

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
of the Village of Barons
November 10, 2020**

- Present:*** Ed Weistra, Mayor
Ron Gorzitza, Deputy Mayor
Brian Passmore, Village Foreman
Byron Fraser, Fire Chief
- Absent:*** Councillor Tarditi
- Recording Secretary:*** Jennifer Durell, Assistant Administrator
Laurie Beck, Administrator
- Call to Order:*** Call to order at 1:00 p.m.
- Guests:*** None
- Approval of Agenda:*** **Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the agenda as presented. Carried**
- Minutes:*** To accept the minutes of the October 13, 2020 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.
- Motion made by Mayor Weistra to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2020 Regular Council meeting. Carried**
- To accept the minutes of the October 13, 2020 Organizational Meeting minutes as presented.
- Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2020 Organizational Meeting. Carried**
- To accept the minutes of the November 4, 2020 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.
- Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to accept the minutes of the November 4, 2020 Special Council Meeting. Carried**
- Business Arising:***
- a) **Hotel Site**
Administrator Beck has been in contact with Sherlock Environmental Services. The Pre-Demolition Hazardous Materials Survey report has been received by the Village. A small quantity of the mosaic sheet flooring was identified to contain 60% Chrysotile asbestos. In addition, some mechanical insulation or other unknown suspect materials will require testing and asbestos abatement as these are questionable. The estimated cost is approximately \$58,000 to inspect, monitor and remove the identified hazardous materials. This cost does not reflect the actual cleanup of the site as a whole so there would be additional costs to completely remediate the site. Another quote

was received from Sherlock Environmental in the amount of \$187,199.25 for the actual cleanup of the site. Discussion.

Council is against paying the full cost of \$187,000. Council asking for more research/quotes as to cost to fully remediate. Administrator Beck was asked to contact Village lawyer and see if his insurance should have covered this.

Village Foreman Report:

Foreman took some holidays this last month. Plow truck working alright. Foreman will be ordering sand for truck sander in preparation for winter. Foreman has dug into alley to connect sewer service for a business on Main Street. This project is almost completed – just needs cleaning up. Fire hall lights have also been completed now.

Administrator Report:

Administrator Beck has been in contact with Privatnode, the Village's Information Technologist (IT) with respect to the necessary changes to the access to Village's equipment and programs. Letters were sent to all agencies advising them who was the representative on their boards from the Village. Administration is currently working on the Municipal Accountability Program (MAP) review, to make sure that everything is in order. All communities under 2,500 are automatically scheduled for a MAP review. Municipal Affairs will be doing the review in Barons in June, 2021. Administration has been made aware of an individual who has been threatening, harassing, attempting to intimidate, and stalking the Bylaw Officer while conducting her duties. This is the same individual who has exhibited similar behaviors at the Village Office. These incidents are being reported and documented. All service clubs in Barons have been sent a letter from AHS regarding update to reporting protocols of positive cases where an event has occurred. The Village's lawyer has been consulted regarding certain items and has provided counsel as to the action required. Spoke with Palliser Regional School regarding concerns expressed by a resident with Palliser's construction of their bus loop. When speaking with Palliser, they were going to send their OHS person and ensure that proper fencing was put around the hole at front. Barons School was going to be doing a cleanup in the village Wednesday and Thursday. The Village shop lent the rakes and provided garbage bags and granola bars to the children in recognition of their work in the village. The Village's appointed auditor will begin the preliminary audit of 2020 on December 1st and 2nd, 2020 in the office. Administrator Beck amended the MSI Capital Grant for the paving project from the original approved \$70,000 to \$30,000 to free up \$40,000 in grant funds to provide for the identified need to purchase of a Fire Rescue vehicle. The Village's Public Sale was to occur today at 10:00 am but was cancelled due to one landowner paying in full the taxes owing and the other landowner entered into a tax agreement with the Village. A poster was put up on the Village Office window to indicate that there would be no Public Sale.

Correspondence:

- Glenn Henry, S/Sgt, RCMP – update
- Sherlock Environmental Services – Hazardous Material Survey and Pre-Demolition Compliance report

- Town of Nobleford – support of updated draft agreement for Fire and Rescue
- ATB Financial – GIC investments
- Bank Reconciliation for September, 2020
- Municipal Affairs – 2019 Municipal Indicator Results
- Town of Nobleford – Organizational Meeting minutes
- Alberta Police Interim Advisory Board report
- AHS letter update reporting protocols for group events
- Alberta Municipal Affairs – Possible capital infrastructure impacts for 2021
- Bylaw Enforcement Monthly Report – September/October, 2020
- Public Sale – November 10, 2020 Results

Financial Reports: Council was presented with the accounts payable and monthly statement for the month of October, 2020.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to approve the accounts payable for the month of October, 2020. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to approve the monthly statements for October, 2020. Carried

Committee Reports:

- a) **ORRSC** – No report at this time
- b) **Fire Department** – Mayor Weistra attended a Fire Practice on Thursday November 6. Reports that the department is doing great considering COVID-19 restrictions and precautions. Chief Fraser reports the new rescue vehicle will be going in for decaling on Monday. This new truck has already been out on a call – Chief Fraser is incredibly pleased. A few newer members are finishing up their training, but there will be cutbacks to training schedule due to COVID-19 again. Training is currently done in platoons during on-call weekends but will go back to zoom meetings in the interim. Chief Fraser is hopeful that he will be able to work one-on-one with the new members in order to complete their training. Chief Fraser reports that he is having difficulties obtaining certificates that have been earned from the Office of the Fire Commissioner. Chief Fraser has been waiting for 2+ years now for these certificates to be sent. Reports that there is no representation in the Provincial Government for departments, all fire grants are gone, etc.
- c) **Green Acres** – Board of Directors minutes of meeting via zoom presented.
- d) **CFLR (Community Futures Lethbridge Region)** – Meeting was exceptionally long. Lots of discussion back and forth regarding two applications, but eventually both were turned down.
- e) **FCSS (Family Community and Social Services)** - Elections were just completed. Mel Harris has been named the Chairman and Bill Chapman as Deputy Chair. No meetings were held in July, and August and January were optional. Meetings are still being held in Taber. Mayor Weistra and

Bill Chapman were voted as the members who will attend the next FCSSAA meeting.

- f) **Mayors and Reeves** – MLA reports were read. Red tape Minister Grant Hunter spoke about Bills 35 - 47. Hwy 3 Committee was soliciting Mayors and Reeves for monetary support. Spoke of the new mine going in (Grassy Mountain Mine) – many are opposed to this development, with primary concerns being how this development will affect the water quality and the local environment.
- g) **Chinook Arch Library System**
No report at this time.
- h) **AG Society**
No report at this time
- i) **Emergency Advisory Committee**
No report at this time.
- j) **Carmangay Library**
No report at this time.

New Business:

- a) **Bylaw #725 – Meeting Procedures Bylaw**
Council was presented with Bylaw #725 for their consideration. Bylaw #725 amends Bylaw #722.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to read Bylaw #725 the first time, this 10th day of November, 2020. Carried

Motion made by Mayor Weistra to read Bylaw #725 a second time, this 10th day of November, 2020. Carried

And by unanimous consent of Council present

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to read Bylaw #725 a third and final time and finally passed this 10th day of November, 2020. Carried

- b) **COVID 19**
Administrator Beck attended a Zoom meeting on Friday with the Chief Medical Officer of Alberta. In light of the continuing growth of numbers affected by this pandemic, Council is being asked to consider new measures that may have to be enacted to help curtail the rate of infection.

Council will wait to see what the Provincial Government response is, but the Village will follow the current guidelines and restrictions that need to be put into place for the safety of its residents.

c) Tax Arrears Agreement

An agreement was presented to Council for their consideration. According to the Municipal Government Act, Section 418 (4), a municipality may enter into an agreement with the owner of the parcel of land and need not be offered for sale.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gorzitza to enter into a tax arrears agreement with Brenda Gullickson-Fraser for the properties known as Plan 0811206, Block 18, Lots 2, 4, 9 and 10.

Carried

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Adjournment of the meeting was at 1:52 p.m.

Mayor – Ed Weistra

Administrator – Laurie Beck