw #772 - Amended Regional Emergency Management Bylaw**
Council was presented with the Regional Emergency Management Bylaw for their consideration.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to read Bylaw #772 a first time this 9th day of September, 2025.

Carried unanimously

Motion made by Mayor Doell to read Bylaw #772 a second time this 9th day of September, 2025. Carried unanimously

And by UNANIMOUS CONSENT of Council a motion made by Councillor Bishop to hold a third and final reading of Bylaw #772, this 9th day of September, 2025.

Carried.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitz to read Bylaw #772 a third and final time this 9th day of September, 2025.

Carried unanimously

b) Bylaw Priorities Discussion

Administrator Durell was asked to add this to the agenda so that Council could set their priorities for Bylaw Enforcement and provide direction to both Administration and the Bylaw Officer. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct Administration to work with Peace Officer Herasemluk to establish a regular enforcement schedule that includes core activities such as unsightlies, grass cutting and snow clearing while maintaining flexibility to address urgent or unscheduled matters as they arise.

Carried unanimously

c) ATCO Franchise Fee Rider

Presently the Village of Barons receives a 14.97% franchise fee. Each year, Council has the opportunity to change this rate. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitz to keep the franchise fee at 14.97% for the 2025 year.

Carried unanimously

d) Fortis Franchise Fee Rider

Presently the Village of Barons receives a 5% franchise fee. Each year, Council has the opportunity to change this rate. Discussion was held.

Motion made by Mayor Doell to keep the franchise fee at 5% for the 2025 year.

Carried unanimously

e) **Village Saleable Properties Discussion**

Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to direct administration to list the Village raw land located at 117 Main Street and 615 Railway Avenue.

Carried unanimously.

f) **HR Policies Discussion**

Discussion was held.

Motion made by Councillor Bishop to instruct administration to amend the Villages HR policies to require criminal record checks as part of the hiring process for all new employees and to develop clear standards identifying circumstances under which an applicant would not be considered for employment and to return the proposed amendments to Council for approval.

Carried unanimously

Closed Session: a) None

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 7:55 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel Doell

Administrator – Jen Durell