

**BIG LAKES COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING
March 8, 2023**

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve:	Robert Nygaard, Faust
Deputy Reeve:	Jim Zabolotniuk, N. Gilwood/ Triangle
Councillor:	Tyler Airth, HP East/ Banana Belt (Zoom)
	Jeff Chalifoux, Grouard
	Roberta Hunt, Kinuso
	Richard Mifflin, Jousard
	Lane Monteith, Enilda/ Big Meadow
	Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/ Gilwood
	Garrett Zahacy, Prairie Echo/ Salt Prairie
Administration:	Roy Brideau, Interim CAO (Zoom)
	Kevin Cymbaluk, Director of Public Works
	Brett Hawken, Director of Community & Protective Services
	Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development
	David Reynolds, Director of Corporate Services
	Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary
	Eunice McCauley, Human Resources Manager
Press:	Richard Froese, South Peace News

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Nygaard called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

2023-05-100 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the March 8, 2023, agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

2023-05-101 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the February 22, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

ACTION LIST:

2023-05-102 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the action list be received for information.

CARRIED

STAFF REPORTS:

2023-05-103 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the following Staff Reports be received for information:

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

CARRIED

A break was taken from 11:20 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

ADMINISTRATION:***RMA DISTRICT ZONE MEETING:***

2023-05-104 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that Council agrees to keep the current status of having the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) District Zone meetings remain at a one-day event.

CARRIED

2023-05-105 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that a letter be sent to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) District Zone Director stating that Big Lakes County is opposed to the recommendations within the Chair and Vice-Chair roles and responsibilities report presented at the RMA District Zone meeting on February 10, 2023; and that Council recommends the District 4 Zone Director chair the Zone meetings and work with the host municipalities on Zone meeting roles and responsibilities.

CARRIED

2023-05-106 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that Big Lakes County disagrees with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) District 4 Association bylaw 01-11-2023.

CARRIED

CORRECTION TO THE FEBRUARY 8, 2023, MINUTES:

2023-05-107 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that motion 2023-03-056 "MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH that the Alberta Environment and Parks report be received for review and that administration be directed to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting and to invite representatives from Alberta Environment and Parks, to discuss to the report and recommended action" be rescinded.

CARRIED

2023-05-108 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the Alberta Environment and Parks report be received for review and that administration be directed to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting and to invite representatives from Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, to discuss the final Buffalo Bay-Horse Lakes Flood and Siltation Relief Project Preliminary Study report and recommended action.

CARRIED

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:***EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PURCHASE COUNTY OWNED LAND:***

Councillor Stewart arrived at the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

2023-05-109 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the public land sale for Plan 5688MC, Block 2, Lot 20 as per Policy Admin-05 with a reserve bid of \$4,000 be approved.

CARRIED

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 12:03 p.m. and reconvened at 12:36 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS:***WIND POWER PROJECT NAMING:***

2023-05-110 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that the name change report regarding the Potentia Renewables proposed wind power project near Swan Hills be received for information.

DEFEATED

2023-05-111 **MOVED BY REEVE NYGAARD** that administration be directed to submit the name Big Lakes Wind Power Project to Potentia Renewables for the proposed wind power project near Swan Hills as a more appropriate Big Lakes focused designation from the current name Northern Lights Wind Power Project.

CARRIED

SCHEDULE OF FEES BYLAW 03-2023:

2023-05-112 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that first reading be given to Bylaw 03-2023 Schedule of Fees Bylaw with the amendment to eliminate the sale of new culverts.

CARRIED

2023-05-113 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR ZAHACY** that second reading be given to Bylaw 03-2023 Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

CARRIED

2023-05-114 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that unanimous consent be given to Bylaw 03-2023 Schedule of Fees Bylaw to proceed to third reading.

CARRIED

2023-05-115 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that third reading be given to Bylaw 03-2023 Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:***COMMUNITY RAIL ADVOCACY ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP:***

2023-05-116 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that Council joins the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance (CRAA) and amends the 2023 budget to include the \$2,000 membership fee.

CARRIED

2023-05-117 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that Council appoints Councillor Mifflin as Big Lakes County's representative for the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance.

CARRIED

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE (REDA) FUNDING FOR THE LESSER SLAVE LAKE REGION:

2023-05-118 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the Lesser Slave Lake Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) briefing note be removed.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

2023-05-119 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALFIOUX** that the information / correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION:

2023-05-120 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the meeting go into closed session at 1:46 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal matters as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CARRIED

2023-05-121 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the meeting come out of closed session at 2:37 p.m.

CARRIED

2023-05-122 **MOVED BY REEVE NYGAARD** that the Interim Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) contract between Big Lakes County and Roy Brideau be terminated effective 12:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

CARRIED

2023-05-123 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that Pat Olansky, Director of Planning and Development be appointed as Acting Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) effective 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023, until 12:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 29, 2023.

CARRIED

2023-05-124 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the budget parking lot workshop be scheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2023 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Big Lakes County Council chambers.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

2023-05-125 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the meeting be adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

CARRIED

Robert Nygaard, Reeve

Roy Brideau, Interim CAO