

Below is a quick summary of Council discussions and decisions from the Regular Council meeting on December 9, 2024:

Bylaw 2024-45 Advertising Bylaw and Bylaw 2024-47 – Land Use Bylaw 01-23 Amendment (Advertising)

With the rise of non-traditional communication methods and an increasing workload in planning and development, Administration expressed the importance of flexibility in how notice periods are advertised. A public hearing was held, however, there are no changes to the advertising platforms used and the Town will continue with both traditional and electronic methods.

Council gave second & third reading to Bylaws 2024-45 Advertising Bylaw and 2024-47 Land Use Bylaw 01-23 Amendment as presented.

Delegation: Men's Shed / Art Space Presentation

Administration asked Council to repurpose the former operations shop at 4825 – 51 Street, for community use. The space will support seniors, arts, and intercultural activities, helping reduce social isolation and promote mental well-being, creativity, and culture. Further, this site will uplift and enhance the east Olds neighbourhood and the wider community.

Council approved the former operations shop building, located at 4825 – 51 Street to be repurposed for community activation as presented.

Development Permit: DP24-205 for 4614 47 Street Existing Accessory Building with Variance from Side Property Line

The subject parcel is located at 4614 47 Street and is zoned General Residential (R2). The applicant is seeking approval for an existing shed with a variance from the side property line.

Council approved Development Permit application DP24-205 as presented, subject to the conditions listed in the attached draft Development Permit.

Bylaw 2024-14 Rates Bylaw

Town Council aims to maintain high-quality public services at an affordable cost. The new rates bylaw limits utility rate increases to an average of 1.5% while supporting efforts to reduce water loss. It takes effect on January 1, 2025.

Starting in 2025, the rates bylaw is split into two parts: Rates Bylaw 2024-14 for legally required rates and Policy 233C for all other rates.

Council gave all three readings to Bylaw 2024-14 Rates Bylaw.

Bylaw 2024-46 Election Bylaw

In early 2023, Council passed a General Elections Bylaw. Following the recent changes to the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024, revisions were necessary to comply with updated legislation. The updated bylaw ensures a clear, transparent, and fair process for all participants in upcoming elections

Council gave all three readings to Election Bylaw 2024-46, as presented.

Operating and Capital Budget

Council concluded a robust budget deliberation process including:

- November 25 - 2025 Capital Budget
- November 28 - 2025 Operating Budget
- December 2 – Revised 2025 Capital and Operating Budgets

During the December 2 meeting Council reviewed both budgets in their entirety and provided Administration with the direction needed to bring forward final budgets for approval on December 9. The 2025 Operating Budget is a balanced budget at \$35,887,272 this is an increase of \$1,183,303 or 3.4% over 2024 (\$34,703,969).

Council approved the 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets as presented.

The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2025, at 1:00 pm. Visit www.olds.ca/councilmeetings for all meeting agendas and minutes.