

**BIG LAKES COUNTY  
COUNCIL MEETING**  
January 25, 2023

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, January 25, 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
	Jeff Chalifoux, Grouard
	Roberta Hunt, Kinuso
	Richard Mifflin, Joussard
	Lane Monteith, Enilda/ Big Meadow
	Garrett Zahacy, Prairie Echo/ Salt Prairie (Zoom)
Absent:	Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/ Gilwood
Administration:	Roy Brideau, Interim CAO (Zoom)
	Kevin Cymbaluk, Director of Public Works
	Joe Zdeb, Acting Director of Corporate Services & IT Administrator
	Brett Hawken, Director of Community & Protective Services
	Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary
	Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development
	Eunice McCauley, Human Resources Manager
	Ian Willier, Utilities Manager
Delegation:	Keaton Lever, Senior Manager, Development with Potentia Renewables Inc (Zoom)
	Bryan Clake, President of Joss Wind Power Inc. (Zoom)
Press:	Richard Froese, South Peace News

**CALL TO ORDER:** Reeve Nygaard called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO  
THE AGENDA:**

Addition – Closed Session – Legal Matters

**2023-02-025**

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the January 25, 2023, agenda be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

**MINUTES:**

**2023-02-026**

**MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that the January 11, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM MINUTES:**

**ACTION LIST:**

**2023-02-027**

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that the action list be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

***POLICY REVIEW – CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE POLICY ADMIN-17:***

2023-02-028            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the changes to the Congratulatory Message Policy Admin-17 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

***BIG LAKES CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT:***

2023-02-029            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the Big Lakes Charity Golf Tournament discussion be tabled for further information regarding additional costs.

**CARRIED**

**CORPORATE SERVICES:**

***SCHEDULE OF FEES BYLAW #02-2023:***

2023-02-030            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that third reading be given to bylaw 02-2023 Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

***HEART RIVER HOUSING CAPITAL REQUESTION:***

2023-02-031            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that Council signs the Letter of Understanding acknowledging the increased annual capital contribution, as well as increased capital costs required to build the 20 Enhanced Lodge units within Falher, Alberta. When project costs are finalized, County will also sign a letter of guarantee to a maximum of 17.65% pf the project costs (\$1,323,750), and provide that letter of guarantee to Heart River Housing, so they are able to procure a mortgage.

**CARRIED**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:**

***MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN & LAND USE BYLAW PROJECT OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK:***

2023-02-032            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that the Municipal Development Plan & Land Use Bylaw Review and Update Project Overview and Description of Work be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

The meeting recessed for a break at 11:13 a.m. and reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

***JOINT USE & PLANNING AGREEMENT WITH HIGH PRAIRIE SCHOOL DIVISION:***

2023-02-033            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that Big Lakes County enter into a Joint Use and Planning Agreement with High Prairie School Division for Jousard and Kinuso Schools as presented.

**CARRIED**

***JOINT USE & PLANNING AGREEMENT WITH NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION:***

2023-02-034            **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that Big Lakes County enter into a Joint Use and Planning Agreement with Northland School Division for Grouard School as presented.

**CARRIED**

**LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT 01-2023:**

**2023-02-035** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that first reading be given to Land Use Bylaw Amendment 01-2023 with the amendment to move Industrial Wellsite Trailers in the Rural Industrial (RI) District from a Permitted Use to a Discretionary Use.

**CARRIED**

**2023-02-036** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that a Public Hearing for Bylaw 01-2023 be set for February 22, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Big Lakes County Administration Building.

**CARRIED**

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 12:04 p.m. and reconvened at 12:37 p.m.

**PUBLIC WORKS:****POLICY REVIEW – WATER & SEWER SERVICE POLICY WS-07:**

**2023-02-037** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the revisions to the Water & Sewer Policy WS-07 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**DELEGATION:** Councillor Airth stepped out of the meeting at 1:43 p.m. and returned at 1:52 p.m.

**POTENTIA  
RENEWABLES  
INC:**

Keaton Lever, Senior Manager, Development with Potentia Renewables Inc. and Bryan Clake, President of Joss Wind Power Inc. presented Council with information regarding the Northern Lights Wind Power Project.

**COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:****SPRING RMA MINISTER MEETINGS:**

**2023-02-038** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that administration be directed to request the following Minister meetings during the upcoming 2023 Spring Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) convention:

- Hon. Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Municipal Affairs (meeting requested)
- Hon. Dale Nally, Minister of Service Alberta & Red Tape Reduction
- Hon. Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Transportation & Economic Corridors
- Hon. Brian Jean, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development
- Hon. Todd Loewen, Minister of Forestry, Parks & Tourism
- Hon. Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Advanced Education
- Hon. Nathan Neudorf, Minister of Infrastructure.

**CARRIED**

The meeting recessed for a break at 2:19 p.m. and reconvened at 2:28 p.m.

**ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW NO. 27-2022:**

**2023-02-039** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that second reading be given to the Animal Control Bylaw No. 27-2022.

**CARRIED**

**2023-02-040** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that third reading be given to the Animal Control Bylaw No. 27-2022.

**CARRIED**

**RMA PLUMBING SUB-COUNCIL:**

**2023-02-041**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that Council nominates Robert Nygaard to sit on the RMA Plumbing Sub-Council.

**CARRIED**

**NORTHERN WOODS & WATER HWY ASSOCIATION SPONSORSHIP:**

**2023-02-042**      **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that the sponsorship funding request for the Northern Woods and Water Highway Association be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES (AHS) LETTER – RENTAL HOUSING FOR HEALTHCARE EMPLOYEES:**

**2023-02-043**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that Council writes a letter to Dr. John Cowell, Official Administrator of Alberta Health Services (AHS) to explore building housing rental options for healthcare employees moving to Northern, Rural Alberta.

**CARRIED**

**ALBERTA RURAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM:**

**2023-02-044**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that Reeve Nygaard and Councillor Chalifoux be approved to attend the Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES) from March 5-7, 2023 located in Edmonton.

**CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**2023-02-045**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the information/correspondence be received for information.

**CARRIED**

The meeting recessed for a break at 2:58 p.m. and reconvened at 3:03 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**2023-02-046**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the meeting go into closed session at 3:03 p.m. to discuss negotiations and personnel & legal matters as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Airth declared pecuniary interest and stepped out of the meeting at 3:36 p.m. and did not return.

**2023-02-047**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the meeting come out of closed session at 4:10 p.m.

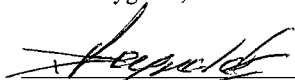
**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**2023-02-048**      **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the meeting be adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

**CARRIED**

  
Robert Nygaard, Reeve

  
Roy Brideau, Interim CAO