

**BIG LAKES COUNTY  
COUNCIL MEETING**  
April 8, 2020

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building and by Zoom in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

**PRESENT WERE:** Reeve: Richard Simard, Jousard  
Deputy Reeve: Ken Matthews, N. Gilwood/Triangle  
Councillor: Donald Charrois, HP East/Banana Belt  
Ken Killeen, Kinuso  
David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie  
Robert Nygaard, Faust  
Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/Gilwood  
Fern Welch, Grouard

Absent: Donald Bissell, Enilda/Big Meadow

Administration: Jordan Panasiuk, CAO  
Heather Nanninga, Director of Corporate Services  
Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development  
Jessica Martinson, Recording Secretary  
Vic Abel, Director of Public Works  
Brett Hawken, Acting Director of Community  
& Protective Service  
Balaji Selvaraj, IT Administrator  
David Sturgeon, Fire Chief  
Zachary Thompson, Sustainability Officer  
Sheila Kaus, Agricultural Fieldman

**CALL TO ORDER:** Reeve Simard called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO  
THE AGENDA:**

**2020-07-143** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARX** that the April 8, 2020 agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**MINUTES:**

**2020-07-144** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the March 11, 2020 Regular Council Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-145** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that the March 25, 2020 Regular Council Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM MINUTES:**

***ACTION LIST:***

**2020-07-146** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the action list be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**2020-07-147** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that the following Staff Reports be received for information:

- Director of Corporate Services
- Director of Planning & Development
- Director of Public Works
- Acting Director of Community & Protective Services

**CARRIED**

**ADMINISTRATION:*****COVID-19:***

**2020-07-148** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that the closure of the Administration Office and FCSS Office to the public be approved due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-149** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the cancellation of the Big Lakes County FCSS Bus be approved due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-150** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that the cancellation of the Faust Afterschool Youth Program be approved due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-151** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the closure of the Kinusayo Museum and Kinuso Municipal Library be approved due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-152** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the cancellation of all public recreation facilities in Big Lakes County be approved due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-153** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that Council approves the waiver of all penalties on utility bills for the months of April & May 2020 and that no customers will be disconnected for the duration of the Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-154** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARX** that the following events be postponed to a later date due to COVID-19:

- Dugout and Farm Management
- ICF Signing with Town of High Prairie
- Deadstock and Predation Management Workshop
- Joussard Water Treatment Plant & FCSS Grand Opening

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-155** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that the following events be postponed due to COVID-19:

- Volunteer Appreciation Week Events
- Seniors Week
- Hamlet Clean-up

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-156** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Lakes Charity Golf Tournament scheduled for August 6, 2020 at the High Prairie & District Golf Course be cancelled due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-157** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that administration be directed to save the date of Thursday, August 6, 2020 at the High Prairie & District Golf Course for an appreciation event.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-158** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that the Annual Ratepayer BBQ scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2020 be cancelled due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

***BIG LAKES COUNTY & M.D. OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK (ICF):***

**2020-07-159** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARX** that the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement between Big Lakes County and the M.D. of Lesser Slave River be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**CORPORATE SERVICES:**

***CHEQUE LIST:***

**2020-07-160** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that cheques #84723 to #84868 in the amount of \$742,349.70 for the period ending March 10, 2020 and cheques #84869 to #84963 in the amount of \$1,625,621.43 for the period ending March 25, 2020 be received for information.

**CARRIED**

***SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – FINAL BUDGET:***

**2020-07-161** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that a Special Council Meeting be approved for April 29, 2020 beginning at 10:00 a.m. hosted by Zoom for the purpose of adopting the final budget for the 2020 fiscal year.

**CARRIED**

***GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION PLAN:***

A break was taken from 11:11 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

**2020-07-162** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that the greenhouse gas reduction plan be adopted as presented as the guideline for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the County.

**CARRIED**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:**

***FAUST OSMOSE SITE (RECREATIONAL LEASE APPLICATION NO. REC190003):***

**2020-07-163** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that the discussion on the Faust Osmose site be tabled until after meeting with Alberta Environment Staff and Millennium EMS Solutions.

**CARRIED**

***INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) EXEMPTION LESSER SLAVE RIVER & BIG LAKES COUNTY:***

**2020-07-164**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that a letter be sent to the M.D. of Lesser Slave River to confirm that an Intermunicipal Development Plan between Big Lakes County and the M.D. is unnecessary at this time.

**CARRIED**

**COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:**

***VSI REQUISITION AND ADDITIONAL OPTIONS:***

**2020-07-165**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the VSI Contract extension be approved at a budget amount of \$42,400 for the 2020 VSI year.

**CARRIED**

***RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP WITH MD OF LESSER SLAVE RIVER:***

**2020-07-166**      **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that administration be directed to pursue a partnership with the M.D. of Lesser Slave River for the delivery of Agricultural Resource Management programming as part of the Provincial ASB Grant.

**CARRIED**

***ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUTURE:***

**2020-07-167**      **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that the CARES contract be put on hold until a more financial certainty is determined due to COVID-19.

**CARRIED**

**INFORMATION/  
CORRESPONDENCE:**

**2020-07-168**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that the information/correspondence be received for information.

**CARRIED**

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 12:02 p.m. and reconvened at 12:35 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**2020-07-169**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARX** that the meeting go into closed session at 12:36 p.m. to discuss personnel matters as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection Act.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-170**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the meeting come out of closed session at 2:27 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**2020-07-171**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARX** that the code of conduct complaint be resolved as per the Code of Conduct Bylaw and as discussed.

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**2020-07-172**

**MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MATTHEWS** that the meeting be adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Richard Simard, Reeve

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Jordan Panasiuk, CAO