

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday, May 27, 2020
10:00 a.m.**

**Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
and Live Stream (Mackenzie County Facebook)
Fort Vermilion, AB**

PRESENT: Josh Knelsen Reeve
Walter Sarapuk Deputy Reeve
Jacquie Bateman Councillor
Peter F. Braun Councillor
Cameron Cardinal Councillor
David Driedger Councillor
Eric Jorgensen Councillor
Anthony Peters Councillor
Lisa Wardley Councillor

REGRETS: Ernest Peters Councillor

ADMINISTRATION: Len Racher Chief Administrative Officer
Carol Gabriel Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/
Recording Secretary
Byron Peters Director of Planning and Development
Fred Wiebe Director of Utilities
Don Roberts Director of Community Services
Jennifer Batt Director of Finance
David Fehr Director or Operations
Grant Smith Agricultural Fieldman
Willie Schmidt Fleet Maintenance Manager

ALSO PRESENT: Samaritan's Purse

Minutes of the Regular Council meeting for Mackenzie County held on May 27, 2020 in the Council Chambers at the Fort Vermilion County Office and live streamed on Mackenzie County Facebook.

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 20-05-283 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 9. b) Fire Pits in Hamlets
- 10. d) High Level Fire Facility Grant
- 13. b) Developer Incentives

CARRIED

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS
MEETING:**

3. a) Minutes of the April 22, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION 20-05-284

MOVED by Councillor A. Peters

That the minutes of the April 22, 2020 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS
MEETING:**

3. b) Minutes of the May 22, 2020 Special Council Meeting

MOTION 20-05-285

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the minutes of the May 22, 2020 Special Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS
MEETING:**

3. c) Business Arising out of the Minutes

None

DELEGATIONS:

4. a) None

TENDERS:

5. a) None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

6. a) None

**GENERAL
REPORTS:**

7. a) Mackenzie County Emergency Management Team Updates (verbal)

MOTION 20-05-286 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the COVID-19 update be received for information.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-287 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That the Fort Vermilion Flood and Disaster Recovery update be received for information.

CARRIED

**AGRICULTURE
SERVICES:**

8. a) None

**COMMUNITY
SERVICES:**

9. a) **Zama Recreation Society – Request for Maintenance Partnership**

MOTION 20-05-288 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That the Parks and Maintenance Partnership Proposal from the Zama Recreation Society be accepted for the 2020 season.

CARRIED

**COMMUNITY
SERVICES:**

9. b) **Fire Pits in Hamlet (ADDITION)**

MOTION 20-05-289
Requires Unanimously

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That a resolution be presented to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta District 4 to amend the definition of an Urban Municipality to include Hamlets.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCE:

10. a) **Bylaw 1182-20 COVID-19 Pandemic Non-Residential Tax Payment Bylaw**

MOTION 20-05-290
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That first reading be given to Bylaw 1182-20 being a Bylaw to provide for payment of taxes by installments for Non-Residential properties for the 2020 tax year, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-291
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That second reading be given to Bylaw 1182-20 being a Bylaw to provide for payment of taxes by installments for Non-Residential properties for the 2020 tax year, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-292
Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That consideration be given to go to third reading of Bylaw 1182-20 being a Bylaw to provide for payment of taxes by installments for Non-Residential properties for the 2020 tax year, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 20-05-293
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Cardinal

That third and final reading be given to Bylaw 1182-20 being a Bylaw to provide for payment of taxes by installments for Non-Residential properties for the 2020 tax year, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

10. b) 2020 Capital Budget Funding

MOTION 20-05-294
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the 2020 Capital Budget be amended to have the following projects funded by the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) grant:

Mill Razer	\$405,000
AWD Graders	\$1,265,000

CARRIED

FINANCE:

10. d) Telus Communications Inc. – Food Bank Donation

MOTION 20-05-295
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the 2020 operating budget be amended by \$5,000 for the

donation from Telus Communications Inc., and be distributed as follows:

High Level Friendship Center	- \$1,250.00 (25%)
La Crete FCSS	- \$1,250.00 (25%)
Metis Association #74	- \$2,500.00 (50%)

CARRIED

FINANCE:

10. e) High Level Fire Training Facility (ADDITION)

MOTION 20-05-296
Requires Unanimously

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the Town of High Level fire training facility funding request be received for information and that administration forward a response to the Town of High Level.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OPERATIONS:

11. a) Damaged Water Truck – Unit # 2013

MOTION 20-05-297
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the flood damaged Water Truck be sold by locally advertised tender to the highest bid, as salvage only, and be brought to Council for awarding.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-298
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the proceeds of insurance and the sale of the flood damaged Water Truck be allocated to the Vehicle & Equipment Reserve.

CARRIED

OPERATIONS:

11. b) Calcium Chloride Dust Control

MOTION 20-05-299

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That rural cemeteries be added to the annual dust control map.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-300

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the dust control deadline remain as April 1, 2020 and that the remaining calcium storage, following municipal application, be sold at cost for ratepayers to self-apply.

Deputy Reeve Sarapuk requested a recorded vote.

In Favor

Councillor Driedger
Councillor Braun
Councillor Bateman
Councillor Wardley
Reeve Knelsen
Councillor Cardinal
Councillor A. Peters

Opposed

Deputy Reeve Sarapuk
Councillor Jorgensen

CARRIED

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 10:59 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

UTILITIES:

12. b) Waterline to Hill Crest Community School

MOTION 20-05-301

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That administration work with Fort Vermilion School Division for the design and installation of a rural waterline to service the Hill Crest Community School with costs being covered by Fort Vermilion School Division.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-302

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the 2020 capital budget be amended to include the Waterline to Hill Crest Community School project in the amount of \$400,000 with funding coming from the Fort Vermilion School Division capital renewal project fund.

CARRIED

**PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT:**

13. a) Bylaw 1181-20 Land Use Bylaw Amendment to Rezone Plan 2938RS, Block 02, Lots 15 & 16 from Fort Vermilion Commercial Centre "FV-CC" to Hamlet Residential 1 "HR-1" (Fort Vermilion)

MOTION 20-05-303 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That first reading of Bylaw 1181-20 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone Plan 2938RS, Block 02, Lots 15 & 16 from Fort Vermilion Commercial Centre “FV-CC” to Hamlet Residential 1 “H-R1” be TABLED.

DEFEATED

MOTION 20-05-304 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That first reading be given to Bylaw 1181-20 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone Plan 2938RS, Block 02, Lots 15 & 16 from Fort Vermilion Commercial Centre “FV-CC” to Hamlet Residential 1 “H-R1”, subject to public hearing input.

CARRIED

**PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT:**

13. b) Developer Incentives (ADDITION)

Councillor Driedger stepped out of the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

MOTION 20-05-305
Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That administration investigate developer incentives and create an innovative solution for flood mitigation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION:

14. a) COVID-19 Town Hall Meetings – Authorization to Claim

MOTION 20-05-306
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That Councillors be authorized to participate and collect honorarium for attendance at Town Hall meetings setup by the Provincial Government, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta or the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association up to a maximum of four meetings per month.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION:

14. b) Fort Vermilion School Division – Meeting Request

Councillor Driedger rejoined the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

MOTION 20-05-307 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That administration set-up a meeting between the Fort Vermilion School Division and Mackenzie County to discuss the La Crete “Wellness Centre” partnership request.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION: **14. c) Rural Municipalities of Alberta District 4 Meeting**

MOTION 20-05-308 **MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That administration respond to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta District 4 indicating that August 14, 2020 is a suitable meeting date.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION: **14. d) Caribou Update (standing item)**

MOTION 20-05-309 **MOVED** by Councillor Driedger

That the Caribou update be received for information.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:** **15. a) Council Committee Reports (verbal)**

Councillor Jorgensen stepped out of the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 12:26 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:07 p.m. with all members present.

MOTION 20-05-310 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the Council Committee reports be received for information.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-311 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That a moratorium restricting all development be placed on all vacant properties within all areas impacted by the Peace River ice jam flood.

CARRIED

MOTION 20-05-312

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

Be it resolved that administration proceed with issuing 3 month temporary housing Development Permits and the affiliated safety codes permits for flood impacted properties that are green or yellow flagged,

and be it further resolved that no development improvements be made below the first floor,

and be it further resolved that residents be notified that proceeding with improvements prior to confirmation of required mitigation measures may impact their ability for recovery funding,

and be it further resolved that any home mitigation measures initiated by property owners without prior approval through Disaster Recovery Program will likely jeopardize future eligibility,

and be it further resolved that additional development restrictions may be imposed as a result of the mitigation strategy resulting from 2020 Peace River ice jam flood.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

15. b) Community Services Committee Meeting Minutes

MOTION 20-05-313

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the unapproved minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting of May 12, 2020 be received for information.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

15. c) Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION 20-05-314

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That the Municipal Planning Commission meeting minutes of March 26 and May 14, 2020 be received for information.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION /
 CORRESPONDENCE:**

16. a) Information/Correspondence

MOTION 20-05-315

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

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

CARRIED

UTILITIES:

12. a) Fort Vermilion Water Treatment Plant Insulation

MOTION 20-05-316
 Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That the budget be amended to include \$75,000.00 for upgrading the insulation on the original portion of the Fort Vermilion Water Treatment Plant building in coordination with the insurance repairs, with funding coming from the General Capital Reserve.

CARRIED

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 2:13 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

FINANCE:

10. d) 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw Amendment (ADDITION)

MOTION 20-05-317

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw amendment be added to the agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 20-05-318
 Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That first reading be given to Bylaw 1183-20 being an amended 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw for Mackenzie County, with the following change:

Alberta School Foundation Fund (including Opted Out School Board):

	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential and Farmland	\$2,545,855	\$965,070,246	0.002638
Non-Residential	\$4,698,268	\$1,084,048,812	0.004334
Total ASFF	\$7,244,123	\$2,049,119,058	

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 20-05-319
Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That second reading be given to Bylaw 1183-20 being an amended 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw for Mackenzie County.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 20-05-320
Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That consideration be given to go to third reading of Bylaw 1183-20 being an amended 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw for Mackenzie County.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 20-05-321
Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That third reading be given to Bylaw 1183-20 being an amended 2020 Tax Rate Bylaw for Mackenzie County.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLOSED MEETING:

17. Closed Meeting

MOTION 20-05-322

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That Council move into a closed meeting at 2:28 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 17. a) Insignia Energy Ltd. – Request for Tax Reduction
(*FOIP, Div. 2, Part 1, s. 17, 27*)
- 17. b) Staffing (*FOIP, Div. 2, Part 1, s. 17, 24*)

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
- Carol Gabriel, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/
Recording Secretary
- Jennifer Batt, Director of Finance
- Byron Peters, Director of Planning & Development
- Fred Wiebe, Director of Utilities

- Don Roberts, Director of Community Services
- Dave Fehr, Director of Operations
- Grant Smith, Agricultural Fieldman
- Willie Schmidt, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Administration, with the exception of the Chief Administrative Officer, left the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Carol Gabriel, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, rejoined the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

MOTION 20-05-323 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That Council move out of a closed meeting at 4:13 p.m.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: **17. a) Insignia Energy Ltd. – Requests for Tax Reduction**

MOTION 20-05-324 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk
Requires 2/3

That administration communicate to those requesting a tax reduction, that Council has investigated all options available to ratepayers and has passed a bylaw to provide for payment of taxes by installments for non-residential properties for the 2020 tax year, to assist all ratepayers in this economic down turn.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: **17. b) Staffing**

MOTION 20-05-325 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That the staffing update be received for information.

CARRIED

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

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

Regular Council Meeting
June 10, 2020
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT: 20. a) Adjournment

MOTION 20-05-326 MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That the Council meeting be adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were approved by Council on June 10, 2020.

(original signed)

Joshua Knelsen
Reeve

(original signed)

Lenard Racher
Chief Administrative Officer

