

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday, October 16, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

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

PRESENT:

Joshua Knelsen	Reeve
Walter Sarapuk	Deputy Reeve (left the meeting at 2:53 p.m.)
Peter F. Braun	Councillor
Cameron Cardinal	Councillor
David Driedger	Councillor
Eileen Morris	Councillor (virtual, left the meeting at 2:29 pm.)
Ernest Peters	Councillor
Garrell Smith	Councillor (joined the meeting at 10:08 a.m.)
Lisa Wardley	Councillor (virtual)
Dale Wiebe	Councillor (virtual)

REGRETS:

ADMINISTRATION:

Darrell Derksen	Chief Administrative Officer
Don Roberts	Director of Community Services
Jennifer Batt	Director of Finance
Andy Banman	Director of Operations
Caitlin Smith	Director of Planning and Development
John Zacharias	Director of Utilities
Louise Flooren	Manager of Legislative & Support Services/ Recording Secretary
Landon Driedger	Agricultural Fieldman

ALSO PRESENT: George Fehr – Alpine Builders
Member of the Public

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting for Mackenzie County held on October 16, 2024 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 24-10-678 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That the agenda be adopted with the following addition:

- 15. b) Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Minister Summaries

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: **3. a) Minutes of the September 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting**

MOTION 24-10-679 **MOVED** by Councillor Peters

That the minutes of the September 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: **3. b) Business Arising out of the Minutes**

None.

CLOSED MEETING: **4. a) Closed Meeting**

MOTION 24-10-680 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That Council move into a closed meeting at 10:01 a.m. to discuss the following:

- 4.a) Financial - Grants to Other Organizations (*FOIP Section 25*)
- 4.b) Public Land Sales (*FOIP Sections 23, 24, 25 and 27*)
- 4.c) Sale of County Property (*FOIP Sections 23, 24, 25 and 27*)
- 4.d) CAO Report (*FOIP Sections 16, 17, 23 and 24*)

CARRIED

The following individuals were present during the closed meeting discussion. (*MGA Section 197*)

- All Councillors Present excluding Councillor Smith
- Darrell Derksen, Chief Administrative Officer

- Don Roberts, Director of Community Services
- Jennifer Batt, Director of Finance
- Caitlin Smith, Director of Planning and Development
- Louise Flooren, Manager of Legislative & Support Services/ Recording Secretary

Councillor Smith joined the meeting at 10:08 a.m. Caitlin Smith, Director of Planning & Development left the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Administration left the meeting excluding Darrell Derksen, Chief Administrative Officer at 10:45 a.m.

MOTION 24-10-681 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That Council move out of a closed meeting at 11:07 a.m.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: **4. a) Financial - Grants to Other Organizations**

MOTION 24-10-682 **MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That administration proceed with the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program Grant application for the Mackenzie Community Recreation Centre.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: **4. b) Public Land Sales**

MOTION 24-10-683 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That Mackenzie County Council requests a meeting with all affected ministries affecting land sales and the **red tape** increases with it.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: **4. c) Sale of County Property**

MOTION 24-10-684 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That Council accept the offer to purchase and proceed with the sale of Plan 052 0560, Block 05, Lot 04.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: 4. d) **CAO Report**

MOTION 24-10-685 **MOVED** by Councillor Smith

That the CAO Report be received for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 11:10 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

TENDERS: 5. a) **None**

UTILITIES: 13. a) **Wolfe Lake Rural Water Point**

MOTION 24-10-686 **MOVED** by Councillor Driedger
Requires 2/3

That the 2024 One Time Project Budget be amended by \$75,000 with funding of \$40,000 coming from the 2024 Operating Budget and \$35,000 coming from the Water/Sewer Infrastructure Reserve for the excavation of Wolfe Lake Rural Water Point's dugout to increase the depth and the installation of a new aeration line.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS: 7. a) **None**

GENERAL REPORTS: 8. a) **None**

AGRICULTURE SERVICES: 9. a) **None**

COMMUNITY SERVICES: 10. a) **None**

FINANCE: 11. a) **Disaster Recovery Program – 2020 Update October 16 2024 Report**

MOTION 24-10-687 **MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That the 2020 Disaster Recovery Program October 16, 2024 update report be received for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

11. b) Budget Amendment – Jaws of Life Project

MOTION 24-10-688
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the 2024 Capital Budget be amended by \$2,004 for the Jaws of Life Capital project, with funds coming from the La Crete Fire Department.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

11. c) MasterCard Statements –June & July 2024

MOTION 24-10-689

MOVED by Councillor Smith

That the MasterCard statements for June and July 2024 be received for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

11. d) Councillor Expense Claims

MOTION 24-10-690

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the Councillor Expense Claims for September 2024 be received for information.

CARRIED

FINANCE:

11. e) Members at Large Expense Claims

MOTION 24-10-691

MOVED by Councillor Peters

That the Member at Large Expense Claims for September and October 2024 be received for information.

CARRIED

OPERATIONS:

12. a) None

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

**14. a) Development Statistics Report – January to
September 2024**

MOTION 24-10-692

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Sarapuk

That the development statistics report for January to September 2024 be received for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

**14. b) Minimum Building Setbacks – National Building Code
Standard**

MOTION 24-10-693

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the Minimum Building Setbacks – National Building Code Standard be brought back to a future council meeting.

CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

**6. a) Bylaw 1348-24 Land Use Bylaw Amendment to
Rezone Part of NW-24-107-14-W5M from Agricultural
“A” to Rural Industrial General “RIG”**

Reeve Knelsen called the public hearing for Bylaw 1348-24 to order at 1:06 p.m.

Reeve Knelsen asked if the public hearing for proposed Bylaw 1348-24 was properly advertised. Caitlin Smith, Director 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 Bylaw 1348-24 Land Use Bylaw Amendment to Rezone Part of NW-24-107-14-W5M from Agricultural “A” to Rural Industrial General “RIG”.

Caitlin Smith, Director of Planning & Development presented the following:

*Administration has received a request to rezone Part of
NW-24-107-14-W5M from Agricultural “A” to Rural*

Industrial General “RIG”. The area to be rezoned is approximately 35 acres.

Currently there is a residence and workshop/garage on the portion that is not included in the rezoning request area.

The reason for the rezoning is that the land owner would like to subdivide this 35 acre piece for the purpose of selling the land. The potential buyer intends to use this parcel of land for industrial type business such as mechanic work/metal recycling etc., which is not permitted in the current Land Use District.

Currently this quarter section has one (1) other 80 acre piece that is zoned agricultural and one (1) 20 acre piece that has already been rezoned to Rural Industrial General.

The proposed rezoning area has an approved development permit that was granted on April 03, 2024 for the purpose of a salvage yard (018-DP-24). The development permit is valid until April 03, 2025.

The proposed rezoning area is located near a rural growth node according to the Municipal Development Plan. (Please see map attached).

The purpose of the Rural Industrial Light (RIL) district is to provide for light industrial uses, located outside of HAMLETS, with limited outside storage areas that do not cause nuisances to adjacent land uses while offering a high quality of site aesthetics.

Reeve Knelsen asked if Council has any questions of the proposed Bylaw 1348-24 Land Use Bylaw Amendment. There were no questions.

Reeve Knelsen asked if any submissions were received in regards to proposed Bylaw 1348-24. There were no submissions.

Reeve Knelsen asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in regards to the proposed Bylaw 1348-24. There was no one present to speak to the proposed bylaw.

Reeve Knelsen closed the public hearing for Bylaw 1348-24 at 1:08 p.m.

MOTION 24-10-694 MOVED by Councillor Wiebe

That second reading be given to Bylaw 1348-24 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone Part of NW-24-107-14-W5M from Agricultural "A" to Rural Industrial General "RIG", for future industrial use.

CARRIED

MOTION 24-10-695 MOVED by Councillor Morris

That third reading be given to Bylaw 1348-24 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone Part of NW-24-107-14-W5M from Agricultural "A" to Rural Industrial General "RIG", for future industrial use.

CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 6. b) Bylaw 1349-24 Partial Road Closure of 1530 meters of Range Road 16-1 located between SE-24-107-16-W5M/NE-13-107-16-W5M and SW-19-107-15-W5M/NW-18-107-15-W5M

Reeve Knelsen called the public hearing for Bylaw 1349-24 to order at 1:09 p.m.

Reeve Knelsen asked if the public hearing for proposed Bylaw 1349-24 was properly advertised. Caitlin Smith, Director 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 Bylaw 1349-24 Partial Road Closure of 1530 meters of Range Road 16-1 located between SE-24-107-16-W5M/NE-13-107-16-W5M and SW-19-107-15 W5M/NW-18-107-15-W5M.

Caitlin Smith, Director of Planning & Development presented the following:

Administration is proposing to close a portion of Range Road 16-1 located between SE-24-107-16-W5M/NE-13-

107-16-W5M and SW-19-107-15-W5M/NW-18-107-15-W5M, to allow for aggregate extraction.

The portion of road to be closed is approximately 1530 meters.

Road Closure Bylaws require the approval of the Minister of Transportation in order to proceed following public hearing.

Reeve Knelsen asked if Council has any questions of the proposed Bylaw 1349-24 Land Use Bylaw Amendment.

Councillor Wardley – Shown on the map, allows for river access but if you go to the east, do we actually have additional road allowance access on the other curve?

Director of Planning & Development -No.

Councillor Wardley - Does this eliminate the road access to the river?

Director of Planning & Development -This would close the road allowance but it would still be privately owned county land.

Councillor Wardley – So if it is our land, we can put a road to the river? If we don't have the road allowance to the river would that eliminate road access to the river?

Director of Planning & Development – I am unaware of why it would not be accessible.

Councillor Wardley – We should leave a setback on the river, can we leave a chunk depending on what the pit looks like now that we have future boat launch, marina, etc?

Director of Planning & Development – Yes, we can.

Director of Operations – Once aggregate has been extracted, we can reinstate the road allowance.

Councillor Peters – This is just a partial road closure.

Councillor Wardley – How easy is it to reinstate a road allowance near the river?

Director of Planning & Development – You can register a road plan through land titles.

Councillor Wardley – Can we keep at least 300 feet from the north side?

Reeve Knelsen – I am good with that at 300 feet.

Director of Planning and Development – This can be amended, please add it to the motion.

Reeve Knelsen asked if any submissions were received in regards to proposed Bylaw 1349-24. There were no submissions.

Reeve Knelsen asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in regards to the proposed Bylaw 1349-24. There was no one present to speak to the proposed bylaw.

Reeve Knelsen closed the public hearing for Bylaw 1349-24 at 1:21 p.m.

MOTION 24-10-696

MOVED by Councillor Smith

That first reading be given to Bylaw 1349-24 being a Partial Road Closure Bylaw to close 1438 meters of Range Road 16-1 located between SE-24-107-16-W5M/NE-13-107-16-W5M and SW-19-107-15-W5M/NW-18-107-15-W5M, for aggregate extraction.

CARRIED

Reeve Knelsen recessed the meeting at 1:24 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

14. c) Bylaw 1340-24 Partial Road Closure of a portion of the road located within 106 Street and 99 Avenue

MOTION 24-10-697

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That second reading be given to Bylaw 1340-24 being a Partial Road Closure Bylaw to close a portion of the road located within

106 Street and 99 Avenue within the Hamlet of La Crete, for the purpose of consolidation to the adjacent lot.

CARRIED

MOTION 24-10-698 **MOVED** by Councillor Peters

That third reading be given to Bylaw 1340-24 being a Partial Road Closure Bylaw to close a portion of the road located within 106 Street and 99 Avenue within the Hamlet of La Crete, for the purpose of consolidation to the adjacent lot.

CARRIED

MOTION 24-10-699 **MOVED** by Councillor Driedger

That Council donate the portion of the road closure at market value to the La Crete Municipal Nursing Association for consolidation into the adjacent lot.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION: **15. a) Municipal Ward Boundary Review**

MOTION 24-10-700 **MOVED** by Councillor Wardley
Requires 2/3

That Council moves to support the creation of two municipalities, comprised of wards one through five and six through ten, this would create two growing municipalities that would be larger than most in landmass and above average in population and revenue, this would create governance structure and decision making that is closer to the people. That are sustainable long-term, would create another northern municipal voice, would allow for more northern priorities to be addressed and an additional northern partner with projects and grants, both new entities will strive to be long term positive northern advocates. This change will be completed in conjunction with robust community and citizen engagement and will take place during the next municipal term.

DEFEATED

MOTION 24-10-701 **MOVED** by Councillor Peters
Requires 2/3

That Council draft a letter to Municipal Affairs that supports the amalgamation of Wards 9 and 10 because of variation of representation of population and the removal of the Specialized Municipality Status.

Councillor Cardinal requested a recorded vote.

In Favor	Opposed
Reeve Knelsen	Deputy Reeve Sarapuk
Councillor Braun	Councillor Cardinal
Councillor Driedger	Councillor Morris
Councillor Peters	Councillor Smith
Councillor Wiebe	Councillor Wardley

DEFEATED

MOTION 24-10-702 **MOVED** by Councillor Wardley

That Mackenzie County engage ISL Engineering to create a robust public engagement plan that includes all communities and areas, residents, ratepayers and urban municipal neighbours (Town of High Level and the Town of Rainbow Lake) to present and review the information surrounding the three (3) defeated motions of council (Motions 24-07-535, 24-10-700 and 24-10-701) and the recommendation for Municipal Affairs prepared by Transitional Solutions Inc. and bring it back to Council for approval.

CARRIED

Councillor Morris left the meeting at 2:29 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION: **15. b) Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Minister Summaries (ADDITION)**

MOTION 24-10-703 **MOVED** by Councillor Smith
Requires Unanimous

That the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Minister Summaries be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ITEMS: **16. a) None**

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

17. a) Council Committee Reports (Verbal)

Deputy Reeve Sarapuk left the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

MOTION 24-10-704

MOVED by Councillor Cardinal

That the Council Committee Reports (verbal) be received for information.

CARRIED

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

17. b) Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION 24-10-705

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the approved Municipal Planning Commission meeting minutes of September 5, 2024, and September 16, 2024 and the unapproved Municipal Planning Commission meeting minutes of October 3, 2024 be received for information.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION/
CORRESPONDENCE:**

18. a) Information/Correspondence

MOTION 24-10-706

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That Mackenzie County purchase a table for \$150 at the Rocky Lane Agricultural Society Fall Community Supper on October 19, 2024.

CARRIED

MOTION 24-10-707

MOVED by Councillor Smith

That the Information/Correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION:

19. a) None

**NEXT MEETING
DATES:**

20. a) Next Meeting Dates

Organizational Meeting
October 22, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

Regular Council Meeting
October 23, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT:

21. a) Adjournment

MOTION 24-10-708

MOVED by Councillor Smith

That the Council meeting be adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were approved at the October 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

(original signed)

Joshua Knelsen
Reeve

(original signed)

Darrell Derksen
Chief Administrative Officer

