

MINUTES
OF THE
PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, March 11th, 2024 AT 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor C. Moore Deputy Mayor C. Papworth Councillor T. Feist
Councillor H. de Kok Councillor C. Neels

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer – K. Davis
Director of Corporate Services – M. Overbeeke
Director of Operations – A. Benson
Administrative Assistant – C. Johnson

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

074 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok that the agenda be approved as amended:
ADD: 12.1 – CLOSED SESSION - Staffing
CARRIED

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council Meeting – February 26th, 2024

075 2403 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth that the Regular Council Meeting
minutes of February 26th, 2024 be approved as presented.
CARRIED

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING – None for this meeting

5.0 DELEGATION

5.1 MP - Rachael Thomas

Rachael Thomas discussed with Council issues the Town was facing that she could possibly advocate for. The first issue discussed was the required Wastewater treatment upgrades. There has been no federal funding provided for the over \$10 million upgrade. It is a lot of money to put onto a small number of taxpayers and a huge debt load for a small municipality. The second issue discussed, even though it is a Provincial issue, was funding for the Piyami Lodge rebuild. It was brought up with MP Thomas so that she was aware of the issue because the Town and Green Acres have not had success receiving Provincial funding for the project. MP Thomas stated that she may be able to speak someone that has influence in those areas. MP Thomas asked about the new after-hours clinic that is opening this year and the new Doctor in Picture Butte. She has been working in Ottawa on introducing a new system that will quickly assess and acknowledge credentials from out-of-country in about 8 weeks to get Doctors and other professions into the workforce. Council also discussed the rising RCMP costs and how they have gone up over 30%. Council expressed concern that it is difficult to keep taxes low when taxpayers are expected to cover these rising costs. Also the service that we receive does not match what we are paying for. MP Thomas asked if the Town was still looking at developing industrial land. The Town would like to see industrial lots developed, however, with the debt load required for the Wastewater upgrades, the Town has constraints for funding the development. The Canada Summer Jobs Grant was discussed and Council informed MP Thomas that the Town was unsuccessful in their application last year.

MP Thomas left the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 2024-2026 Operating Budget and 2024-2028 Capital Budget

076 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok to approve the 2024-2026 Operating and 2024-2028 Capital Budget as presented.

CARRIED

6.2 2023 Operating Surplus Funding Allocation

077 2403 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth to use the 2023 Operational surplus in its entirety to pay off the remaining amount of the pool loan.

CARRIED

6.3 2023 4th Quarter Variance Report

078 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok to approve the 4th Quarter 2023 Preliminary Operating and Capital Budget Variance reports as presented.

CARRIED

6.4 Drafted Lifeguard Recruitment and Retention Incentive Policy

079 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to approve the Lifeguard Recruitment and Retention Incentive Policy as presented.

CARRIED

6.5 Bylaw No. 946-24 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Bylaw

080 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok to approve the first reading of Bylaw No. 946-24 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Bylaw.

CARRIED

081 2403 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth to approve the second reading of Bylaw No. 946-24 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Bylaw.

CARRIED

082 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Neels for permission to conduct third and final reading of Bylaw No. 946-24 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Bylaw.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

083 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to approve third and final reading of Bylaw No. 946-24 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Bylaw.

CARRIED

7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

7.1 Mayor's Report

February 29 Attended a Community Futures meeting
March 1 Attended a Mayors and Reeves meeting
March 5 Attended a Doctor Retention meeting
March 11 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

084 2403 11 MOVED by Mayor Moore that the Mayor's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT

8.1 Council's Report

Councillor Feist advised Council of her recent activities:

March 5 Attended a Doctor Retention meeting
March 6 Attended a Family and Community Support Services meeting
March 11 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

Councillor de Kok advised Council of his recent activities:

March 11 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

Deputy Mayor Papworth advised Council of her recent activities:

March 5 Attended a Doctor Retention meeting

March 11 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

Councillor Neels advised Council of her recent activities:

March 5 Attended a Chinook Arch Board meeting

March 11 Attended a Municipal Planning Commission meeting

085 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok that the Council Reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

9.1 CAO Report

086 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Neels to accept the CAO Report as presented.

CARRIED

9.1.1 Director of Operations Report

087 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to accept the Director of Operations Report as presented.

CARRIED

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Alberta Municipal Affairs – 2024 Ministers Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence

10.2 Alberta Municipal Affairs – Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks Input

10.3 Alberta Municipal Affairs – Budget 2024

088 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Neels to receive and file Correspondence 10.1 – 10.3.

CARRIED

10.4 Resident Communication – Brett Houweling – Umbrella Costs

10.5 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation – Grant Denial Notification

10.6 Alberta Municipal Affairs – Grant Approval Notification – Fire Services Training Program

089 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok to receive and file Correspondence 10.4 – 10.6.

CARRIED

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1 Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS Board Meeting Minutes – February, 2024

11.2 Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS Board Meeting Minutes – December, 2023

090 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok to receive and file Informational Items 11.1 – 11.2.

CARRIED

C. Johnson left the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 16 – Staffing

091 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor Neels to close the meeting to the public in accordance with Division 2 Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to discuss Staffing at 7:51 p.m.

CARRIED

092 2403 11 MOVED by Councillor de Kok to open the meeting to the public at 8:12 p.m.

CARRIED

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for March 25th, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

093 2403 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth that the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

CARRIED

Cathy Moore
Mayor

Keith Davis
Chief Administrative Officer