



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FOR BIRCH HILLS COUNTY HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
APRIL 13, 2021**

Present:	Reeve	Gerald Manzulenko	Ward 4
	Deputy Reeve	Terry Carbone	Ward 7
	Councillor	Albert Poetker	Ward 1
	Councillor	Deanne Wendland	Ward 2
	Councillor	Paul Reum	Ward 3
	Councillor	Mel Duvall	Ward 5
	Councillor	Denise Joudrey	Ward 6
	CAO	Rick Bastow	
	Legislative Officer	Shawna Schwerdt	

Absent

CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Manzulenko called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

RC21-165 Moved by Councillor Reum that Council adopt the agenda of the April 13, 2021 Regular Council meeting as presented.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting
March 23, 2021

RC21-166 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 Regular Council meeting as presented.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Reeve Manzulenko

Reeve Manzulenko provided a verbal update to the Dr. Deena Himshaw vaccine roll out CEO's are invited to listen to and the Council on the telephone conference meeting with Minister Ric McIver he attended at the County Council Chambers on April 7, 2021.

Deputy Reeve Carbone

Deputy Reeve Carbone provided a verbal update to Council on the Recreation Board meeting he virtually attended on March 30, 2021, and the telephone conference meeting with Minister Ric McIver he attended at the County Council Chambers on April 7, 2021.

Councillor Poetker

Councillor Poetker provided a verbal update to Council on the Council Advisory Committee – Road Network he attended at County Council Chambers on March 31, 2021 and the and the telephone conference

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meeting with Minister Ric McIver he attended at the County Council Chambers on April 7, 2021.

Councillor Wendland

Nothing to Report at this time she attended the telephone conference meeting with Minister Ric McIver via virtual meeting on April 7, 2021.

Councillor Reum

Councillor Reum provided a verbal update to Council on the telephone conference meeting with Minister Ric McIver he attended at the County Council Chambers on April 7, 2021.

Councillor Duvall

Councillor Duvall provided a verbal update to Council on the Council Advisory Committee – Road Network he attended at County Council Chambers on March 31, 2021 and the telephone conference meeting with Minister Ric McIver he attended at the County Council Chambers on April 7, 2021 as well as ditching in Birch Hills County.

Jeanette Kasper and Theode Kasper entered meeting at 9:11 a.m. for Public Hearing.

RC21-167 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council direct Administration to send correspondence to Tervita Corporation regarding their activities to install cables along the Smoky River at the Watino Bridge.

CARRIED

Councillor Joudrey

Councillor Joudrey provided a verbal update to Council on the virtual Grande Spirit Foundation meeting she attended on March 26, 2021, 2021 and telephone conference meeting with Minister Ric McIver she attended virtually on April 7, 2021.

RC21-168 Moved by Councillor Wendland that Council accept the Councillors’ reports for information.

CARRIED

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORTS

CAO Report

CAO Bastow provided Council with a verbal update to the written report that had been distributed.

RC21-169 Moved by Councillor Joudrey that Council receives the CAO’s verbal update to the written report

INITIALS: Reeve: _____

CAO: _____



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provided to Council.

CARRIED

CAO Action Log

Council reviewed the CAO Action Log updated to April 8, 2021 provided in the Agenda Package.

RC21-170 Moved by Councillor Reum that Council receives the CAO's written report, CAO Action Log and verbal updates for information.

CARRIED

Meeting was recessed at 9:22 a.m.

Meeting was resumed at 9:30 a.m. with Jeanette Kasper and Theode Kasper in attendance for the Public Hearing.

Lucy Stevenson Tax and Development Clerk entered meeting at 9:30 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Bylaw 2021-03 Road Closure Bylaw – 9:30 a.m.

Birch Hills County (BHC) was required to hold a Public Hearing regarding BHC Bylaw 2021-03 a Bylaw for a road closure for lease on Range Road 263 as described in Draft Bylaw 2021-03. BHC draft Bylaw 2021-03 will be presented for first reading later on as part of this Regular Council Meeting agenda.

RC21-171 Moved by Councillor Duvall that Council go into Public Hearing related to Bylaw 2021-03 a Bylaw for a road closure for lease on Range Road 263 as described in Draft Bylaw 2021-03.

CARRIED

Reeve Manzulenko introduced the members of Council and staff, and outlined the purpose of the Public Hearing, that being the Bylaw 2021-03 Road Closure Bylaw.

Lucy Stevenson presented a verbal summary about an application for a Road Allowance Lease that Administration had received.

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Jeanette Kasper and Theode Kasper managers of Dane Scott Land and applicant discussed the developed Range Road 263 is farmed/owned on all sides by Dane Scott Land and intent would be to turn this into crop land.

RC21-172 Moved by Councillor Reum that Council adjourn the Public Hearing related to Bylaw 2021-03 a Bylaw for a road closure for lease on Range Road 263 as described in Draft Bylaw 2021-03.

CARRIED

Road Closure Bylaw
2021-04

Birch Hills County (BHC) was required to hold a Public Hearing regarding BHC Bylaw 2021-04 a Bylaw for a road closure for lease on Range Road 10 as described in Draft Bylaw 2021-04. BHC draft Bylaw 2021-04 will be presented for first reading later on as part of this Regular Council Meeting agenda.

RC21-173 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council go into Public Hearing related to Bylaw 2021-04 a Bylaw for a road closure for lease on Range Road 10 as described in Draft Bylaw 2021-04.

CARRIED

Reeve Manzulenko introduced the members of Council and staff, and outlined the purpose of the Public Hearing, that being the Bylaw 2021-04 Road Closure Bylaw.

Lucy Stevenson presented a verbal summary about an application for a Road Allowance Lease that Administration had received.

Jeanette Kasper and Theode Kasper managers of Dane Scott Land and applicant discussed the undeveloped Range Road 10 and intent would be to turn this into crop land.

RC21-174 Moved by Councillor Wendland that Council adjourn the Public Hearing related to Bylaw 2021-04 a Bylaw for a road closure for lease on Range Road 10 as described in Draft Bylaw 2021-04.

CARRIED

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Jeanette Kasper and
Theode Kasper exited
meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Meeting was recessed at
10:05 a.m.

Meeting was resumed at
10:10 a.m. no public
present.

Lucy Stevenson Tax and
Development Clerk exited
meeting at 10:14 a.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2021 Birch Hills County
Budget

RC21-175 Moved by Councillor Joudrey that
Council table item 8.a 2021 BHC Budget until later in
the April 13, 2021 regular scheduled Council meeting.

CARRIED

Directive 067

Council was provided with an update on the new
version of Directive 067.

RC21-176 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council
accept this RFD regarding Draft Directive 067 as
information.

CARRIED

Water Utility

Council was provided with an update on Central Peace
Regional Water Utility System.

RC21-177 Moved by Councillor Duvall that Council
accept this RFD regarding the Central Peace Regional
Water System as information and request
Administration provide additional analysis as part of a
future Regular scheduled Council Meeting.

CARRIED

COVID Operational
Continuity

Council was provided with an update on COVID
operational continuity preparedness.

RC21-178 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that
Council provides a stipend of \$40 dollars/month for Birch
Hills County employees that are working from home due to
COVID-19 operational continuity plan. Stipend will conclude
in June 2021 with Council revisiting the matter prior to its
conclusion.

CARRIED

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RC21-179 Moved by Councillor Duvall that Council accept the update on COVID operational continuity preparedness for information.

CARRIED

Edward Telford entered meeting virtually via Zoom at 10:30 a.m.

Shelley Braun, Director of Corporate Services entered meeting at 10:30 a.m.

DELEGATIONS

Edward Telford – JDP Wasserman 2020 Financial Statement/Audit Report presentation

Edward Telford with JDP Wasserman & Associates presented virtually to Council the 2020 draft Financial Statement and 2020 draft Audit Report Presentation.

RC21-180 Moved by Councillor Reum that Council close the April 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting to the public for discussion related to the draft 2020 Financial Statement as per Section 26, FOIP Act at 10:30 a.m.

CARRIED

RC20-181 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council open the April 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting to the public at 11:25 a.m.

CARRIED

Edward Telford exited meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Meeting was recessed at 11:25 a.m.

Meeting was resumed at 11:30 a.m. with no public present.

Draft 2020 Financial Statement

RC21-182 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council approves the draft financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020 as presented with an annual deficit of \$966,175 including amortization and pending transfer from unrestricted reserves to restricted reserves.

CARRIED

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CAO: _____



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2020 Transfer to Reserves

Council was presented with information regarding the Accumulated Surplus (unrestricted) account 6-00-00-00-910.

RC21-183 Moved by Councillor Wendland that Council direct Administration to action the following transfer of funds effective December 31, 2020, to:
Tax Rate Stabilization 6-00-00-00-711 \$2,750,000
Contingency (Capital All Purpose) 6-97-00-00-760 \$2,750,000
From:
Accumulated Surplus (unrestricted) 6-00-00-00-910 \$5,500,000.

CARRIED

Shelley Braun DCS exited meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

Meeting was resumed at 12:30 p.m. with no public present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS CONTINUED

RC21-184 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council remove from table item 8.a 2021 Birch Hills County Budget.

CARRIED

2021 Birch Hills County Budget

Council was provided with an update on the 2021 Birch Hills County Budget.

RC21-185 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council accept this RFD regarding the 2021 Birch Hills County Budget as information and request Administration provide additional analysis as part of a future Regular scheduled Council meeting.

CARRIED

RC21-186 Moved by Councillor Wendland that Council table item 9.a Bylaw 2021-03 and 9.b Bylaw 2021-04 until later on in the April 13, 2021 regular schedule Council meeting.

CARRIED

INITIALS: Reeve: _____

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NEW BUSINESS

2021 Recreation Grants

Council was provided with the recommendations made at the Birch Hills County Recreation Board Meeting on March 30, 2021 as to the distribution of Recreation Operating Assistance Grant funding for 2021.

Jeanette Kasper and Theode Kasper entered meeting at 12:55 p.m.

RC21-187 Moved by Councillor Reum that Council approve the disbursement of the 2021 Recreation Grant funding based on the Recreation Board's recommendation to disburse the funds as follows:

- Birch Hills Senior Centre \$3,495.00
- Community of Co-Ordinating Organizations \$25,208.00
- Eaglesham and District Agricultural Society \$3267.00
- Eaglesham Lakeside Golf and Country Club \$19,485.00
- Kakut Lake Resort \$5,220.00
- Senior Social Centre Club of Eaglesham \$2425.00
- Tangent Community Hall Society \$8,233.00
- Tangent Park Society \$5,458.00
- Tangent Yaremko Social Club \$1,343.00
- Watino Ladies Community Association \$1,483.00
- West Smoky Recreation Centre \$24,383.00
- Total \$100,000.00; and

that Council direct Administration to bring 2019-01 Recreation Board Bylaw and the 71-01(2)-19 Recreation Operating Assistance Grant Policy to a future Regular Council meeting to discuss the Recreation Board recommendation that Birch Hills County Council consider updating the Recreation Board Bylaw to permit vacant board position(s) that go unfilled for a period of 90 days or more, be filled by a Council appointed member-at-large to be selected from any Ward and the Recreation Board recommendation for consideration to Birch Hills County Council to:

- i. Formalize a deadline date for applications to be submitted for Recreation Board Grant and
- ii. Encourage feedback from applicants on the grant process to increase ease of use.

CARRIED

Approval of BHC Library Board Auditor Appointment

Council was provided with a requested to approve the appointment by the Birch Hills County Library Board of Linda Garrett to complete the Birch Hills County Library Board audit.

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RC21-188 Moved by Councillor Duvall that Council approve the appointment by the Birch Hills County Library Board of Linda Garrett to complete the Birch Hills County Library Board audit and direct Administration to advise the Birch Hills County Library Board of this decision and to remind the Board of their responsibility to submit the financial report to Council immediately after its completion.

RC21-189 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council remove from table items 9.a LUB 2021-03 and 9.b 2021-04.

CARRIED

Mel Duvall exited meeting at 1:07 p.m.

Councillor Duvall declared pecuniary interest to LUB 2021-03 and LUB 2021-04 as an adjacent landowner.

BYLAWS

LUB Amendment Bylaw 2021-03

Council was presented with Bylaw 2021-03, a bylaw for a road closure for lease of land that is described in the Bylaw as follows:

all of that portion of statutory road allowance which forms the west boundary of the west half section of twenty-two (22), township seventy nine (79), range twenty-six (26), west of the fifth (5th) meridian; and

all of that portion of statutory road allowance which forms the west boundary of the north west section of fifteen (15), township seventy-nine (79), range twenty-six (26), west of the fifth (5th) meridian.

RC21-190 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council defeat Bylaw 2021-03, a bylaw to close and lease to public travel all that portion of road allowance described as;

all of that portion of statutory road allowance which forms the west boundary of the west half section of twenty-two (22), township seventy-nine (79), range twenty-six (26), west of the fifth (5th) meridian; and all of that portion of statutory road allowance which forms the west boundary of the north west section of fifteen (15), township seventy-nine (79), range twenty-six (26), west of the fifth (5th) meridian.

CARRIED

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LUB Amendment Bylaw
2021-04

Council was presented with Bylaw 2021-04, a bylaw for a road closure for lease of land that is described in the Bylaw as follows:

all of that portion of statutory road allowance which forms the east boundary of the east half section of twenty-four (24), township seventy-nine (79), range one (1), west of the sixth (6th) meridian; and all of that portion of statutory road allowance which forms the east boundary of the north east section of thirteen (13), township seventy-nine (79), range one (1), west of the sixth (6th) meridian.

RC21-191 Moved by Councillor Joudrey that Council table 1st reading of Bylaw 2021-04 and direct Administration to research additional information and schedule the Bylaw at a future Council meeting.

CARRIED

Jeanette Kasper and Theode Kasper exited meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Lucy Stevenson Tax and Development Clerk exited meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Mel Duvall entered meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Meeting was recessed at 1:30 p.m.

Meeting was resumed at 1:35 p.m. with no public present.

NEW BUSINESS CON'T

Mutual Aid Fire Agreement

Council was provided with an update on the new version of the Mutual Aid Fire Control Plan entered into by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (AF), Forestry Division, hereinafter called the Division, and Birch Hills County, hereinafter called the Municipality, under the Mutual Aid Fire Control Agreement between the Division and the Municipality dated February 18th, 2005.

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RC21-192 Moved by Councillor Duvall that Council accept this RFD regarding Mutual Aid Fire Control Plan as information.

CARRIED

Dion Hynes, Director of Public Works entered meeting 1:42 p.m.

Dust Control Policy

Council was presented with information regarding the current Dust Control Policy.

RC21-193 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council approves the new Dust Control Policy 32-02-21 that reflects Council's decision to change from a cost share to the ratepayer/resident being responsible for 100 percent of the cost of the dust suppressant product.

CARRIED

Road Inspectors Contract Policy

Council was provided with a request regarding the current Road Inspectors Contract Policy.

RC21-194 Moved by Councillor Wendland that Council approves the new Industrial Road Inspection Policy 32-03-21 that updates the policy to reflect road inspection being conducted in-house.

CARRIED

Dion Hynes, DPW exited meeting 2:14 p.m.

Kathrin Langlois, Assistant Ag. Fieldman entered meeting at 2:14 p.m.

Clubroot of Canola Policy Number 63-08-21

Council was presented with a draft Clubroot of Canola Policy Number 63-08-21.

RC21-195 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council rescind the Clubroot of Canola Policy 63-01-18 and approve the Clubroot of Canola Policy Number 63-08-21 as presented.

CARRIED

Kathrin Langlois, Assistant Ag. Fieldman exited meeting at 2:14 p.m.

INITIALS: Reeve: _____

CAO: _____



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FOR INFORMATION

Council was provided with a copy of the following documents that had been received by Administration:

- a. Minister Schulz reply to BHC Feb. 2, 2021 letter to Children’s Services dated March 26, 2021;
- b. South Peace Regional Archives Invite re AGM on April 17, 2021;
- c. Grande Prairie Victim Services re Thank you for kind donation dated April 6 2021;
- d. Psychological First Aid put on by Alberta Health Services on April 20, 2021;
- e. MP Viersen Invites Feedback on Bill C-15 UNDRIP dated March 19, 2021;
- f. Background on Bill C-22 dated March 24, 2021;
- g. MP Viersen on Bill C-22 dated March 24, 2021;
- h. Spirit River RCMP Detachment Community Letter re quarterly Policing Report dated April 2, 2021;
- i. Spirit River Provincial Policy Report;
- j. RCMP McLennan County Community Letter dated March 29, 2021;
- k. McLennan RCMP Acknowledgement of Consultation;
- l. Letter Minister Nate Glubish re Rural Internet Connectivity PLS dated March 30, 2021;
- m. Email from Jodi Bloomer-Kaput Aurora update re UBF dated April 1, 2021;
- n. Email from MLA Loewen re Relocation of flood mitigation trailer to the north dated March 18, 2021;
- o. Letter from Dan Williams MLA Peace River re Site C Dam dated March 16, 2021;
- p. Newsletter from Community Connect for April 2021;
- q. Alberta police Advisory Board (APAB) Survey responses submitted April 8, 2021.

CARRIED

RC21-196 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council accept the information items provided for information.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Council was provided with copies of the following documents:

- a. Letter to Minister Dreeshen of Ag. & Forestry re AFSC Spirit River Location dated March 24, 2021;
- b. Letter to MD of Peace re ASB21-10 Sharing Clubroot dated March 31, 2021;
- c. Minister Dreeshen re Seed Royalty Stakeholder Consultation.

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CAO: _____



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RC21-197 Moved by Councillor Joudrey Council accept the correspondence provided for information.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION

RC21-198 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council move to closed session to discuss the following three items:

1. Flood Mapping Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) Section (24)(1)
2. Unpaid Oil and Gas Taxes FOIP Section 24(1)
3. 2021 Operations FOIP Section 17

at 2:35 p.m.

CARRIED

Shawna Schwerdt L.O./E.A.
Recording Secretary left meeting at 3:45 p.m.

RC21-199 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council move out of closed session at 3:58 p.m.

CARRIED

RC21-200 Moved by Councillor Duvall that Council extend the April 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting past 4:00 p.m. as required by 4.6 of the Procedural Bylaw No. 2019-15.

CARRIED

RC21-201 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council move back into closed session to discuss the following three items:

1. Flood Mapping Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) Section (24)(1)
2. Unpaid Oil and Gas Taxes FOIP Section 24(1)
3. 2021 Operations FOIP Section 17 at 3:59 p.m.

CARRIED

RC21-202 Moved by Councillor Poetker that Council move out of closed session at 4:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Meeting was recessed at 4:30 p.m.

Meeting was resumed at 4:35 p.m. with no public present.
Flood Mapping

RC21-203 Moved by Councillor Joudrey that Council accept Flood Hazard Map for information.

CARRIED

INITIALS: Reeve: _____

CAO: _____



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Unpaid Oil and Gas Taxes

RC21-204 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council accept the RFD regarding the Unpaid Oil and Gas Taxes as information and request Administration provide additional analysis as part of a future regular scheduled Council meeting and direct Administration send a letter to Long Run Exploration.

CARRIED

2021 Operations

RC21-205 Moved by Deputy Reeve Carbone that Council accept the RFD regarding the temporary laid off staff as information.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Being that there was no further business, Reeve Manzulenکو adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Original to be signed
GERALD MANZULENKO
REEVE

Original to be signed
RICK BASTOW
CAO

INITIALS: Reeve: _____

CAO: _____