

**BIG LAKES COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING**

April 28, 2021

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE: Reeve: Ken Matthews, N. Gilwood/Triangle
 Deputy Reeve: David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie (Zoom)
 Councillor: Donald Bissell, Enilda/Big Meadow
 Donald Charrois, HP East/Banana Belt
 Ken Killeen, Kinuso
 Robert Nygaard, Faust
 Richard Simard, Joussard (Zoom)
 Fern Welch, Grouard

Absent: Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/Gilwood

Administration: Jordan Panasiuk, CAO (Zoom)
 Brett Hawken, Director of Community & Protective Service
 Dave McReynolds, Interim Director of Corporate Services (Zoom)
 Eunice McCauley, Human Resources Manager (Zoom)
 Jason Cottingham, Fire Chief
 Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary
 Luci Martinson, Deputy Fire Chief
 Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development (Zoom)
 Vic Abel, Director of Public Works
 Victoria Zahacy, Communications Coordinator (Zoom)

Delegation: D/Commr. Curtis Zablocki, RCMP
 A/Commr. John Ferguson, RCMP
 Nina Sahasrabuddhe, RCMP
 Insp. Ed Moreland, RCMP

Press: Richard Froese, South Peace News

DELEGATION:

RCMP: D/Commr. Curtis Zablocki, A/Commr. John Ferguson, Nina Sahasrabuddhe, and Insp. Ed Moreland with the RCMP spoke to Council regarding a Sergeant in Faust and a traffic enforcement Officer in High Prairie/Faust.

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Matthews called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO
THE AGENDA:**

2021-08-126 Closed Session – Governmental Relations

2021-08-126 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD that the April 28, 2021 agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

2021-08-127 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the April 14, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

ACTION LIST:

2021-08-128 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that the action list be received for information.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION:

H.P. PHYSIOTHERAPY:

2021-08-129 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that the discussion and report regarding a letter about High Prairie Physiotherapy be received for information.

CARRIED

ALBERTA RURAL CONNECTIVITY COALITION:

2021-08-130 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that Council approves to join the Alberta Rural Connectivity Coalition.

CARRIED

**CORPORATE
SERVICES:**

CHEQUE LISTS:

2021-08-131 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that cheques #88275 to #88344 in the amount of \$225,731.60 for the period ending April 7, 2021 and cheques #88347 to #88410 in the amount of \$760,526.89 for the period ending April 14, 2021 be received for information.

CARRIED

PUBILC WORKS:

TONY AUGER - WATER LEAK:

2021-08-132 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH** that the sewer changes in the amount of \$272.44 be forgiven due to a water leak on the property of Tony Auger in the Hamlet of Grouard.

CARRIED

***HIGH PRAIRIE AIRPORT PARKING LOT PAVING –
CAPITAL BUDGET AMENDMENT:***

2021-08-133 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that a budget amendment be approved for paving of the new shop area and the terminal entrance in the amount of \$30,888.60 including a 10% contingency for the High Prairie Airport Parking Lot Paving from the High Prairie Airport Reserve.

CARRIED

A break was taken from 10:52 a.m. to 11:03 a.m.

**COMMUNITY AND
PROTECTIVE SERVICES:**

FIRE REVIEW SUMMARY:

2021-08-134 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that the Fire Services Review report be generally endorsed as presented.

CARRIED

2021-08-135 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that administration be directed to bring forward any monetary and legislative decisions recommended by the Fire Review individually for Council's consideration.

CARRIED

FIRE SERVICE BYLAW AMENDMENT:

Councillor Welch stepped out of the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

2021-08-136 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that first reading be given to Bylaw 06-2021 for the Fire Service Bylaw.

CARRIED

2021-08-137 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that second reading be given to Bylaw 06-2021 for the Fire Service Bylaw.

CARRIED

FIRE SERVICE LEVELS:

Councillor Welch returned to the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

2021-08-138 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that Council agrees to the Fire Service levels for the purpose of creating a Fire Service Level policy.

CARRIED

***BIG LAKES COUNTY/ TOWN OF HIGH PRAIRIE INTERMUNICIPAL
FIRE APPARATUS PLAN:***

2021-08-139 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR NYGAARD** that administration be directed to include a pumper-rescue in the Fire capital plan on the condition that the Town of High Prairie pays for 50% of the capital costs to upgrade from a pumper to a pumper-rescue.

CARRIED

PUBLIC TIME:

D. CARLSON: Don and Carol Carlson asked Council for clarification on the Enilda Fire Department closing. Reeve Matthews advised that no decision was made to close any fire departments and that the Enilda fire department is not closing and is still open and operational business as usual.

Mr. Carlson also asked for clarification on when the Hamlet of Enilda can expect walking trails. Mr. Panasiuk advised that due to the economic downturn and the reduction of available County revenue in recent years, Big Lakes County has prioritized completing construction projects that were already started by the County and the repair and replacement of existing infrastructure. All-new infrastructure construction projects, including the Enilda Walking Trails, have been put on hold until we are financially able to complete these projects.

***BIG LAKES COUNTY/ TOWN OF HIGH PRAIRIE INTERMUNICIPAL
FIRE APPARATUS PLAN CON'T:***

2021-08-140 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that the Town of High Prairie “Rescue unit” be absorbed by Big Lakes County and that Big Lakes County takes full responsibility of this apparatus.

CARRIED

2021-08-141 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH** that the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) be revised to have a 50/50 capital share split for the “rescue-pumper” indefinitely.

CARRIED

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 11:55 a.m. and reconvened at 12:33 p.m.

Councillor Simard did not return to the meeting.

FIRE SERVICE 20-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN:

2021-08-142 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that Council agrees to the 20-year capital plan as presented for Big Lakes County Fire Services.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION/
CORRESPONDENCE:**

2021-08-143 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the information/correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION:

2021-08-144 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the meeting go into closed session at 12:54 p.m. to discuss governmental relations as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection Act.

CARRIED

2021-08-145 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the meeting come out of closed session at 1:14 p.m.

CARRIED

2021-08-146 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHARROIS** that administration be directed to proceed as discussed.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

2021-08-147 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH** that the meeting be adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

CARRIED

Ken Matthews, Reeve

Jordan Panasiuk, CAO