

**TOWN OF MAGRATH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024
6:00 PM**

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

- 1) CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.
- 2) PRAYER OR REFLECTION – Mayor Cook
- 3) PUBLIC FORUM
 - Paige Barnett – Magrath Girls Softball – provided an overview of their current status and sought assistance with becoming a society, financial and insurance guidance, and requested a reduction of the 2023 field fees.
- 4) DELEGATIONS - none
- 5) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2024-02-10 Motion from Councillor Bourelle to adopt the agenda as presented.
Carried

- 6) APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a) Regular Council Meeting Minutes: February 13, 2024

2024-02-11 Motion from Councillor Ralph to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024, regular council meeting.
Carried

- 7) BUSINESS FROM MINUTES - none
- 8) NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Bylaw 1305 – Amendment to Bylaw 1239A – Livestock and Poultry

2024-02-12 Motion from Councillor Baril to approve 1st reading of Bylaw 1305.
Carried

- 9) FINANCIAL REPORTS
 - a) Payables Cheques #20240195 to #20240248

2024-02-13 Motion from Councillor Zaugg to approve the Financial Report as presented.
Carried

10) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Alberta-NWT Command Legion – Military Service Recognition Book

2024-02-14 Motion from Councillor Baker to make our regular donation of a business card-size advertisement to the Military Service Recognition Book. Carried

b) Volunteer Lethbridge – Non-profit Provincial Gathering

2024-02-15 Motion from Councillor Baker to respond to Volunteer Lethbridge stating that we would be interested in participating, however, would need greater lead time notification of upcoming meetings. Carried

c) MP Glen Motz – Municipality Budget Survey

2024-02-16 Motion from Councillor Ralph to have Mayor Cook complete and submit the Municipality Budget Survey. Carried

11) ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Highlights since the last council meeting for Town Operations include the following items:

- The Towns 2023 financial year-end has been submitted to the auditor for review.
- Snow clearing areas continue to be performed.
- Framing construction on the Public Works vehicle storage has started.
- I met with Cardston County and discussed the current Fire QMP and a grant opportunity for adding and recertifying safety codes officers.
- Town Staff met with the engineer to discuss the Heritage Road project. Letters explaining the project will be delivered to residents on the street next week to discuss the upcoming project with them.
- Chief Mountain Solid Waste Commission has launched a new website, www.chiefmountainsolidwaste.ca. The website provides community members with a centralized location for transfer station information across the area as well as other information that was previously unavailable.

James Suffredine, CAO

- Lions Club – encourage the Club to hold their clothing exchange and garage sale at the Community Centre rather than the Ice Arena.

2024-02-17 Motion from Councillor Christensen that the Town cover the rental fees and insurance for the Lions Club service activities, however, the Lions Club must enter into a contract for use of the facilities.

Carried

- Irrigation
 - The snowpack is low that feeds the St. Mary's River.
 - Provincially, they are hoping to not turn off any Town's or City's consumption.
 - They expect to reduce the farmer's down to 5-10" of irrigation allotment.
 - The province wants the Town to come up with ways we can reduce water use in preparation for uncertain water levels.
- Charity Golf Tournament – we will get the advertising out this week.
- Solar RFP is close to being ready to send out. The transformer upgrades will cost an estimated \$70,000.
- Municipal Town Hall – Send Glen Motz the dates of April 22 or April 24 as possible dates for the Town Hall meeting.

2024-02-18 Motion from Councillor Bourelle to accept the Administrator's Report as presented.

Carried

12) COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

a) Ken Baker

- Golf Board
 - Held their AGM and they have 2 new board members, Ryan O'Neill and Marvin Lee.
 - Rick Gilson will remain as Chair of the Board.
 - Planning to come to make a presentation to the Council in an upcoming meeting.
 - They have renewed the contract with Centennial Restaurant for the upcoming golf season.
 - Some amendments to the fees have been made. These changes were difficult to make but are required for the Golf Course to remain profitable.

b) Gerry Baril

- Chinook Foundation
 - The Chinook Lodge is undergoing renovations worth an estimated \$100,000 that will include new flooring and paint.
 - Both the Chinook Lodge and the Diamond Willow are full.

c) Josh Bourelle

- The Local Society Coordinating Committee will be meeting tomorrow night.

- d) Darryl Christensen
 - Magrath Irrigation District – reported that the water level at St. Mary's reservoir is starting to climb.
 - School Liaison
 - met with the Elementary and High School representatives and Rob Doig from the Central Office regarding the Cultural Arts use of the theatre.
 - The takeaway from the meeting is that the school is the administrator of the theatre and Town use by the Cultural Arts is negotiable, not guaranteed.

- e) Cynthia Ralph
 - Chinook Foundation
 - Diamond Willow is not only full, but they have created a waiting list of individuals/couples interested in moving in.
 - They interviewed 8 people for the manager position to replace Gloria Alston who is retiring.
 - Cami Atwood McLeman has been hired as the new manager.
 - The Chinook Foundation has agreed to reimburse the fire department for attendance at false alarm calls.

- f) Aaron Zaugg – nothing to report.

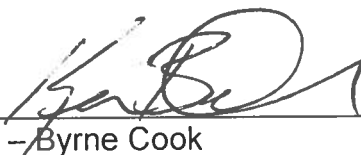
13) MAYOR'S REPORT


- Mayor Cook will be away March 6 – 18.
- Mayor Cook suggested creating a recreation group for heads of the various sports leagues to meet and the Town can communicate any changes/updates to services provided by the Town.
- Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority – has begun the process of tendering out the trucking of garbage.
- SouthGrow – funding has been reduced and they were required to sign the new agreement or get nothing.
- Mayor Cook and CAO Suffredine met with a large property owner to discuss their plans for future development. The meeting was very positive, but no timeline was given for development to begin.
- Annexation – the meeting scheduled with the LDS Church was cancelled so nothing new to report.

14) ADJOURNMENT

2024-02-19 Motion from Councillor Ralph to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Carried


 Mayor – Byrne Cook


 CAO – James Suffredine

Dept. Mayor - Ken Baker