

**LAC LA BICHE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MCARTHUR PLACE, LAC LA BICHE**

February 25, 2025-10:00 a.m.

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Regular Council Meeting held February 25, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Reutov called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

PRESENT	Paul Reutov	Mayor
	John Mondal	Councillor
	Darlene Beniuk	Councillor
	Kevin Paré	Councillor
	Colette Borgun	Councillor
	Lorin Tkachuk	Councillor
	Charlyn Moore	Councillor
	Jason Stedman	Councillor/Deputy Mayor
	Sterling Johnson	Councillor (<i>Participated electronically</i>)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	Kashif Ijaz	Acting Chief Administrative Officer
	Ali Memon	GM, Infrastructure
	John Kokotilo	GM, Protective Services
	Mackenzie Zilinski	Senior Executive Assistant
	Heather Reid	Lead Legislative Officer
	Danielle Patenaude	Legislative Officer

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

25.046

MOVED

To adopt the February 25, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as amended:

Addition of item:

-9.6- Land Matter Update (s.16-FOIP, s.24-FOIP, s.25-FOIP)

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Regular Council Meeting -February 4, 2025

25.047 MOVED

To adopt the February 4, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Councillor Reports

Each Councillor in attendance presented their Councillor Reports which was received as information.

Councillor Borgun exited Council Chambers at 10:08 a.m. and returned the same time.

8.2 Council Addition-Back Alley Lighting

Councillor Mondal presented the Council Addition-Back Alley Lighting item and responded to questions.

25.048 MOVED

To direct Administration to add back alley lighting, for urban and rural areas, into the Street Lighting Implementation Program Master Plan.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3 Back Alley Streetlight Petition

Ms. Heather Reid, Lead Legislative Officer presented the Back Alley Streetlight Petition item and responded to questions.

The Back Alley Streetlight Petition Report was received as information.

8.4 Street Lighting Implementation Program

Mr. Ali Memon, General Manager, Infrastructure presented the Street Lighting Implementation Program item and responded to questions.

25.049 MOVED
To direct Administration to present a rural Streetlight Matrix to meet the needs of rural residents in the County.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLOSED SESSION

25.050 MOVED
To go into Closed Session at 10:48 a.m. pursuant to the following sections of the *Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*:

- s.17-Disclosure harmful to personal privacy-FOIP
- s.16- Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party-FOIP
- s.24 FOIP – Advice from officials
- s.25- Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body-FOIP
- s.27-Privileged information

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1 General Accounts Receivable Write Offs (s.17 and s.24-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for presentation and recording purposes: Gary Harman (electronically), Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Danielle

Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski (electronically), Kashif Ijaz and Staci Lattimer (electronically)

9.3 2025 ERP Project Update (s.16 and s.25-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for presentation and recording purposes: Gary Harman (electronically), Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski (electronically), Kashif Ijaz and Staci Lattimer (electronically)

Deputy Mayor Stedman exited Council Chambers at 11:21 a.m. and returned at 11:22 a.m.

Councillor Pare declared a Conflict of Interest due to being a Portage College Board of Governor and exited Council Chambers at 11:26 a.m. prior to item 9.2.

9.2 Portage College Sponsorship Agreement Renewal (s.24-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for presentation and recording purposes: Gary Harman (electronically), Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski (electronically), Kashif Ijaz, and Staci Lattimer (electronically)

Councillor Pare returned to Council Chambers at 11:32 a.m. following the conclusion of item 9.2.

9.4 Doctor Incentives-Additional Programming (s.25-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for presentation and recording purposes: Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski (electronically), Kashif Ijaz and Najiah Moghrabi.

Deputy Mayor Stedman exited Council Chambers at 11:46 a.m. and returned at 11:48 a.m.

Mayor Reutov exited Council Chambers at 11:49 a.m. Deputy Mayor Stedman assumed the position of Chair.

Mayor Reutov returned to Council Chambers at 11:51 a.m. and returned to the position of Chair.

Councillor Beniuk exited Council Chambers at 11:53 a.m.

Councillor Pare exited Council Chambers at 11:56 a.m. and returned at 11:57 a.m.

Councillor Beniuk returned to Council Chambers at 11:57 a.m.

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

7.1 12:00 p.m. Public Input Session

Administration confirmed that those in the lobby did not want to speak during the Public Input Session and further, there were no registered speakers.

CLOSED SESSION

9.6 Land Matter Update (s.16, s.24, s.25-FOIP)-*Addition to the Agenda*

The following Members of Administration were present for presentation and recording purposes: Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski (electronically), Kashif Ijaz, Ali Memon, and Sheera Bourassa.

Councillor Mondal exited Council Chambers at 12:55 p.m. and returned at 12:56 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Stedman exited Council Chambers at 1:06 p.m.

Councillor Beniuk exited Council Chambers at 1:07 p.m. and returned at the same time.

Deputy Mayor Stedman returned to Council Chambers at 1:08 p.m.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

25.051

MOVED

To return to Open Session at 1:14 p.m.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.5 Presentations from Community Groups for 2025 Grant Requests

Mr. Carl Kurppa, Community Funding & Grants Coordinator provided an overview of the Presentations from Community Groups for 2025 Grant Requests item and responded to questions.

This item was received as information.

8.5.1 1:00 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Craigen Recreation and Agricultural Society

Ms. Gwen Beniuk and Ms. Geraldine Tchir co-presented and responded to questions.

8.5.2 1:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.- Normandeau Community Center

Ms. Molly Fyten and Ms. Debbie Burdek co-presented and responded to questions.

8.5.4 1:45 p.m.-2:00 p.m.- Lac La Biche Agricultural Society

Mr. Aurel Langevin and Ms. Anne Diatishky co-presented and responded to questions.

Councillor Tkachuk declared a Pecuniary Interest due to business interests and exited Council Chambers at 1:47 p.m. prior to item 8.5.5.

8.5.5 2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.- Lac La Biche Heritage Society

Ms. Stacy St. Jean and Mr. Les Dichinsky co-presented and responded to questions.

Councillor Tkachuk returned to Council Chambers at 1:56 p.m. upon the conclusion of item 8.5.5.

Both Mayor Reutov and Councillor Tkachuk declared Pecuniary Interests due to business interests and exited Council Chambers at 1:55 p.m. prior to item 8.5.6.

8.5.6 2:15 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. Community Learning for Adult Students Society

Ms. Colleen Pierce, Ms. Rene Johnston and Ms. Ella Carasco presented to Council and responded to questions

Councillor Pare exited Council Chambers at 2:24 p.m. and returned at the same time.

RECESS Deputy Mayor Stedman called a recess at 2:25 p.m.

RECONVENE Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 2:39 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance including Councillor Tkachuk.

NEW BUSINESS

8.5.8 2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Rich Lake Recreation and Agricultural Society

Ms. Lotus Plamondon and Ms. Jeannette Pomerleau co-presented this item and responded to questions.

8.5.9 3:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.- Plamondon District Community Development Society

Ms. Sherice Marko and Mr. Leon Schaub co-presented this item and responded to questions.

Councillor Pare exited Council Chambers at 3:12 p.m. and returned at the same time.

8.5.10 3:15 p.m.-3:30 p.m.- Russian Kafolicheskaya Culture Preservation Society

Mr. Fred Frolov and Ms. Jamie Anfilofieff co-presented this item and responded to questions.

RECESS Mayor Reutov called a recess 3:30 p.m.

RECONVENE Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 3:39 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

9.1 General Accounts Receivable Write Offs (s.17 and .24-FOIP)

25.052 MOVED

That Council accepts the write-off listing presented in closed session as information pursuant to the disclosure requirement of Lac La Biche County Policy CS-10-013.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.053

MOVED

That Council authorizes Administration to write off the uncollectable general accounts receivable as listed below in the amount of \$2,607.24 as of December 31, 2024.

General Accounts Receivable	
Account #	Amount
5xx9	\$1,807.54
9xx7	\$799.70
TOTAL	\$2,607.24

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 Portage College Sponsorship Agreement Renewal (s.24-FOIP)

Councillor Paré exited the meeting at 3:45 pm. For a Conflict of Interest due to being a Portage College Board of Governor.

25.054

MOVED

To direct Administration to proceed with executing the Portage College Sponsorship Agreement and Portage College Voyageurs Facility Lease Agreement as presented.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Paré returned to Chambers at 3:47 p.m. at the conclusion of the vote.

9.3 2025 ERP Project Update (s.16 and s.25-FOIP)

25.055

MOVED

That County Council approves an additional \$700,000 for completion of the ERP Capital Project

as part of the 2026 budget to be fully funded out of the Stabilization Reserve.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 Doctor Incentives-Additional Programming (s.25-FOIP)

25.056 MOVED
To direct Administration to forward advocacy letters related to doctor recruitment and retention and to schedule a workshop dedicated to Doctor Incentives.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 Land Matter Update (s.16, s.24, s.25-FOIP)-*Addition to the Agenda*

25.057 MOVED
To direct Administration to proceed as discussed in Closed Session.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLOSED SESSION

25.058 MOVED
To go into Closed Session at 3:53 p.m. pursuant to the following section of the *Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*:

- s.27-Privileged information-FOIP

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Reutov exited Chambers at 3:54 p.m. for a Pecuniary Interest due to personal interests.

Deputy Mayor Stedman assumed the role of Chair.

The following Members of Administration were present for presenting and recording purposes: Kashif Ijaz, Mackenzie Zilinski, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude and Sean Ward.

9.5 Legal Matter (s.27-Privileged information-FOIP)

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

25.059 MOVED
To return to Open Session at 5:01 p.m.

In Favour (8): Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Reutov addressed Council from the presentation table and exited Chambers and did not return prior to debate and voting.

9.5 Legal Matter (s.27-FOIP)

25.060 MOVED
In the event the Chief Elected Official does not resign in accordance with section 175 (1) of the Municipal Government Act by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 2025, Council directs Administration to proceed with filing an application to a judge of the Court of King's Bench for an order declaring the person to be disqualified from council.

In Favour (8): Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Stedman adjourned the Regular Council Meeting of February 25, 2025 at 5:23 p.m.

Paul Reutov, Mayor

Kashif Ijaz, Acting Chief Administrative Officer