



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133
Meeting Minutes for Regular Council Meeting RM 09-23
10:00 am, June 21st, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, June 21st 2023, at 10:00 am.

Reeve:	Tony Van Rootselaar
Councillors:	Elaine Garrow Stan Bzowy Nick vanRootselaar
Administration:	Dan Dibbelt Dianne Nellis
Recording Secretary:	Shirley Hayden

1. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Van Rootselaar called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Public Works Supervisor Dave Johnson in attendance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

- 13.K. RFD - FRIAA Invoice - A/R Outstanding Cancellation Request.**
- 13.L. RFD - 23rd Annual Alberta CARE Conference: Wednesday, September 6th - Friday , September 8th Host Sponsor: County of Grande Prairie No.1, located at Holiday Inn and Suites, Grande Prairie.**
- 13M. CN Crossing - Range Road 54 Project.**
- 15.U. Information - Letter from MDSR133 ASB to Peace Region Agricultural Services Boards RE: Lack of Post Secondary Agricultural Programs in the North.**
- 15.V. Information - Letter from the Village of Rycroft; Invitation to participate in the Rycroft Parade: Saturday, July 29th.**

- 15.W. Information - Letter from Grande Spirit Foundation RE: Listing of Future Capital Projects.
- 15.X. Information - Letter from Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors: Strategic Infrastructure Program.

CAO Dibbelt advised delegations from both the Peace Wapiti Public School Division and Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission had cancelled their presentations and will reschedule for a future meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A. Adoption of the June 21st, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda RM 09-23.

- 151.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting RM 09 -23 with the agenda additions be adopted with corrections.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A. Adoption of Minutes from the May 3rd, 2023 Council Meeting RM 08 -23.

- 152.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting RM 08-23 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Adoption of the May 26th 2022, Special Meeting of Council Minutes 02-23.

- 153.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that the Minutes for the Special Meeting SM 02-23 be adopted with corrections: stating the time that CAO left the meeting at 1:54 p.m. and returned to the meeting at 1:55p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

6. COUNCILLOR ABSENCES

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. DELEGATIONS

Family and Community Support Services Coordinator, Julie Temple entered the meeting at 10:02 a.m. and discussed her role with FCSS and relayed information regarding programs developed under FCSS such as Camp Wanago, Meals on Wheels, Community Kitchen , Christmas Hampers etc, and the positive impact on the communities they serve.

Ms. Temple left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
10. **REPORTS**

A. Public Works Report

Public Works Director, Dave Johnson reviewed with Council the following items:

- Grading: grading was temporarily paused until the area received rain, due to concerns regarding the potential for sparks from machinery posing a fire risk.
- Gravel; gravel crush is complete, Grimshaw gravel is currently doing reclamation work in the Whitelaw gravel pit.
- The 2023 gravel haul has started; Range Road 54 to Hwy 731 has been completed, Volin Road has been gravelled from Hwy 2 east to Range Road 42.
- MD Cemetery: Gazebo has been installed at the MD Cemetery; MD Employees did a great job.
- Bridgeview Cemetery: The MD has been in contact with the new landowners and have advised they will be cleaning the property and will be hauling garbage away in the near future.
- Staff: Summer staff has started and have been completing yard maintenance and mowing cemeteries.
- Nardam; Lights and fountain arrived and is now installed. The Nardam bridge has been installed, a Welder will be onsite in future to install the handrails.
- Voyent - Emergency Alert APP , Town of Spirit River, Rycroft and MD participating in the program which will alert residents of crime, water breaks , road closures, fire ban etc.

Public Works Supervisor Dave Johnson left the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

154.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Public Works Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CAO Report

CAO Dan Dibbelt reviewed with Council the following items:

- Ratepayer concern - 2022 Tax on a structure that no longer exists.
- Firefighters' appreciation B.B.Q: June 12th Brownlee Building was a big success, MD residents, village of Rycroft and The Town of Spirit River in attendance, Chief Kroes was presented with a plaque on behalf of the G3 municipalities in appreciation of the dedication displayed by the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission in containing the May 5th Silverwood fire.
- Grande Spirit Foundation Facility Tour
- G5 Meeting June 21st 5:00 p.m. hosted by the Town of Spirit River at the Centennial Hall.
- Website in process
- Range Road 54 Project - CN Crossing.
- Medical Clinic ; June 29th meeting - possible meeting surplus items
- Developments; Continuing to work on a Daycare for the area.
- Brownlee; in touch with contractor with items from the reno to be fixed and followed up on.
- SuperNet will be installed in July.
- Airport; Wil Stewart to do a report on Regional Airports.
- Nardam; New Fountain installed
- PREDA meeting June 2nd and NTAB meetings

- CN Crossing; Additional costs
- July 7th upcoming fire meeting.

155.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that the CAO Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Council Reports

- A. Councillor Elaine Garrow Report from the College of Physician and Surgeons of Alberta meeting (CPSA) verbal report.
- B. Central Peace Municipalities – Meeting Minutes from the G5 General Thursday, December 6th, 2022.
- C. Peace Library System - Board meeting Highlights May 27th, 2023.
- D. Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA) board meeting minutes June 2nd, 2023, verbal report.
- E. Northern Transportation Advocacy Bureau (NTAB) meeting Minutes, June 9th, 2023 verbal report.

156.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that Council Reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sponsorship Request - Rycroft Agricultural Society – Bulls and Broncs event

The Rycroft Agricultural Society is holding their annual Bulls and Broncs event July 28th, 29th and 30th at the Rycroft Ag Center Grounds and is seeking sponsorship in the form of any dollar value. The MD currently provides a yearly contribution of \$4000.00 to the society as a recreational grant, In the past, the MD has provided a gift in kind in the form of gravel or grading for the event.

Council accepted the item as information.

B. Sponsorship Opportunity - Ukrainian Day - Sunday August 20th, 2023

On Sunday August 20th, The Canadian Ukrainian Congress will be celebrating the annual Ukrainian Day , held at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village in Lamont County.

Council accepted the item as information.

C. Wanham Grazing Lease - Road Use

The MD has received several complaints regarding a heavy amount of dust on the Volin Road due to the Wanham Grazing association's Cattle Haul. In the past the MD has communicated with the Associations Secretary regarding requesting a road use agreement for the cattle haul, however, to date, the road use agreement has not been entered into.

- 157.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy administration send a letter to the Wanham Grazing Lease Board with a request that members of the Grazing Association attend a future meeting with Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 to discuss the issues regarding the Wanham Grazing Association cattle haul and dust control on the Volin road.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 158.06.21.23** Moved by Reeve Van Rootselaar that if a response is not received by July 17th, 2023 from the Wanham Grazing Association with regard to the cattle haul with and dust control issues on the Volin Road, administration write a letter to the Government of Alberta advising of the issue.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. United Way - Alberta Northwest Program and Activity Grant - Sponsorship request: Project Period Promise.

The United Way Alberta Northwest contacted the MD with a request to sponsor Period Promise, the project aims to reduce barriers students may encounter in accessing sanitary products thereby promoting equity for all students and making a fundamental change in the lives of students.

- 159.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 make a donation to the United Way Alberta Northwest Program: Project Period Promise in the amount of \$1000.00, allocated to the Spirit River Regional Academy on behalf of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. RMA District Four Meeting: August 11th, 2023 Hosted by The Municipal District of Opportunity in Wabasca with an Invitation to The Municipal District of Opportunity Golf Tournament Fundraiser: Wabasca Eagle Point Golf Course, August 9th,2023.

Administration received an email from Karen Rosvold, director of the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) regarding the RMA District Four Meeting , hosted by The MD of Opportunity. The location and time of the event is to be announced.

Council accepted the item as information and requested the item be returned to a future meeting.

F. RMA District Four June Update: Elected Officials Education Program - Councils Role in Public Engagement: Virtual Course: Oct 4, 11, 16 and 25, 2023.

The Elected Officials Education Virtual Program will be available as an opportunity for officials to gain knowledge about relevant legislation, planning and development processes, service delivery, as well as the skills to serve ethically, collaborate with colleagues, Municipal

neighbors and strategic planning for the benefit of their communities.

Council accepted the item as information and requested the item be brought back to a future meeting.

G. Alberta Library Trustees' Association Meeting June 14, 2023 - Meeting Compensation.

On Wednesday, June 14th, 2023 The Alberta Library Trustees Association (ALTA) held their annual general meeting. Councillor Elaine Garrow attended the meeting via teleconference and is requesting Council compensation for the meeting.

160.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that Councillor Garrow's request for compensation be researched by contacting the Alberta Trustees Board to request further information and be brought to a future meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H. Policy Review - Administration Policy - ADM.72 Use of Landfill SW-31-77-5-W6.

At the RM-13-22 July 6th 2022 Council meeting, the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Landfill Policy ADM.72 was passed to implement a regulated system at the MD Landfill located at SW 31-77-5-W6, currently operated by Secure Energy Inc. Administration recommended the policy be updated to reflect the Municipal Solid Waste definition and the addition of Section 11 under Policy Procedure in accordance with the agreement between the MD and Hazco/ Secure Energy.

161.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that Council Administration Policy No. ADM.72 Use of Landfill: SW 31-77-5-W6 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I. Assessment Review Board Clerk Appointment.

In conjunction with the Central Peace Assessment Review Board (ARB) Agreement and Bylaw, administration is recommending Louise Gostick be officially appointed as The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Assessment Review Board Clerk representative.

162.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar to appoint Louise Gostick as the Central Peace Assessment Review Board Clerk for the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 in conjunction with the Central Peace Assessment Board agreement and Bylaw and that the motion be retroactive to October 19th, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

J. Disclosure of Police Funding Model: Tax Rates Bylaw - No.2023 Tax Assessments.

At the RM-08-23, May 3rd, 2023, Council meeting The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Tax Rates Bylaw was passed. Administration is seeking a motion to approve the disclosure of the Police Funding model with regard to MD tax assessments. The Police Funding Model is in effect an external requisition that does not take into account other related expenses; therefore, transparency

of policing costs being imposed on the Municipality is essential. As per *The Alberta Municipal Government Act (MGA) Contents of tax notice Section 334 (1)(g)* states: "any other information considered appropriate by the Municipality".

- 163.06.21.23** Moved by Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar that, in a matter of transparency to the ratepayers, the Provincial Police Funding Model costs to the Municipal District of Spirit River be itemized separately on the Tax Rate Bylaw and, subsequently, on tax notices for the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

K. Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) Outstanding FRIAA Invoice amount - A/R Outstanding Cancellation Request.

The original grant through Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) to train Volunteer Fire Fighters to do FireSmart Home Assessments and to undertake the assessments was in the amount of \$11,550. A quality control item in the amount of \$1,000 was in question when it was determined that quality control would be done internally, we were advised that the amount was not eligible. FRIAA has paid \$3,453.86 of the original invoice which leaves \$999.14 outstanding.

- 164.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that Council authorize the outstanding amount of \$999.14 Remaining on invoice # 20230017, payable to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) be written off.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

L. 23rd Annual Alberta CARE Conference, September 6th - 8th, 2023

The *Association of Alberta Coordinated Action for Recycling Enterprises* (Alberta CARE) was established in 2010 as a non-profit enterprise for the purpose of supporting recycling and waste management activities, at the community level. The groups focus is to support communities, recycling groups and institutions, especially schools, in implementing a waste recycling culture. Administration presented information regarding the upcoming Alberta CARE Conference taking place Wednesday, September 6th - to Friday September 8th, in Grande Prairie at the Holiday Inn and Suites. Council accepted the item as information.

M. CN Crossing - Range Road 54 Project.

Administration received change order information to complete the concrete crossing of the CN Rail on range Road 54 . Legislative Assistant Dianne Nellis presented information regarding the change order for Council's perusal.

- 165.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that Council authorize the additional costs of \$129,577.50 for the concrete crossing at the Canadian National Rail Line crossing at Range Road 54.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. BYLAWS

Bylaw 02-AM-2023 to Amend ASB Bylaw 07-2011.

The Municipal District of Spirit River Agricultural Services Board brought forward a recommendation to amend Bylaw 07-2011 by removing the reference to the non - voting Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development representative on the ASB Board. Administration concurs with the request for the amendment due to the fact that the Alberta Agriculture representative is no longer attending the MD ASB Meetings. Bylaw 02-AM-2023 for the amendment was then presented for adoption. Due to the nature of the amendment, administration recommended the bylaw be given all three readings concurrently.

- 166.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that Bylaw 02-AM-2023, for the purpose of amending Bylaw 07-2011 by removing the words "one-non- voting Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development representative", be read a first time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 167.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar Bylaw 02-AM-2023 to amend the ASB Bylaw 07-2011 be read a second time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 168.06.21.23** Moved by Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar that Bylaw 02-AM-2023 to amend the ASB Bylaw 07-2011 that consent be given to have third and final reading of Bylaw 02-AM-2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 169.06.21.23** Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that Bylaw 02-AM-2023, for the purpose of amending Bylaw 07-2011 by removing the words "one-non- voting Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development representative", be read a third and final time and be passed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- A. Letter - From Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance - 10-year anniversary.
- B. Information - Municipal Services Division - Government of Alberta - Wildfire Financial Assistance to Municipalities; Payments for Volunteers Firefighters.
- C. Information - Central Peace Regional Water Supply System Phases 1 & 2 Project Overview May 17th, 2023.
- D. Information - Email from Jo-Anne van Rootselaar Re: National Nurses week Thank you to The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 for your kindness.
- E. Information - from Yellowhead County to Alberta Municipalities RE: Alberta Provincial Election.
- F. Letter of Response: from the office of the Prime Minister - RE: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Retroactive Costs
- G. Information handout - MLA Todd Loewen - UCP party 2023.

- H. Email - From Carson Power Vac - Email - Thank you to firefighters and local govt professionals.
- I. Email from Kayla Doody Communications, CRAA - RE: FCM conference - Key messages
- J. Email - from Community Futures RE Annual General Meeting and Client Celebration Monday, June 19th 5:30 p.m. to 8:30p.m., held at the Peace Valley Inn, Emerald Conference room, Peace River.
- K. RMA (Rural Municipalities of Alberta) Bulletin - Update on Wildfire Disaster Financial Assistance + Wildfire Assistance 2023 Program Guide.
- L. Information - The Spirit River Library - Ladies Afternoon - Silent Auction Sunday June 4th, 2023, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- M. Information - Email from Ellyn Vandekerkhove, Director of South Peace regional Archives RE: Grande Prairie Cemetery Tours.
- N. Information - Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 2023 Summer Bus Tours.
- O. Information - Volin Cemetery Grant Funding 2023.
- P. Email - From Julianne Threlfall - CN Northwest Subject: NTAB meeting Follow up.
- Q. Information - Letter - from United Way Alberta Northwest- Project Period Promise.
- R. Information Peace Library System - Municipal Levy Increase 2023.
- S. Information Farm Safety Centre - Letter of gratitude to the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 for their contribution.
- T. Letter of Response - From Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) President Paul Mclauchlin RE: MDSR133 Letter Re: MD Spirit River concerns with possible changes to property taxation or the assessment model.
- U. Information - Letter from MDSR133 ASB to Peace Region Agricultural Services Boards RE: Lack of Post Secondary Agricultural Programs in the North.
- V. Information - Letter from the Village of Rycroft; Invitation to participate in the Rycroft Parade: Saturday, July 29th.
- W. Information - Letter from Grande Spirit Foundation RE: Listing of Future Capital Projects.
- X. Information - Letter from Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors: Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program: LRB – BF 13988 Culvert extension and other work and LRB – BF 72960 Bridge replacement and other work.

170.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that the Correspondence and Information items be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:49p.m.

Recording Secretary Shirley Hayden left the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

The meeting reconvened at 12:37 p.m.

17. CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

171.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that as per *FOIP Act* requirement in accordance with Section 197(4)(b) of *The Municipal Government Act*, the meeting go into closed meeting to discuss a legal matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

172.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that the meeting come out of closed meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting came out of closed meeting at 1:18 p.m.

Councillor Elaine Garrow left the meeting at 1:18 p.m.

173.06.21.23 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that, due to the ongoing pattern of council misconduct and based on the recent third party investigation, Councillor Elaine Garrow immediately be removed from all committees as Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 representative and not be authorized to attend any meetings, events or functions associated with the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 other than Council meetings until January 1, 2024; and further that if no apology is issued by Councillor Garrow to the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 staff, Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission Staff and Volunteer fire fighters, that the removal from committees and withholding authorization to attend any Municipal District of Spirit River sanction meetings, events or functions will continue until the next general municipal election.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Reeve Van Rootselaar at 1:30 p.m.

These minutes approved this 5th day of July, 2023.



Reeve
Tony Van Rootselaar



CAO
Dan Dibbelt