

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

December 10, 2024-10:00 a.m.

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Regular Council Meeting held December 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

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

PRESENT	Paul Reutov	Mayor
	John Mondal	Councillor
	Charlyn Moore	Councillor
	Sterling Johnson	Councillor (<i>Participated electronically</i>)
	Darlene Beniuk	Councillor
	Kevin Paré	Councillor
	Colette Borgun	Councillor (<i>Participated electronically and Departed at 12:26 p.m.</i>)

REGRETS

Lorin Tkachuk	Councillor
Jason Stedman	Councillor/Deputy Mayor

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Manny Deol	Chief Administrative Officer
Ali Memon	Interim GM, Infrastructure
Hafsah Moghrabi	Interim GM, Corporate Services
Kashif Ijaz	Interim GM, Strategy & Community Growth
John Kokotilo	Interim GM, Protective Services
Mackenzie Zilinski	Senior Executive Assistant
Heather Reid	Lead Legislative Officer
Danielle Patenaude	Legislative Officer

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

24.573

MOVED

To adopt the December 10, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as amended:

Addition of items:

8.7 Municipal Expenditure related to the Federal Carbon Tax

8.8 Request for Comprehensive Report on the Financial and Operational Status of the CAO office

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

24.574

MOVED

That the recommendations contained in the following reports be approved:

- Item 4.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes-December 3, 2024
- Item 8.5-Council Expense Claims-October 2024

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Councillor Reports

Each Councillor in attendance provided their Councillor Report as information.

8.2 Lac La Biche Mission Historical Society-Funding Agreement 2025-2027

Mr. Carl Kurppa, Grants and Community Funding Coordinator presented the Lac La Biche Mission Historical Society-Funding Agreement 2025-2027 item and responded to questions.

24.575

MOVED

That Council enter into a 3-year funding agreement with the Lac La Biche Mission Historical Society for \$150,000 a year for 3 years (2025-2027, inclusive).

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.576

MOVED

To direct Administration to collaborate with the Lac La Biche Mission Historical Society in relation to federal and provincial grant funding opportunities.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3 Expression of Interest-Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Teams

Mr. John Kokotilo, Interim General Manager, Protective Services presented the Expression of Interest-Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Teams item and responded to questions.

Councillor Pare exited Council Chambers at 10:45 a.m.

24.577

MOVED

That Lac La Biche County Council endorses Protective Services application for the Alberta WUI- Wildland Urban Interface Team.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.4 Capital Financial Projects Reports as of November 30, 2024

Ms. Hafsah Moghrabi, Interim General Manager, Corporate Services presented the Capital Financial Projects Reports as of November 30, 2024 item and responded to questions.

Councillor Pare returned to Council Chambers at 10:51 a.m.

The Capital Financial Projects Reports as of November 30, 2024 item was received as information.

8.5 November 26, 2024 Strategic Committee of Council Meeting Follow-Up

Ms. Heather Reid, Lead, Legislative Officer presented the November 26, 2024 Strategic Committee of Council Meeting Follow-Up item and responded to questions.

24.578 MOVED
That Bylaw 24-033 be given first reading this 10th Day of December, 2024.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.579 MOVED
That Bylaw 24-033 be given second reading this 10th Day of December, 2024.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.580 MOVED
That Bylaw 24-033 be submitted for third and final reading this 10th Day of December, 2024.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.581 MOVED
That Bylaw 24-033 be given third and final reading this 10th Day of December, 2024.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.7 Municipal Expenditure related to the Federal Carbon Tax- *Addition to the Agenda*

Councillor Moore presented this Addition to the Agenda and responded to questions.

8.8 Request for Comprehensive Report on the Financial and Operational Status of the CAO office-*Addition to the Agenda*

24.582 MOVED

That administration be directed to prepare and present a report to Council detailing the total municipal expenditures incurred as a result of the federal carbon tax for the current fiscal year and an approximation of expenditures as a result of the upcoming carbon tax increase.

Further, that the report include the following details:

1. A breakdown of carbon tax costs associated with municipal operations such as, transportation, heating/ utilities where invoices have a carbon tax line item
2. The projected impact of the carbon tax on future municipal budgets

This report is to be presented to Council at the January 28, 2025 meeting so as it can assist Council in understanding the financial outlook for 2025 as well as be shared with organizations such as Alberta Municipalities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and any level of government looking for information on the impact to municipalities.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.583 MOVED

Whereas clarity and transparency are essential for the effective governance and accountability of municipal operations;

Be it resolved that Council directs Administration to prepare a comprehensive report outlining the following:

1. Status Update:
 - A detailed summary of completed tasks on the FAL.
 - A list of motions related to the FAL that remain open, including timelines and required actions for resolution.
2. Financial Overview:

- A breakdown of the total costs associated with the 14 staff releases
 - An itemized account of contractor expenses, including the total spent, an evaluation of the return on investment (ROI), and the impact on municipal operations.
3. Service Level Assessment:
- Identification of service level reductions, including but not limited to:
 - An evaluation of proposed or anticipated changes to service levels, including discussions on staffing strategies
4. Future Plans:
- A clear outline of the CAO's plans moving forward related to county operations, service level changes, including any proposed strategies, restructuring, or changes requiring Council's approval.

Be it further resolved that this report be presented to Council at the January 28, 2025 meeting, with opportunities for Council to provide feedback and guidance prior to the implementation of any significant changes

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.584

MOVED

Whereas Section 205.1 of the Municipal Government Act requires that council conduct a written performance evaluation of the Chief Administrative Officer annually;

Be it resolved that Council establishes a process of evaluation to ensure the CAO's performance aligns with council's strategic priorities and the overall administrative efficiency of the municipality.

1. The evaluations shall be based on clear performance metrics, to be determined by a committee of Council of the whole.
2. Council shall engage in a facilitated review session to ensure impartiality and thoroughness.

3. A final written report, including any recommendations, shall be presented to the CAO by no later than March 31, 2025

Be it further resolved that this process reviewed and updated annually to maintain alignment with legislative requirements and council's priorities.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLOSED SESSION

24.585

MOVED

To go into Closed Session at 11:26 a.m. pursuant to the *Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*.

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following Members of Administration were present for Closed Session for presentation and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Gary Harman, Hafsah Moghrabi, Mackenzie Zilinski, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Heather Stromquist, Kashif Ijaz, Ali Memon, John Kokotilo, Alanna Wowk (electronically) and Jeffrey Carlson-Hansen.

The following public members were in attendance: Nancy Broadbent, Marcel Ulliac, and Kal Polturak.

9.1 11:15 a.m. Delegation-EllisDon Capital-Jeffrey Carlson-Hansen (s.25-Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body-FOIP)

Mayor Reutov exited Council Chambers at 11:50 a.m. and returned at 11:53 a.m.

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

7.2 12:00 p.m. Public Input Session

Administration checked the lobby and confirmed there was no one present for the Public Input Session, additionally, there were no pre-registered speakers.

RECESS

Mayor Reutov called a recess 12:26 p.m.

Councillor Borgun exited the meeting at the time recess was called.

RECONVENE

Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 1:15 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance, with the exception of Councillor Borgun.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

24.586

MOVED

To return to Open Session at 1:15 p.m.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

1:15 p.m.-Delegation-Donna Gladu

Ms. Donna Gladu presented to Council about the following matters:

- Elinor Lake Resort Water Treatment Plan/Dispensary Services and accessibility of this to others, particularly the Elinor Lake Subdivision.
- A request, on behalf of Mr. Gladu, that the County reinstate land (including waiving land taxes and paying provincial application fees).

CLOSED SESSION

24.587

MOVED

To go into Closed Session at 1:39 p.m. pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 9.2 Crown Leases in Tax Arrears Update (s.24-Advice from officials-FOIP and s.21-Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for Closed Session for presentation and recording purposes for 9.2 and 9.4: Manny Deol, Gary Harman, Hafsah Moghrabi, Mackenzie Zilinski, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Heather Stromquist, Kashif Ijaz, Ali Memon and Sandra Charles.

- 9.4 2024 PERC DIRC Tax Receivable Write Off (s.16-Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party-FOIP and s.17-Disclosure harmful to personal privacy-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for Closed Session for presentation and recording purposes for 9.3: Manny Deol, Gary Harman, Hafsah Moghrabi, Mackenzie Zilinski, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Heather Stromquist, Kashif Ijaz, and Alanna Wowk (electronically).

- 9.3 Lot 3 Development Lands and Options (s.24-Advice from officials-FOIP, s.25-Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body-FOIP)

- 9.5 Intergovernmental Matter (s.24-Advice from officials and s.21-Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present for Closed Session for presentation and recording purposes for 9.5: Manny Deol, Gary Harman, Hafsah Moghrabi, Mackenzie Zilinski, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Kashif Ijaz, Alanna Wowk (electronically) and Chenee Miller.

Members of Administration were present for Closed Session for presentation and recording purposes for 9.6: and 9.7: Manny Deol, Gary Harman, Hafsah Moghrabi, Mackenzie Zilinski, Heather Reid, Danielle Patenaude, Ali Memon and Kashif Ijaz.

- 9.6 Committee Appointments (s.17-Disclosure harmful to personal privacy-FOIP)

- 9.7 CAO Update (s.24-Advice from officials-FOIP)The following

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

- 24.588 MOVED
To return to Open Session at 3:55 p.m.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

9.1 11:15 a.m. Delegation-EllisDon Capital-Jeffrey Carlson-Hansen (s.25-Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body-FOIP)

24.589 **MOVED**
To direct Administration to present a comprehensive report respecting the initiative discussed in Closed Session.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 Crown Leases in Tax Arrears Update (s.24-Advice from officials-FOIP and s.21-Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations-FOIP)

24.590 **MOVED**
That Council approves Administration's request to write a letter to the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas concerning Crown leases as written in the report.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 Lot 3 Development Lands and Options (s.24-Advice from officials-FOIP, s.25-Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body-FOIP)

24.591 **MOVED**
To direct Administration to proceed with discussions with the interested party, as discussed in Closed Session.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 2024 PERC DIRC Tax Receivable Write Off (s.16-Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party-FOIP and s.17-Disclosure harmful to personal privacy-FOIP)

24.592 MOVED

That Council approves Administration to write off the uncollectable tax receivables from Non-Operations Oil and Gas Companies for PERC and DIRC programs as listed below in the amount of \$112,192.96 as of November 27, 2024.

Account	Balance	Account	Balance	Account	Balance
641XXX3002	755.96	964XXX7301	226.44	965XXX5201	470.70
641XXX4002	173.60	964XXX8101	452.95	965XXX8401	470.70
641XXX1003	372.54	964XXX9101	219.99	965XXX1101	234.59
641XXX3003	663.60	964XXX2101	172.32	965XXX1201	732.46
641XXX1003	1,436.68	964XXX0201	2,141.20	965XXX2201	797.93
651XXX4002	84.26	964XXX9101	84.26	965XXX6301	542.63
651XXX3002	384.25	964XXX3301	226.44	965XXX4401	93.77
651XXX4002	634.76	964XXX5301	94.55	965XXX5301	91.24
651XXX4003	1,478.98	964XXX7101	963.06	973XXX3103	3,821.64
721XXX4001	84.26	964XXX3101	2,595.40	976XXX1201	11,706.73
761XXX4001	45.41	964XXX8401	29,388.57	977XXX9301	105.21
761XXX1001	260.35	964XXX2102	226.44	977XXX9101	467.89
771XXX2001	84.26	964XXX5101	1,801.38	978XXX4301	3,786.84
771XXX3001	84.26	964XXX1101	2,267.80	978XXX1401	933.77
781XXX2001	84.26	964XXX1102	2,464.08	978XXX8201	3,025.91
781XXX3001	84.26	964XXX6201	286.93	978XXX3101	323.78
781XXX1001	84.26	964XXX7401	114.88	979XXX3301	23,648.39
781XXX4002	168.44	964XXX3301	331.91	979XXX9301	1,416.64
791XXX2001	44.69	964XXX5101	163.67	979XXX6401	304.99
791XXX3001	84.26	964XXX1201	102.42	979XXX6402	84.26
801XXX3001	84.26	964XXX2301	105.46	979XXX4101	247.80
801XXX1001	174.27	964XXX3101	123.26	979XXX9201	1,267.46
801XXX2001	84.26	964XXX3401	110.05	979XXX6101	1,401.94
963XXX6101	84.26	964XXX5101	2,076.59	980XXX7101	101.14
964XXX1301	425.47	964XXX7301	92.02	980XXX3307	819.13
964XXX2301	425.47	964XXX8301	92.02		
				Total	\$112,192.96

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.593 MOVED
That Council accepts as information the Operational Oil & Gas Companies additions to the PERC & DIRC application, which does not require Council to cancel the delinquent taxes on these properties prior to applying

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 Intergovernmental Matter (s.24-Advice from officials and s.21-Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations-FOIP)

24.594 MOVED
To approve \$150,000, with funding to come from 2024 Accumulated Surplus to host a Traditional Pow Wow, in collaboration and as recommended by the Indigenous Collaboration Committee.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 Committee Appointments (s.17-Disclosure harmful to personal privacy-FOIP)

24.595 MOVED
To appoint Travis Ailsby to the Agricultural Service Board for a three-year term effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.596 MOVED
To appoint Sandra Makokis and Tim Polzin to the Municipal Planning Commission for a three-year term effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.597 **MOVED**
To appoint Brenda Skayman to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board for a three-year term effective December 5, 2024 to December 5, 2027.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 CAO Update (s.24-Advice from officials-FOIP)

24.598 **MOVED**
That Council direct Administration to move forward with Option A as listed within the Closed Session Report.

In Favour (6): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Reutov adjourned the December 10, 2024 Regular Council Meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Paul Reutov, Mayor

Manny Deol, Chief Administrative Officer