

**TOWN OF MAGRATH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025
6:00 PM**

Present at the meeting were Mayor Byrne Cook and the following Council members: Ken Baker, Gerry Baril, Josh Bouelle, Darryl Christensen, Cynthia Ralph and Aaron Zaugg; CAO James Suffredine, Operations Manager, Trevor Millward and Carolyn Law from Administration.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER 6:00 p.m.
- 2) PRAYER OR REFLECTION – Councillor Bouelle
- 3) PUBLIC FORUM - none
- 4) DELEGATIONS
 - a) STARS
 - Jackie Seely attended to provide an update on the STARS organization and to request continued support from the Town of Magrath.
 - b) Recreation Committee
 - Melissa Stanford and Blake Eaves attended to provide feedback from the meeting hosted by the Recreation Committee on the input they received from the various sports and community organizations.
 - The Recreation Committee will continue to host the Lauscher Family Run and the Fishing Day, but asked if there are other needs that they could meet.
- 5) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2025-02-01 Motion from Councillor Ralph to adopt the agenda as presented.

Carried

- 6) APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a) Regular Council Meeting Minutes: January 28, 2025

2025-02-02 Motion from Councillor Bouelle to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

- 7) BUSINESS FROM MINUTES – none

8) NEW BUSINESS

a) Library Board Appointment

2025-02-03 Motion from Councillor Christensen to appoint Geralyn L'Heureux as a board member for a three-year term.

Carried

b) Policy CP-025 – Annual Arena Closure

2025-02-04 Motion from Councillor Baker to approve Policy CP-025 – Annual Arena Closure.

Carried

c) Closed Session [FOIPP Section 25]

2025-02-05 Motion from Councillor Baril to enter a closed session at 6:55 p.m.

Carried

2025-02-06 Motion from Councillor Ralph to exit the closed session at 7:24 p.m.

Carried

9) FINANCIAL REPORTS

a) Payables Cheques #20250046 to 20250100

2025-02-07 Motion from Councillor Christensen to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented.

Carried

10) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Third Quarter RCMP Reports

2025-02-08 Motion from Councillor Baril to accept the third quarter RCMP reports as information.

Carried

11) ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- No formal report was presented as CAO Suffredine has been on holiday. He reminded the Council that the Provincial Budget would be presented on Thursday.

12) COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

a) Councillor Baril

- Garden City Seniors
 - They are planning for the Seniors Recognition Breakfast scheduled to take place in June.

- They received a grant and are replacing all of the chairs in the main room. The old chairs are available for purchase if there is anyone interested in them.

b) Councillor Ralph

➤ Chinook Foundation:

- Lift station update: It has been determined that we need stronger pumps. Two new pumps are on order. One from BC and the other from overseas. They are scheduled to be installed in the first week of March. The estimated cost is \$55-60,000. Funding is coming from emergency funding from the government.
- Possible RDN (Rural Development Network) support with a study of Phase of potential New Chinook Lodge. Going to apply for the FCM Study grant. The cost of completing the application is \$4000. Should take 8-12 months to find out if the application is successful.
- Diamond Willow: Remains full with a waiting list. Covid outbreak closed on January 16th. GI outbreak from January 22-February 4th. Encouraging masking in common areas and sanitizing/handwashing often.

➤ Magrath Ag Society:

- Drop-in fee: Still in discussion. Looking to change verbiage from membership to a group rate, pass or club. Will discuss all facility fees as a whole before November.
- Bylaws need to be reviewed before the end of the year.
- I brought the idea up of attending their meetings quarterly and receiving minutes every month. This was voted on and passed.
- The website is still being discussed, with photos being added and changing navigation.
- Chinook timed event May 17/18.
- Looking into having a dog agility/training clinic.

c) Councillor Bourelle

➤ Chief Mountain Solid Waste

- Councillor Bourelle would like the Town's garbage collection costs to take to the next meeting.
- They are looking at options presented by the study for ways to divert waste from the landfill.

➤ Municipal Planning Commission

- There was only one subdivision that was brought to the committee for approval.

- d) Councillor Baker
 - Golf Board
 - Held their AGM and are doing well.
 - Their financial statements were presented, and they had a good year.
 - Their inventory is higher than they are used to having, but it is working and their merchandising program has been successful.
 - FCSS
 - We still need to set up a meeting with the County representatives.
 - Recreation Committee
 - We need to get links for the various organizations' websites.
- e) Councillor Zaugg
 - Museum
 - Held their AGM and Aubrey Jacobs is the new Director and Blake Eaves is the new Vice President.
 - The Terry Trainer Park is missing the recognition plaque.
- f) Councillor Christensen
 - Library
 - The numbers of participants in the Hometown Christmas event were down from last year. It could be because they are too far away from the main events.
 - They received a matching CFEP grant of \$62,499 for shelving units. They will install 20 units during the Easter break and 20 units in June. The library will have to be closed for the installation.

13) MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayors & Reeves
 - The meeting was predominantly discussion about the current Provincial, Federal and International politics and governance concerns facing the U.S. tariff threats.
- SouthGrow
 - They are looking to expand and join with the SouthWest region.
 - There are tourism opportunities that we should be looking at.
 - The fees are quite low and will be going up.
- Child Care Needs Assessment
 - Mayor Cook will be joining the meeting to see what they have to present.

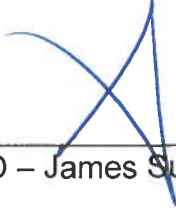
14) ADJOURNMENT

2025-02-09 Motion from Councillor Ralph to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Carried



Mayor – Byrne Cook



CAO – James Suffredine