

**BIG LAKES COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING
May 25, 2022**

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

<u>PRESENT WERE:</u>	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
	Absent:	Garrett Zahacy, Prairie Echo/ Salt Prairie
	Administration:	Jordan Panasiuk, CAO (Zoom) Vic Abel, Director of Public Works Brett Hawken, Director of Community & Protective Services Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary Bronte Collett, Communications Coordinator Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development David Reynolds, Director of Corporate Services
	Delegation:	Smoky Hemp Decortication Grouard Seniors Community Club William Alberta Joseph Brule S/Sgt. Bryce Trazwell, RCMP
	Press:	Richard Froese, South Peace News

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Nygaard called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO
THE AGENDA:**

2022-11-222 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the May 25, 2022, agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

2022-11-223 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that May 11, 2022, Regular Council Meeting Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

ACTION LIST:

2022-11-224 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the action list be received for information.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION:***POLICY ADMIN-24 RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL EVENTS:***

2022-11-225 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that the policy Admin-24 Recognition of Special Events be approved as presented.

CARRIED

POLICY ADMIN-16 RETIREMENT/YEARS OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM:

2022-11-226 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that the policy Admin-16 Retirement/Years of Service Award Program be tabled for further clarification.

DEFEATED

2022-11-227 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the policy Admin-16 Retirement/Years of Service Award Program be approved with the inclusion of receiving a watch with a maximum value of up to \$500 for 25 years of service.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

RCMP: S/Sgt. Bryce Tarzwell, with the High Prairie RCMP attended Council to speak about Council's top three priorities for the 2022/2023 years which includes Crime prevention and habitual offender management specific to property crime, rural crime, response time and persons crime, Drug Reduction (Education and Enforcement), Rural police visibility.

Councillor Airth stepped away from the meeting at 11:03 a.m. and returned at 11:08 a.m.

GROUARD SENIORS COMMUNITY

CLUB: Monica Kreiner and Manny Chalifoux presented Council with a request for funding from the Grouard Culture Reserve fund in the amount of \$36,222 to help support their project to map and memorialize their cemetery.

A break was taken from 11:21 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Administration advised that William J.A. Brule will be attending as a delegation at 12:30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION CON'T:***POLICY REVIEW- FCS-01-FCS NEWSLETTER POLICY:***

2022-11-228 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that the Policy FCS-01-FCS Newsletter Policy be received for information.

CARRIED

SIGNING AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT:

2022-11-229 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that Council appoints David Reynolds, Director of Corporate Services as an authorized signing authority for Big Lakes County. Furthermore, Council approves the following items for authorization specific to the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC):

- Safety Deposit Box Administrator
- Cheque Signing Authority
- Commercial Card Administration
- RBC Express Access and Administration

CARRIED

HAMLET UPGRADES POLICY:

2022-11-230 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the Hamlet Upgrade Policy PW-23 be amended to change the allocation formula to provide equal funding to all Hamlets.
CARRIED

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12: 30 p.m.

Councillor Airth did not return to the meeting.

DELEGATIONS CON'T:

WILLIAM A.J. BRULE:

William Albert Joseph Brule attended before Council to present concerns regarding Treaty 8 and the historical Williw Point Treaty 8 signing area which he believed the County would be selling in the upcoming public land auction.

CORPORATE SERVICES:

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT OPTIONS:

2022-11-231 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that administration be directed to investigate different credit card payment options and bring back to Council for consideration.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS CON'T:

Councillor Airth joined the meeting at 1:28 p.m.

SMOKY HEMP

DECORTICATION: Diane Chiasson, Director Sales & Marketing, Avis Gagne, Chief Executive Officer, and Normand Boulet, Director Agricultural Operations presented Council with information on industrial hemp and information on establishing a hemp decortication facility that will be at the center of a hemp fiber and hurd value-added processing cluster.

PUBLIC HEARING:

LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT 10-2022- SECOND READING:

2022-11-232 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the public hearing for Bylaw 10-2022 be called to order at 1:32 p.m.

CARRIED

2022-11-233 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the public hearing for Bylaw 10-2022 be closed at 1:35 p.m.

CARRIED

2022-11-234 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that second reading be given to Land Use Bylaw Amendment 10-2022.

CARRIED

2022-11-235 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that third reading be given to Land Use Bylaw Amendment 10-2022.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:***BILL C – 234 LETTER OF SUPPORT:***

2022-11-236 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that administration be directed to send a letter of support to Honorable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding Bill C-234.

CARRIED

ENILDA & DISTRICT SOCIETY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE – HAMLET CLEAN-UP GRANT:

2022-11-237 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that a Hamlet Clean-up Grant in the amount of \$1,000 be approved for the Enilda & District Society for Recreation and Culture.

CARRIED

HAMLET TIDY-UP INITIATIVE:

2022-11-238 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that Council approves the Annual Hamlet Tidy-up Initiative.

CARRIED

Councillor Chalifoux stepped out of the meeting at 1:44 p.m. and returned at 1:47 p.m.

LARGE ANIMAL VET BURSARY POLICY/ CONTRACTS:

2022-11-239 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that Policy ASB-21 Large Animal Veterinarian Bursary Policy and the Large Animal Veterinarian Contract and Large Animal Veterinarian Student Contract be approved with an amendment to say the “bursary will be available to two practicing vets each year, but only one student vet per year”.

CARRIED

2022-11-240 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that administration be directed to bring back information/ stats on the \$3,000 Return of Service bursary.

CARRIED

PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEMBER APPOINTMENT:

2022-11-241 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that Council appoints the following 5 members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee to the Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC):

1. George Blackhurst
2. Doug Meneice
3. Brianne Brault
4. Jim Zabolotniuk
5. Tyler Airth

CARRIED

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER:

2022-11-242 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the report regarding the Economic Development Officer (EDO) Position be received for information

CARRIED

POLICY UPDATE: ADMIN- 55 GRANT FUNDING POLICY:

2022-11-243 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the amendments to the policy ADMIN-55 Grants Funding Policy be approved removal of section 5.4 and that the following clause be added to sections 5.3, 6.3, 8.4.4.2, 9.4,9.6,9.8,12.3: “Council may void this clause from time to time due to the applicant’s extenuating circumstances.”

CARRIED

2022-11-244 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that administration be directed to add road side clean ups to the 2023 budget.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION/
CORRESPONDENCE:**

2022-11-245 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that the information/correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION:

2022-11-246 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that the meeting go into closed session at 2:42 p.m. to discuss negotiations as per section 27, Freedom of Information and Protection Act.

CARRIED

2022-11-247 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the meeting come out of closed session at 3:21 p.m.

CARRIED

2022-11-248 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that Plan 2415HW, Block 1, Lots 1 and 2 be removed from the County’s land auction.

DEFEATED

2022-11-249 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR STEWART** that the lease of Plan 2415HW, Block 1, Lots 1 and 2 be cancelled and sold in the County’s land auction.

DEFEATED

2022-11-250 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that that the lease agreement for SE 30-74-17-W5 with H.P. Verstappen, L. Liebenberg, and R.N. Verstappen be terminated as per clause 12.1, subject to the waiver of the 2022 lease fee in the amount of \$329.83, payment of \$1,500 to the lessee for the acres cultivated in the Fall of 2021, and the lessee shall be entitled to hay the land provided it is completed before the lease termination date of July 19, 2022.

CARRIED

A break was taken from 3:23 p.m. to 3:34 p.m.

2022-11-251 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH** that Plan 2415HW, Block 1, Lots 1 and 2 be removed from the County’s land auction.

DEFEATED

Administration advised that by default if Council can’t reach an outcome regarding the land auction for Plan 2415HW, Block 1, Lots 1 and 2 that administration would have to refer back to the original motion made in December 2021 which would have the lands sold in the auction.

2022-11-252

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN that Plan 2415HW, Block 1, Lots 1 and 2 be removed from the June 15, 2022 public auction provided that the Enilda & District Society for Recreation and Culture have not complied with all terms and conditions of the signed lease agreement.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

2022-11-253

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTEITH that the meeting be adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

CARRIED

Robert Nygaard, Reeve

Jordan Panasiuk, CAO

PUBLIC HEARING
Land Use Bylaw Amendment #10-2022
May 25, 2022

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Public Hearing for Bylaw 10-2022 held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, commencing at 1:30 p.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, Joussard
	Lane Monteith, Enilda/ Big Meadow
	Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/ Gilwood
Absent:	Garrett Zahacy, Prairie Echo/ Salt Prairie
Administration:	Jordan Panasiuk, CAO (Zoom)
	Vic Abel, Director of Public Works
	Brett Hawken, Director of Community & Protective Services
	Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary
	Bronte Collett, Communications Coordinator
	Pat Olansky, Director of Planning & Development
	David Reynolds, Director of Corporate Services
Press:	Richard Froese, South Peace News

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Nygaard called the public hearing to order at 1:32 p.m.

The County received an inquiry regarding liquor sales in the Highway Commercial District, and an application for development permit has since been submitted. In reviewing the Land Use Bylaw, it was determined that liquor store sales is a discretionary use in only the Hamlet Mixed Use District and no others.

There are a number of convenience stores throughout the County that offer liquor sales. However, the current Land Use Bylaw specifically excludes retail liquor sales from Convenience Retail Services. The existing businesses would be considered non-conforming, but in order to bring them into compliance and to accommodate future proposals, the Planning & Development department is recommending that the Land Use Bylaw be amended to include Liquor Sales as a discretionary use in the Commercial Recreation, Hamlet Commercial, and Highway Commercial land use districts.

Following are relevant definitions from the Land Use Bylaw:

Convenience retail services: development used for the retail sale of those goods required by area residents or employees on a day-to-day basis, from business premises that do not exceed 275.0 m² (2,960 Ft²) in gross floor area. Typical uses include small food stores, drug stores and variety stores selling confectionery, tobacco, groceries, beverages, pharmaceutical and personal care items, hardware or printed matters. Wholesale or retail liquor sales/distribution outlets or facilities or a Cannabis Retail Store are not included in this use class.

Liquor sales: the wholesale or retail sale or distribution to the public of any and all types of alcoholic sprits or beverages as defined by the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission. Cannabis Retail Sore is not included in this use class.

Retail Store: Development used for the retail sale of a wide variety of consumer goods from within an enclosed building. Minor government services, such as postal services, are permitted within retail stores. Cannabis Retail Store is not included in this use class.

As a discretionary use, the development authority is not bound to an approval and can add appropriate conditions in consideration of the land and location in the County.

Notice of the public hearing were posted to the May issue of the County resident newsletter, county website, county social media sites, and bulletin boards of the County administration Office.

The Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) will be reviewing the application at its May 25, 2022 meeting.

Reeve Nygaard asked if any submissions had been submitted opposed or in favor. No comments have been received.

Reeve Nygaard called for comments from the public. No one was in attendance.

The public hearing was closed at 1:35 p.m.

Robert Nygaard, Reeve

Jordan Panasiuk, CAO