

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

**February 7, 2023- 10:00 a.m.**

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Regular Council Meeting held February 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Reutov called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

A moment of silence was held in honour of those impacted by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

**PRESENT**

Paul Reutov	Mayor
Colette Borgun	Councillor
Sterling Johnson	Councillor
John Mondal	Councillor
Kevin Paré	Councillor/Deputy Mayor
Jason Stedman	Councillor ( <i>participated electronically / departed at 5:05 p.m.</i> )
Charlyn Moore	Councillor ( <i>departed at 5:03 p.m.</i> )
Lorin Tkachuk	Councillor ( <i>participated electronically</i> )
Darlene Beniuk	Councillor

**STAFF IN  
ATTENDANCE**

Dan Small	Chief Administrative Officer
Melanie McConnell	Associate CAO, Corporate Services
Darrell Lessmeister	Associate CAO, Recreation and Community Services Division
Ron Fraser	Associate CAO, Infrastructure Services Division
Zeeshan Hasan	Associate CAO, Finance and Planning ( <i>in part</i> )
Heather Reid	Legislative Services Coordinator

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

23.075	<b>MOVED</b> To adopt the February 7, 2023 Regular Council Meeting agenda as presented.
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**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

3.1 January 20, 2023 Special Council Meeting

3.2 January 24, 2023 regular Council Meeting

23.076

**MOVED**

To adopt the January 20, 2023 Special Council Meeting minutes and the January 24, 2023 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **DELEGATIONS**

6.1 10:15 a.m. Delegation - Northern Lights Library System - James MacDonald, Executive Director and Vicky Lefebvre, Board Chair

Mr. James MacDonald and Ms. Vicky Lefebvre with the Northern Lights Library System presented to Council and responded to questions.

23.077

**MOVED**

To thank Mr. MacDonald and Ms. Lefebvre for their presentation to Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 Councillor Reports

Each Member of Council in attendance provided an update as part of the Councillor Reports discussion.

Councillor Stedman exited the meeting at 10:38 a.m. after his update.

23.078

**MOVED**

To accept the Councillor Reports information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.4 Hours of Operation (Community Policing- Councillor Addition Form)

Mr. Chris Clark, Manager of Protective Services and A/Sgt. Dymont, Lac La Biche RCMP, presented on the Hours of Operation item and responded to questions.

Councillor Tkachuk exited the meeting at 10:42 a.m. and returned at 10:45 a.m.

23.079            MOVED  
To direct Administration to bring forward more information on the Peace Officer levels of services and current operational hours including budget impacts of increased services to the February 28, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

23.080            MOVED  
To direct Administration to follow up with the RCMP and bring forward an update to a future Council meeting on the RCMP Policing agreement within the first quarter 2023.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

23.081            MOVED  
To thank Acting Sergeant Jason Dymant with the Lac La Biche RCMP Detachment for the presentation to Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**RECESS**            Mayor Reutov called a recess at 11:21 a.m.

**RECONVENE**       Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 11:33 a.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

7.5      Fire Permitting Program and Process

Mr. Clark presented the Fire Permitting Program and Process and responded to questions.

23.082            MOVED  
To accept the Fire Permitting Program and Process report as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.2      Temporary Homeless Camp and Transitional Housing Project Update

Mr. Darrell Lessmeister, Associate CAO Recreation & Community Services and Anita Polturak, Manager of FCSS presented the Temporary Homeless Camp and Transitional Housing Project Update and responded to questions.

This item was continued after the Closed Session discussion.

## CLOSED SESSION

23.083            MOVED  
To go into Closed Session at 11:55 a.m. to discuss the closed session agenda items pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

8.1      Temporary Homeless Camp Site and Transitional Housing Project Site Locations (s.24 FOIP – Advice from officials; s.25 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body)

Members of Administration present for the purposes of presenting and recording: Dan Small, Darrell Lessmeister, Ron Fraser, Alanna Wowk, Melanie McConnell, Zeeshan Hasan, Staci Lattimer and Heather Reid.

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

23.084            MOVED  
To return to Open Session at 12:02 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

There was no in attendance for the public input session.

## NEW BUSINESS

7.2      Temporary Homeless Camp and Transitional Housing Project Update continued.

23.085            MOVED  
That Council approve use of Lot 1A Plan 1197HW for the Transitional Housing Facility and direct Administration to complete Community Consultation.

In Favour (5): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Paré, and Councillor Johnson  
Opposed (3): Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, and Councillor Tkachuk

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.3      Award McArthur Park Detailed Design and Construction Management

Mr. Lessmeister presented the Award McArthur Park Detailed Design and Construction Management and responded to questions.

23.086            **MOVED**  
That County Council award the McArthur Park Detailed Design and Construction Management to EDS Group Inc for up to \$945,000.00.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.6      Summer Childcare Programming

Mr. Lessmeister and Ms. Staci Lattimer, Manager of Recreation, presented the Summer Childcare Programming report and responded to questions.

23.087            **MOVED**  
That Council accepts the report as information and directs Administration to proceed with planning and facilitating an 8-week full day summer camp for children 6 through 12 years with pre-registration of at least 20 children per week at 75 percent cost recovery.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Deputy Mayor Paré, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson  
Opposed (2): Councillor Mondal, and Councillor Beniuk

**CARRIED**

**RECESS**            Mayor Reutov called a recess at 12:34 p.m.

**RECONVENE**        Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 1:17 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance including Councillor Stedman.

**NEW BUSINESS**

7.7      Award New Aquatic Facility Progressive-Design Build

Mr. Lessmeister, Associate CAO Recreation & Community Services and Alex Godfrey and Geoff Watson with Turnbull Construction Project Managers presented the Award New Aquatic Facility Progressive-Design Build and responded to questions.

Councillor Johnson exited Chambers at 1:23 p.m. and returned at 1:23 p.m.

23.088            MOVED  
That County Council award the New Aquatic Facility  
Progressive Design-Build to EllisDon & Dialog.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.8      Recreation & Community Services Monthly Reports and Project Updates

Mr. Lessmeister presented the Recreation & Community Services Monthly Reports and Project Updates and responded to questions.

23.089            MOVED  
To accept the Recreation and Community Services Division  
– January Report as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.9      Infrastructure Services Monthly Reports and Project Updates

Mr. Ron Fraser, Associate CAO Infrastructure Services, presented the Infrastructure Services Monthly Reports and Project Updates and responded to questions.

23.090            MOVED  
To accept the Infrastructure Services – Manager Reports and  
Capital Projects Update as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.10     Review Speed Limit on Caslan Connector Road – RR164 / RR162

Mr. Fraser presented the Review Speed Limit on Caslan Connector Road – RR164 / RR162 and responded to questions.

Councillor Mondal exited Chambers at 1:54 p.m. and returned at 1:55 p.m.

23.091            MOVED  
To direct Administration to change the speed limit on the  
Caslan Connector to 100 km per hour starting south of the  
curves towards highway 663 with a speed limit change  
back to 80 km per hour prior to the railway tracks to the  
Highway 663 intersection.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.11 Animal Health Policy ENV-63-015

Ms. Molly Fyten, Manager of Environmental Services and Jacob Marfo, Agricultural Fieldman presented the Animal Health Policy ENV-63-015 and responded to questions.

23.092            MOVED  
That Council approves the Animal Health policy, ENV-63-015 as presented, and as approved and recommended by ASB.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.12 Soil Conservation Policy ENV-63-016

Ms. Fyten and Mr. Marfo presented the Soil Conservation Policy ENV-63-016 and responded to questions.

23.093            MOVED  
That Council approves the Soil Conservation policy, ENV-63-016 as presented, as approved and recommended by ASB.

In Favour (8): Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Paré, Councillor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson  
Opposed (1): Mayor Reutov

**CARRIED**

**DELEGATION**

6.3      2:00 p.m. Delegation Presentation on Bold Center Branding - Incite Strategy

Mr. Darren Tonn and Jesse Meyer with Incite Strategy presented the Bold Centre Branding and responded to questions.

Mayor Reutov exited Chambers at 2:08 p.m. and Deputy Mayor Paré assumed the role of the Chair.

Mayor Reutov returned to Chambers at 2:10 p.m. and resumed the role of the Chair.

23.094            MOVED  
That Lac La Biche County Council select logo option #4 for re-branding the Bold Center.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Paré, Councillor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson  
Opposed (1): Councillor Mondal

**CARRIED**

23.095            MOVED  
To thank Incite Strategy for the presentation.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

7.13    Amending Schedule of Fees Bylaw 23-002 (Utility Rates) - Third Reading

Mr. Zeeshan Hasan, Associate CAO Finance and Planning, presented the Amending Schedule of Fees Bylaw 23-002 (Utility Rates) - Third Reading and responded to questions.

23.096            MOVED  
That Council approves amending Bylaw 23-002 Schedule A, Water Consumption and Sewer Usage effective date as follows: “NOTE: 2023 Rates for Water Consumption and Sewer Usage take effect February 1, 2023.” To “NOTE: 2023 Rates for Water Consumption and Sewer Usage take effect March 1, 2023.”

In Favour (7): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Deputy Mayor Paré, Councillor Stedman, and Councillor Johnson  
Opposed (2): Councillor Beniuk, and Councillor Tkachuk

**CARRIED**



23.097            MOVED  
That Council gives third reading to Bylaw 23-002, as amended, on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

In Favour (7): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Deputy Mayor Paré, Councillor Stedman, and Councillor Johnson

Opposed (2): Councillor Beniuk, and Councillor Tkachuk

**CARRIED**

#### 7.14 Request for Letters of Support

Ms. Melanie McConnell, Associate CAO, Corporate Services, presented the Request for Letters of Support and responded to questions.

23.098            MOVED  
To direct Administration to prepare letters of support, following consultation with the Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement Administrator, respecting the request for a new school, and paving of Highway 855.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

23.099            MOVED  
To endorse the letter of support request from the Town of St. Paul for their application to the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Councillor Johnson exited Chambers at 2:53 p.m.

#### 7.15 Funding Request - Northeast Mayors, Reeves and Indigenous Leaders Caucus

Ms. McConnell presented the Funding Request - Northeast Mayors, Reeves and Indigenous Leaders Caucus and responded to questions.

Councillor Johnson returned to Chambers at 2:54 p.m.

Councillor Johnson exited Chambers at 2:58 p.m. and returned at 3:00 p.m.

23.100            MOVED  
That Council endorse the 2023 Northeast Mayors, Reeves and Indigenous Leaders funding formula request, with a maximum contribution of \$2,000 from Lac La Biche County.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

7.16    Industry Meetings - Council Attendance (Discussion)

Mr. Dan Small, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the Industry Meetings - Council Attendance discussion and responded to questions.

The discussion was continued after the recess.

**RECESS**            Mayor Reutov called a recess at 3:10 p.m.

**RECONVENE**      Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 3:20 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

7.16    Industry Meetings - Council Attendance (Discussion) continued.

23.101            MOVED  
To appoint Councillor Moore with Councillor Johnson as the alternate to attend Industry Meetings for a term to end at the Organizational Meeting of Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

23.102            MOVED  
To direct Administration to destroy the secret ballots.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CLOSED SESSION**

23.103            MOVED  
To go into Closed Session at 3:30 p.m. to discuss the closed session agenda items pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 8.4 Economic Development Update (s.25 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body; s.16 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)

Members of Administration present for the purposes of presenting and recording: Dan Small, Darrell Lessmeister, Ron Fraser, Alanna Wowk, Melanie McConnell, Diane Cloutier, Zeeshan Hasan, Heather Stromquist, Bill Kostiw and Heather Reid.

Councillor Johnson exited Chambers at 4:49 p.m. and returned at 4:51 p.m.

- 8.2 Highway 881 Bypass Update (Discussion) (s.17 FOIP - Disclosure harmful to personal privacy; s.24 FOIP - Advice from officials)

Members of Administration present for the purposes of presenting and recording: Dan Small, Darrell Lessmeister, Ron Fraser, Alanna Wowk, Melanie McConnell, Diane Cloutier, Zeeshan Hasan, and Heather Reid.

Councillor Beniuk exited Chambers at 4:52 p.m. and returned at 4:53 p.m.

Councillor Moore exited Chambers at 4:56 p.m. and returned at 4:59 p.m.

Councillor Moore departed the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Councillor Stedman departed the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Mayor Reutov declared a pecuniary interest related to business interests and exited Chambers at 5:16 p.m. before the discussion on Item 8.3 Development Approval Process - Service Station on Highway 55. Deputy Mayor Paré assumed the role of Chair.

- 8.5 Tourism Ambassador Update (s.25 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body; s.16 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)

Members of Administration present for the purposes of presenting and recording: Dan Small, Darrell Lessmeister, Ron Fraser, Alanna Wowk, Melanie McConnell, Zeeshan Hasan, Heather Stromquist, and Heather Reid.

Deputy Mayor Paré exited Chambers at 5:08 p.m. and returned at 5:09 p.m.

- 8.3 Development Approval Process - Service Station on Highway 55 (s.27 FOIP - Privileged Information)

Members of Administration present for the purposes of presenting and recording: Dan Small, Darrell Lessmeister, Ron Fraser, Alanna Wowk, Melanie McConnell, Diane Cloutier, Zeeshan Hasan, and Heather Reid.

Mayor Reutov returned to Chambers at 5:41 p.m. at the conclusion of the discussion and resumed the role of Chair.

**BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

23.104            MOVED  
                         To return to Open Session at 5:42 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

8.1      Temporary Homeless Camp Site and Transitional Housing Project Site Locations (s.24 FOIP – Advice from officials; s.25 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body)

No further action required.

Mayor Reutov declared a pecuniary interested related to business interests and exited Chambers at 5:43 p.m. before the discussion and vote on Item 8.3 Development Approval Process - Service Station on Highway 55. Deputy Mayor Paré assumed the role of Chair.

8.3      Development Approval Process -Service Station on Highway 55 (s.27 FOIP - Privileged Information)

23.105            MOVED  
                         That Council accepts the contents of this report as information and further to direct Administration to work with Alberta Transportation & Economic Corridors to further clarify the expectations of Lac La Biche County.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mayor Reutov returned to Chambers at 5:44 p.m. at the conclusion of the discussion and resumed the role of Chair.

8.2      Highway 881 Bypass Update(Discussion) (s.17 FOIP - Disclosure harmful to personal privacy; s.24 FOIP -Advice from officials)

23.106            MOVED  
                         To direct Administration to bring back additional information on the Highway 881 Bypass Update to a future Council Meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

8.4 Economic Development Update (s.25FOIP – Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body;s.16 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)

23.107 MOVED  
To direct Administration to negotiate the purchase of land identified in closed session for economic development, subject to legal advice and conditions.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

8.5 Tourism Ambassador Update (s.25FOIP – Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body; s.16 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)

23.108 MOVED  
That Council directs Administration to provide \$20,000 to Lisa Roper Outdoors, dependent upon successful further negotiations as discussed in closed session.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADJOURNMENT**

23.109 MOVED  
To adjourn the February 7, 2023 Regular Council Meeting at 5:48 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Paul Reutov, Mayor

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Dan Small, Chief Administrative Officer