

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday, February 24, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

**Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, AB**

PRESENT:

Josh Knelsen	Reeve - left at 4:53 p.m.
Walter Sarapuk	Deputy Reeve
Jacque Bateman	Councillor
Peter F. Braun	Councillor - left at 5:22 p.m.
Cameron Cardinal	Councillor
David Driedger	Councillor
Eric Jorgensen	Councillor – virtual
Anthony Peters	Councillor
Ernest Peters	Councillor
Lisa Wardley	Councillor – virtual –left at 5:42 p.m.

REGRETS:

ADMINISTRATION:

Len Racher	Chief Administrative Officer
Fred Wiebe	Director of Utilities
Don Roberts	Director of Community Services
Jennifer Batt	Director of Finance
Byron Peters	Deputy CAO
Jeff Simpson	Director of Operations
Caitlin Smith	Manager of Planning and Development – virtual
Grant Smith	Agricultural Fieldman
Colleen Sarapuk	Recording Secretary

ALSO PRESENT:

Minutes of the Regular Council meeting for Mackenzie County held on February 24, 2021 in the Council Chambers at the Fort Vermilion County Office.

CALL TO ORDER: 1. a) Call to Order

Reeve Knelsen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA: 2. a) Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 21-02-143 MOVED by Councillor E. Peters

That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 14d) Council Long Service Award

CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

3. a) Minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION 21-02-144

MOVED by Councillor Cardinal

That the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

3. c) Business Arising out of the Minutes

DELEGATIONS:

4. a) Grade 6 Class, Ridgeview Central School (Virtual)

The grade 6 class elected Kade Peters as Junior Reeve for the February 24, 2014 Council meeting.

Junior Reeve Kade Peters called the meeting to order to 10:32 a.m.

The grade 6 class set their agenda as follows and were given an opportunity to present questions to Council.

1.a) Recreation Center in La Crete

- Will our taxes go up if La Crete gets a Recreation Center?
- Are we going to get one?
- How much will the Recreation Center cost?
- If we do get a Recreation Center, what will all be in it?
- Why does High Level get a Recreation Center?
- Will there be a swimming pool in the rec center?

1.b) Free Recreation in February

- Why can't recreation be free in February?

2. a) Hospital in La Crete

- How much would a hospital cost?
- Would the hospital cost come from the County? Or Provincial or Federal?
- Is there any opposition to getting a Hospital?
- How would we attract professionals?

2.b) Bridge at Tompkins

- How much will it cost to cross the bridge?
- If the bridge is build, will there still be a ferry?
- How much would the bridge cost?
- Will our taxes go up?
- How long will it take to build the bridge?
- How much does the county have to contribute to the bridge?

3.a) Ski Hill

- What's the progression on the ski hill?
- Are there going to be jumps on the ski hill?
- How much will a ski hill cost?
- How long until the entire ski hill is built?

4. Police Officers in La Crete

- Will there be police officers in La Crete every day?
- How do we get a more visible police presence in La Crete?
- What is the strangest bylaw that affects us?

General Questions:

- With less tax money, how do you decided where to spend money?
- What are the main priority's for Mackenzie County for 2021?
- With the new rink opening, will there still be the old rink?
- How do Councillors make sure they are accountable to the people that elect you?
- Does Mackenzie County have a plan to attract new jobs to the area?
- Does Zama have the same vote as La Crete?
- Do the current Councillors plan on running in the next election?
- Will there be a rink in the new rec center if we build one.
- Would the ice be all year round ice?

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11: 31 a.m.

TENDERS:

5. a) Agricultural Land Development & Lease Proposals for NW 6 & SW 7-109-19-W5

MOTION 21-02-145

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the Agricultural Land Development & Lease Proposals for

NW 6 & SW 7-109-19-W5 be opened.

CARRIED

Proposals Received	
Thomas Braun	15 Year Lease

MOTION 21-02-146

MOVED by Councillor E. Peters

That the Agricultural Land Development & Lease Proposals for NW 6 & SW 7-109-19-W5 be TABLED until further discussion with bidder.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

4. b) RCMP Delegation

Reeve Knelsen Recessed the meeting at 12:08 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:38 p.m.

MOTION 21-02-147

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the RCMP delegation be received for information.

CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING

6.a) Bylaw 1211-21 Partial Plan Cancellation and Consolidation of Plan 2938RS, Block 3, Lots 12 & 13

Reeve Knelsen called the public hearing for Bylaw 1211-21 to order at 1:00 p.m.

Reeve Knelsen asked if the public hearing for proposed Bylaw 1211-21 was properly advertised. Caitlin Smith, Manager of Planning & Development, answered that the bylaw was advertised in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

Reeve Knelsen asked the Development Authority to outline the proposed Partial Plan Cancellation and Consolidation of Plan 2398RS, Block 3, Lots 12 & 13.

Mackenzie County has received a request to consolidate Plan 2938RS, Block 3, Lots 12 & 13 in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion, to accommodate a new retail store (Hardware).

The lots are currently zoned Fort Vermilion Commercial Centre "FV-CC" which is appropriate for the proposed use. However, the

applicant has constructed a new hardware store, which is larger than could be accommodated on only one of the lots.

This item is being brought back to Council due to a typographical error in the original bylaw, as well as an additional landowner being added to the titles of the two lots, which would result in the Bylaw being rejected by Alberta Land Titles. The new Bylaw will replace the original Bylaw 1200-20.

Reeve Knelsen asked if Council has any questions of the proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment. No questions or comments were made.

Reeve Knelsen asked if any submissions were received in regards to proposed 1211-21. There were no submissions.

Reeve Knelsen asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in regards to the proposed Bylaw 1211-21. There was no one present to speak to the proposed bylaw.

Reeve Knelsen closed the public hearing for Bylaw 1211-21 at 1:06 p.m.

MOTION 21-02-148

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That second reading be given to Bylaw 1211-21 being a Partial Plan Cancellation and Consolidation Bylaw for Plan 2938RS, Block 3, Lots 12 & 13.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-149

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That third reading be given to Bylaw 1211-21 being a Partial Plan Cancellation and Consolidation Bylaw for Plan 2938RS, Block 3, Lots 12 & 13.

CARRIED

**GENERAL
REPORTS:**

7. a) **NONE**

**AGRICULTURE
SERVICES:**

8. a) **NONE**

COMMUNITY

9. a) **Zama Recreation Society – Request**

SERVICES:

MOTION 21-02-150 **MOVED** by Councillor Driedger

That the Parks and Maintenance Partnership Proposal from the Zama Recreation Society be accepted for the 2021 season as amended to include 2 of the 8 sites for the purpose of raising funds for the Society.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-151 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That the Zama Recreation society utilize Camp Reservations Canada and allow them to take on the primary role of booking free collection and the repayment of the fees back to Mackenzie County.

CARRIED

**COMMUNITY
SERVICES:**

9. b) Wadlin Lake – Archaeology Study.

MOTION 21-02-152 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That Council receive the Wadlin Lake – Archaeology Study update for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE: **10. a) Financial Reports – January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020**

MOTION 21-02-153 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the financial reports for January to December 2020 be received for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE: **10. b) Expense Claims – Councillors**

MOTION 21-02-154 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That the Councillor expense claims for January 2021 be received for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

10. c) Expense Claims – Members at Large

MOTION 21-02-155

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the Member at Large Expense Claims January 2021 be received for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

10. d) Cheque Registers – February 8, 2021 – February 19, 2021

MOTION 21-02-156

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the cheque registers from February 8, 2021 – February 19, 2021 be received for information.

CARRIED

OPERATIONS:

11. a) NONE

UTILITIES:

12. a) NONE

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

13. a) NONE

ADMINISTRATION:

14. a) Appointment of Members at Large

MOTION 21-02-157

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That Tim Driedger be appointed as a Member at Large to the Municipal Planning Commission for the remainder of a one year term ending October 2021.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-158

MOVED by Councillor A. Peters

That William (Bill) Philip Driedger be appointed as a Member at Large to the Inter-Municipal Planning Commission for the remainder of a one year term ending October 2021.

CARRIED

No applications for the La Crete Street Scape Committee were received.

MOTION 21-02-159 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION **14. b) Mackenzie Regional Restructuring**

MOTION 21-02-160 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That Council move into a closed meeting at 1:59 p.m. to discuss following; 14.b) Mackenzie Regional Restructuring

CARRIED

The following individuals were present during the closed meeting discussion. *(MGA Section 602.08(1)(6))*

- All Councillors Present

MOTION 21-02-161 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That Council move out of a closed meeting at 2:40 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-162 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That a letter be sent to Municipal Affairs requesting that the CAO, Deputy CAO and all members of Council be appointed to sit on the Mackenzie Region Restructuring Advisory Board

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION: **14. c) Caribou Update**

MOTION 21-02-163 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That the Caribou Update be received for information.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION

14.d) Council Long Term Service Award

MOTION 21-02-164

Moved by Councillor Driedger

That the Council Long Term Service Award discussion be received for information.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

15. a) Council Committee Reports (verbal)

MOTION 21-02-165

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the Council committee reports be received for information.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

15. b) Community Services Committee Meeting Minutes

MOTION 21-02-166

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the unapproved minutes of the February 4, 2021 Community Services Committee Meeting be received for information.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION /
CORRESPONDENCE:**

16. a) Information/Correspondence

MOTION 21-02-167

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That a letter be sent to the Minister of Transportation, and cc the MLA Dan Williams, and RMA regarding the Class 1 Mandatory Entry – Level Training Program.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-168

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That a letter be sent to the Provincial and Federal Transportation Minister, and cc RMA regarding the Electronic Logging Device.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-169 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the information/correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

CARRIED

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 3:54 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

CLOSED MEETING: **17. a) Disaster Recovery – Land Purchases (s.23, 24, 25)**

MOTION 21-02-170 **MOVED** by Councillor Driedger

That Council move into a closed meeting at 4:06 p.m. to discuss the following:

17. a) Disaster Recovery – Land Purchases (S. 23, 24, 25)

CARRIED

The following individuals were present during the closed meeting discussion. *(MGA Section 602.08(1)(6))*

- All Councillors Present
- Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
- Byron Peters, Deputy CAO
- Jennifer Batt, Director of Finance
- Fred Wiebe, Director of Utilities
- Don Roberts, Director of Community Services
- Jeff Simpson, Director of Operations
- Caitlin Smith, Manager of Planning and Development
- Colleen Sarapuk, Recording Secretary
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Reeve Knelsen left the meeting at 4:53 p.m. and turned the Chair over to Deputy Reeve Sarapuk.

Administration left the Closed Meeting at 4:53 p.m. and returned at 5:22 p.m.

Councillor Braun left at 5:22 p.m.
Councillor Wardley left at 5:42 p.m.

MOTION 21-02-171 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That Council move out of a closed meeting at 5:50 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION 21-02-172 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That the Disaster Recovery – Land Purchases discussion be received for information.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION: **18. a) None**

NEXT MEETING **19. a) Next Meeting Dates**
DATE:

Regular Council Meeting
March 9, 2021
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

Committee of the Whole Meeting
March 23, 2021
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT: **20. a) Adjournment**

MOTION 21-02-173 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the Council meeting be adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes will be presented to Council for approval on March 9, 2021.

Joshua Knelsen
Reeve

Lenard Racher
Chief Administrative Officer
