

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF TABER, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ON MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023, AT 3:43 PM, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SUBDIVISION AUTHORITY MEETING AT 3:30 PM.

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**Mayor**

Andrew Prokop

**Councillors**

Garth Bekkering  
Carly Firth  
Monica McLean  
Joanne Sorensen

**Absent**

Jack Brewin

**Chief Administrative Officer**

Derrin Thibault

**Staff**

Amy Allred  
Chris Eagan  
Brian Martin  
John Orwa  
Kerry Van Ham  
Donna Weiss

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Prokop called the Meeting to Order at 3:43 PM.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Prokop inquired if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – CONT'D**

RES. 231/2023                      MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council adopts the Agenda, as amended, striking Agenda Item 7.7, Whistleblower Policy, as per Administration's request to deal with further research.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**1) Minutes of Regular Meeting of Council: June 26, 2023**

RES. 232/2023                      MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council adopts the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on June 26, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2) Minutes of Special Meeting of Council: July 6, 2023**

RES. 233/2023                      MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council adopts the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on July 6, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

## **BYLAWS**

None.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1) Appointment of Deputy Mayor**

At the Organizational Meeting of Council held on October 25, 2021 Council adopted the schedule outlining the delegation of Deputy Mayor for eight-month terms to members of Council.

At the Regular Meeting of Council on June 26, 2023, Councillor Rudd gave his resignation from Council, effectively ending his term as Deputy Mayor, leaving a vacancy in the role.

RES. 234/2023                      MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council appoints Councillor Garth Bekkering as Deputy Mayor to serve a term beginning July 17, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **2) Provincial Appointment to the Taber Municipal Police Commission**

D. Thibault detailed the Ministerial Order that was received from the Honorable Michael G. Ellis, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services, for the Provincial Appointment of Joseph Strojwas to the Taber Municipal Police Commission.

Council discussed the Appointment.

RES. 235/2023                      MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council accepts the Provincial Appointment of Joseph Strojwas to the Taber Municipal Police Commission, as dated in the Ministerial Order, for a term of 3 years, beginning April 24, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D**

### **3) Recreation Sprayer Tractor Capital Request**

B. Martin, Recreation Manager, and C. Eagan, Director of Planning, Engineering and Operations, proposed the purchase of a used turf sprayer to assist with weed control.

B. Martin stated that currently the Town has a contractor for herbicide application twice a year, and the purchase of the applicator will allow Town staff to supplement in problem areas when it is needed.

Council requested clarification and discussed the potential for cost savings with supplementing a contracted service with a used sprayer for Town staff to utilize.

RES. 236/2023

MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council directs Administration to purchase a used recertified turf sprayer with airfoils, holding tank and hand sprayer, for up to \$25,000.00, with funds to come from Capital Reserves.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **4) Utility Reduction Request**

D. Weiss, Finance Manager, presented correspondence from a property owner for utility account #432500.003, who is requesting that their utility bill be reduced by an unspecified amount for the months of May and June, 2023.

D. Weiss stated that in the correspondence, the property owner addressed the cause of excess water consumption due to a leaking control valve for underground sprinklers that has since been repaired.

Council discussed the past practice in dealing with requests of this manner and the Town of Taber Utility Bylaw 20/2020 Section 5.1.

**ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D**

**4) Utility Reduction Request – Cont'd**

RES. 237/2023                      MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council does not approve a reduction to utility account #432500.003.

CARRIED

**5) Tax Penalty Waiver**

D. Weiss, Finance Manager, presented correspondence received from a property owner in the Town of Taber, who is requesting the tax penalty issued on July 1, 2023 be waived, as they had not received the tax assessment notice in the mail by the payment deadline date of June 30, 2023.

Council discussed the request.

RES. 238/2023                      MOVED by Councillor Bekkering that Council does not waive the July 1, 2023 tax penalty in the amount of \$277.89.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**6) Follow-up to Taber and District Housing Foundation Request for Financial Assistance**

D. Thibault presented the follow-up presentation to the Taber and District Housing Foundation's request for financial assistance for the Clearview Lodge Expansion and Modernization project.

D. Thibault stated that on July 5, 2023, there was a joint meeting held between the Town of Taber, Municipal District of Taber, Village of Barnwell, and the Town of Vauxhall to discuss the proposed project.

Council discussed the proposed scenarios for the funding of the Clearview Lodge Expansion and Modernization project.

**ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D**

**6) Follow-up to Taber and District Housing Foundation Request for Financial Assistance – Cont'd**

RES. 239/2023

MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council directs Administration to draft a borrowing bylaw on behalf of the Taber and District Housing Foundation for the Clearview Lodge Expansion and Modernization project up to a maximum of \$4.5 million, provided that Taber and District Housing Foundation obtains the requisite funding from the Alberta Government, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Municipal District of Taber, the Town of Vauxhall, and the Village of Barnwell, as outlined in both proposed options provided by the Taber and District Housing Foundation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**7) Whistleblower Policy**

This item was removed from the Agenda by RES.231/2023 at the start of the Meeting.

**8) Workplace Harassment Prevention Policy**

D. Thibault presented the Workplace Harassment Prevention Policy CS-HR-12 that is scheduled for its three-year renewal.

RES. 240/2023

MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council approves the Workplace Harassment Prevention Policy CS-HR-12, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D**

### **9) Workplace Violence Prevention Policy**

D. Thibault presented the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy CS-HR-11 that is scheduled for its three-year renewal.

RES. 241/2023                      MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council approves the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy CS-HR-11, as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **10) Response to Standing Item - RES 195/2023**

C. Eagan, Director of Planning, Engineering and Operations, stated that at the June 12, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council, the following resolution was added to the Standing Item listing:

*“RES.195/2023 MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council directs Administration to investigate an activated charcoal filter or other solution to remedy the odor and taste issues in our water and the cost associated with that solution.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY”**

C. Eagan presented the project statement that outlined the cost and feasibility of proceeding with the project.

Council inquired if Administration is aware of other municipalities that use the presented charcoal filter system, and Administration was not aware of any at this time.

RES. 242/2023                      MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council receives this RFD for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D**

### **11) Information For Council**

D. Thibault presented the quarterly Alberta Advantage Immigration Program update and the 2023 Capital Projects status graph.

No motion was made at this time.

### **12) Department Reports**

D. Thibault presented the Department Reports.

No motion was made at this time.

### **13) Mayor and Councillor Reports (Verbal)**

The Mayor and Council provided details of their monthly activities.

No motion was made at this time.

### **14) Standing Items - Council Requests**

D. Thibault reviewed the current listing.

No motions were made at this time.

RES. 243/2023

MOVED by Councillor Bekkering that Council takes a 30-minute meal break to reconvene into the Delegation Agenda Item at 5:00 PM.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 4:32 PM

Meeting reconvened at 5:01 PM.



## **DELEGATIONS**

### **1) Delegation - Re: Ken Macdonald Concession**

Councillor Sorensen arrived to the meeting at 5:02 PM

D. Thibault introduced B. Planger, a representative from the Taber Kinsmen Club, who presented the request from the Taber Kinsmen Club for additional funding to complete the Ken McDonald Memorial Sports Complex concession.

B. Planger outlined the requirements to complete the project and the additional funding that is being requested.

Council commended the Taber Kinsmen Club for taking on the project and thanked the volunteers for their time.

RES. 244/2023

MOVED by Councillor Sorensen that Council directs Administration to allocate an additional \$40,000.00, from Capital Reserves, for the completion of the Ken McDonald Memorial Sports Complex concession.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **MEDIA INQUIRIES**

None.

## MEDIA INQUIRIES – CONT'D

RES. 245/2023

MOVED by Councillor Bekkering that Council moves into Closed Session to prevent the disclosure of:

- Third-party business information, in accordance with Section 16(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; (a)(ii) to prevent the disclosure of commercial, financial, and technical information of a third party, (b) the information was supplied in confidence, and (c) disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm significantly the negotiating position of a third party;
- Advice, proposals, recommendations, analysis or policy options developed by a public body, in accordance with Section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; and
- Applicant personal information that is evaluative for the purpose of determining the applicant's suitability, in accordance with Section 19(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; and
- Criteria developed for the purpose of contractual negotiations on behalf of a public body, and considerations that relate to those negotiations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY at 5:12 PM

## CLOSED SESSION

- 1) Land Proposal  
Council takes the meeting into Closed Session to prevent disclosure of third-party business information, in accordance with Section 16(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; (a)(ii) to prevent the disclosure of commercial, financial, and technical information of a third party, (b) the information was supplied in confidence, and (c) disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm significantly the negotiating position of the third party.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of the public and Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.1) Land Proposal; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, C. Eagan, Director of Planning, Engineering and Operations, K. Van Ham, Administrative Services Manager, and from Pronghorn Developments Ltd., E. Ellingson.

- 2) Proposed Orban Holdings Ltd. Lease Renewal  
That Council takes the meeting in to Closed Session to prevent disclosure of information related to criteria developed for the purpose of contractual negotiations by a public body, in accordance with Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.2) Proposed Orban Holdings Ltd. Lease Renewal; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, and K. Van Ham, Administrative Services Manager.

**CLOSED SESSION – CONT'D**

- 3) Council Governance Update**  
**Closed Session to prevent disclosure of advice from officials that could reasonably be expected to reveal advice, proposals, recommendations, analysis or policy options developed by a public body, in accordance with Section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.**

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.3) Council Governance Update; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, and K. Van Ham, Administrative Services Manager.

- 4) Board Appointment: Taber Municipal Library Board**  
**Closed Session to prevent disclosure of applicant personal information that is evaluative for the purpose of determining the applicant's suitability, in accordance with Section 19(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.**

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.4) Board Appointment: Taber Municipal Library Board; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, and K. Van Ham, Administrative Services Manager.

- 5) Siaya Delegation Discussion**  
**Closed Session to prevent disclosure of advice from officials that could reasonably be expected to reveal advice, proposals, recommendations, analysis or policy options developed by a public body, in accordance with Section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.**

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.5) Siaya Delegation Discussion; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, J. Orwa, Director of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer, and K. Van Ham, Administrative Services Manager.

**CLOSED SESSION – CONT'D**

- 6) Land Sale Offer**  
Council takes the meeting into Closed Session to prevent disclosure of third-party business information, in accordance with Section 16(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; (a)(ii) to prevent the disclosure of commercial, financial, and technical information of a third party, (b) the information was supplied in confidence, and (c) disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm significantly the negotiating position of the third party.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.6) Land Sale Offer – 4 Acres; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, C. Eagan, Director of Planning, Engineering and Operations, and A. Allred, Economic Development Manager.

- 7) Land purchase and park development**  
Council takes the meeting into Closed Session to prevent disclosure of third party business information, in accordance with Section 16(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; (a)(ii) to prevent the disclosure of commercial, financial, and technical information of a third party, (b) the information was supplied in confidence, and (c) disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm significantly the negotiating position of the third party.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, there were the following members of Administration in attendance for Agenda Item 10.7) Land Purchase and Park Development; D. Thibault, Chief Administrative Officer, and C. Eagan, Director of Planning, Engineering and Operations.

**OPEN SESSION**

RES. 246/2023

MOVED by Councillor Bekkering that Council moves into Open Session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 6:42 PM

RES. 247/2023

MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council authorizes the lease renewal of the property located at the Community Centre, specifically a room immediately south of the large arena main entrance, located at 4700 50 Street, to Orban Holdings Ltd.; and,

Directs the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to sign the lease renewal documents.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RES. 248/2023

MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council appoints Deanna Petherbridge to the Taber Municipal Library Board for a term expiring December 31, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RES. 249/2023

MOVED by Councillor Firth that Council requests Administration to send an official invitation to the Governor of Siaya County, Kenya, and his team to visit Taber; and,

Council authorizes up to the amount of \$30,000.00, from Operating Reserves to go towards the anticipated cost of the Delegation attending from Siaya County, Kenya.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**OPEN SESSION – CONT'D**

RES. 250/2023

MOVED by Councillor Sorensen that Council directs Administration to accept the offer to purchase 4-acres, including the servicing costs to the lot for \$300,000.00, as presented; and,

Directs Administration to proceed with the subdivision and re-zoning of a 4-acre lot at 6997 50 Street; and,

That Council directs Administration to proceed with servicing the remaining 8-acre lot, as presented, with \$282,000.00 of the remaining servicing costs to come from Capital Reserves.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RES. 251/2023

MOVED by Councillor McLean that Council directs Administration to complete the purchase of the specified land, in the amount of \$37,834.50, with the funds to come from Capital Reserves, at the corner of 51<sup>st</sup> Street and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue from the Parallel Church and construct a park at the location; and,

Directs the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to sign the land sale documents.


CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

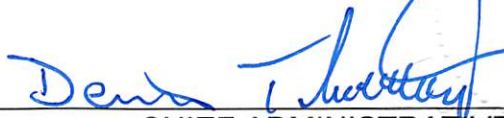
**CLOSE OF MEETING**

RES. 252/2023

MOVED by Councillor Firth that this Regular Meeting of Council is hereby Closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 6:46 PM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

173/2023

Meeting Date  
7/17/2023