

**BIG LAKES COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING
July 12, 2023**

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, July 12, 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
	Lane Monteith, Enilda/ Big Meadow
	Richard Mifflin, Jousard
	Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/ Gilwood
	Garrett Zahacy, Prairie Echo/ Salt Prairie
Administration:	Jerry Gautreau, Chief Administrative Officer (Zoom)
	Kevin Cymbaluk, Director of Public Works
	Brett Hawken, Director of Community & Protective Services
	Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development
	David Reynolds, Deputy CAO & Director of Corporate Services
	Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary
	Eunice McCauley, Human Resources Manager
	Samantha Smith, Grants Officer
Press:	Chris Clegg, South Peace News

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Nygaard called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO
THE AGENDA:**

Handicap-accessible parking spot at the Hamlet of Kinuso Office

2023-14-308 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the July 12, 2023, agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

2023-14-309 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the June 28, 2023, Regular Council Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

ACTION LIST:

2023-14-310 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the action list be received for information.

CARRIED

STAFF REPORTS: Councillor Airth arrived at the meeting virtually at 10:31 a.m.

Councillor Airth left the meeting at 10:44 a.m. and returned at 10:45 a.m.

2023-12-311 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** 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

ADMINISTRATION:

HIGH PRAIRIE NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE – BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

2023-14-312 **MOVED BY REEVE NYGAARD** that Big Lakes County Council supports a member of Council to join the Board of Directors for the High Prairie Native Friendship Centre.

CARRIED

2023-14-313 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that Councillor Chalifoux be approved to join the Board of Directors for the High Prairie Native Friendship Centre.

CARRIED

CORPORATE SERVICES:

HIGH PRAIRIE & DISTRICT MUSEUM – SPONSORSHIP FUNDING REQUEST:

2023-14-314 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the High Prairie & District Museum Sponsorship funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the Alberta Culture Day's Celebration be approved.

CARRIED

RETURN OF SERVICE BURSARY – RECIPIENT UPDATE:

2023-14-315 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the report and information regarding the Return of Service Bursary recipient update be received for information.

CARRIED

HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPOT IN THE HAMLET OF KINUSO:

2023-14-316 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that administration be directed to look into and bring back additional information on having a handicap-accessible parking spot outside the Hamlet of Kinuso administration office.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

BYLAW OFFICER APPOINTMENT:

2023-14-317 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that Council appoints Scott Stewart as the Big Lakes County Bylaw Enforcement officer as per section 555 of the Municipal Government Act.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

2023-14-318 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that the information / correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

A break was taken at 11:06 a.m. to 11:14 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

2023-14-319 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the meeting go into closed session at 11:14 a.m. to discuss personnel, and legal matters as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CARRIED

2023-14-320 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTHIETH** that the meeting come out of closed session at 11:46 p.m.

CARRIED

PUBLIC TIME:***HIGH PRAIRIE BEAUTIFICATION***

SOCIETY: Chris Clegg with the High Prairie Beautification Society attended before Council to express the beautification society's appreciation of how well the County displays its Christmas lights during December. Mr. Clegg also advised that since the County is doing a great job on the lights, the High Prairie Beautification Society doesn't apply for the County's grant funding.

***HIGH PRAIRIE
POND HOCKEY:***

Johnathon Hesess, Pond Hockey Director, asked Council to see if the Town of High Prairie and Big Lakes County would consider waiving and/or sponsoring the ice fees for the upcoming pond hockey season. The cost is approximately \$5,544.00 for the 2023-2024 hockey season.

D. JACKSON: Deborah Jackson from Kinuso attended before Council to seek answers as to why her application was denied on June 14, 2023, which was to redistrict Plan 2080NY, Block 5, Lot 5 in the Hamlet of Kinuso from the Hamlet Residential (HR) District to the Hamlet Mixed Use (HM) District.

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12:28 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION CON'T:

2023-14-321 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that the meeting go into closed session at 12:30 p.m. to discuss personnel, and legal matters as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CARRIED

2023-14-322 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the meeting come out of closed session at 12:57 p.m.

CARRIED

2023-14-323 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that Council agrees to provide one and half times overtime compensation for Out-of-Scope employees when the County's Municipal Emergency Management Agency is active.

CARRIED

2023-14-324 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that administration be directed to hire Russell Farmer & Associates Consulting Ltd. to conduct a 360-performance review on Jerry Gautreau, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for his 4-month probation performance review.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

2023-14-325 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR ZAHACY** that the meeting be adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

CARRIED

Robert Nygaard, Reeve

Jerry Gautreau, Chief Administrative Officer