

Minutes of the Town of Olds Regular Council meeting held electronically on Monday, November 09, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Town Municipal Office.

As of March 27, 2020 the *Meeting Procedures (COVID-19 Suppression) Regulation* was enacted to assist local municipal governments meet *Municipal Government Act* legislative requirements for holding Council meetings. The PUBLIC had the opportunity to watch the LIVE STREAM of the Council meeting. The PUBLIC also had opportunity to attend the council meeting in person.

**PRESENT – ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

In the Chair, Mayor Michael Muzychka  
Councillor Debbie Bennett, Councillor Wanda Blatz, Councillor Mary Jane Harper, Councillor Mary Anne Overwater, Councillor Heather Ryan and Councillor Mitch Thomson.

**ABSENT– ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

**PRESENT for the Regular meeting of Council – STAFF:**

Michael Merritt, Chief Administrative Officer; Doug Wagstaff, Director of Community Services; Sheena Linderman, Director of Finance; Scott Chant, Director of Operations; and Marcie McKinnon, Legislative Clerk.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Michael Muzychka called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**A.) ADDED ITEM(s)**

Mayor Muzychka requested a closed session at the end of the meeting under FOIP Section 16 Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party

Councillor Blatz requested a new item be added: 6E) Veterans' Week November 5-11

**B.) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Harper, "to accept the Council agenda for the Monday, November 9, 2020 Regular Council meeting, as amended."

Motion Carried 20-456

*Director Wagstaff left the meeting at 4:05 p.m.*

**2. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**2A) Special Closed Council Meeting Minutes, 10 AM October 26, 2020**

Moved by Councillor Ryan, "to accept the Special Closed Council Meeting Minutes (10 AM) for October 26, 2020, as presented."

Motion Carried 20-457

*Director Wagstaff returned to the meeting at 4:06 p.m.*

**Annual Council Organizational Meeting Minutes. 1 PM October 26, 2020**

Moved by Councillor Bennett, "to accept the annual Council Organizational Meeting Minutes held at 1:00 p.m. on October 26, 2020, as presented."

Motion Carried 20-458

**Regular Council Meeting Minutes, 2 PM October 26, 2020**

Moved by Councillor Overwater, "to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes (2 PM) for October 26, 2020, as amended." (Councillor Thomson requested it be noted he did not vote on item 6C, and Councillor Ryan requested "as Deputy Mayor" be struck from her comments under item 7A).)

Motion Carried 20-459

**Special Closed Council Meeting Minutes, 6 PM October 26, 2020**

Moved by Councillor Blatz, "to accept the Special Closed Council Meeting Minutes (6 PM) for October 26, 2020, as presented."

Motion Carried 20-460

**3. PRESENTATION AND DELEGATIONS**

**3) Olds & District Chamber of Commerce**

Murray Elliott and Claire Janitz with Olds & District Chamber of Commerce, were present in Chambers and Mr. Elliott came forward and spoke to Council on the Chambers' 25 years of membership with a PowerPoint Presentation. (The PPT will be held with the minutes.)

Moved by Councillor Overwater, "to accept the information from the Olds and District Chamber of Commerce delegation, as presented."

Council thanked the Chamber for their ongoing and continued hard work during COVID.

Council congratulated all the businesses on their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Council encourages all citizens to shop local and support these great local businesses.

Motion Carried 20-461

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Councillor Blatz asked for further clarity on item 6D) 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue Intersection from the October 26, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Director Chant indicated that the 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue traffic circle will have two off shutes, and that it is more economical to build it now for future use than add it later.

Moved by Councillor Blatz, "that administration prepares a press release in regard to capital projects pertaining to 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The press release will indicate design details in regard to the projects, the cost of the projects and the funding sources for the projects."

CAO Merritt spoke on the Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP), and the provincial government's new project grant funding opportunities that has allowed the Town to fulfill some of the proposed 10 year capital plan projects. Administration has been providing Council and the Public regular updates at the Council Policies and Priorities Meetings.

Motion Carried 20-462

**5. BYLAWS**

**5A) Bylaw 2020-17 – Rates Bylaw**

Moved by Councillor Blatz, "that first reading be given to Bylaw 2020-17 Rates Bylaw."

Discussion ensued on the Schedule "A" – second black bin costs, potentially reducing cost.

Director Chant indicated that the higher cost on a second black bin was set to encourage citizens to utilize the blue and green bins more efficiently.

Director Linderman indicated that the Town currently has around 100 second black bins in use.

Motion Carried 20-463



Moved by Councillor Blatz, "that administration bring back Rates Bylaw 2020-17 to the December P&P meeting, with information on second black bins."

Motion Carried 20-464

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6A) Council Policy 801C Nu2U Policy**

Moved by Councillor Bennett, "that Council approve policy 801C Grant Guidelines as presented."

Motion Carried 20-465

### **6B) Olds Fashioned Christmas – Fireworks**

Moved by Councillor Harper, "that the Town of Olds sponsor \$8000.00 toward a fireworks show for the community during 2020 Olds Fashioned Christmas celebrations and where it's coming from will be up to administration."

Council wanted it noted that this is an unusual year and not to expect this every year.

Motion Carried 20-466

### **6C) Citizen Committee on Council Remuneration – Recommendations**

CAO Merritt spoke on the six changes made by the Citizen Committee on Council Remuneration and are reflected in the Council policy 106C, as contained in the agenda package.

*Director Wagstaff left the meeting at 2:03 p.m.*

*Director Wagstaff rejoined the meeting at 2:06 p.m.*

Mayor Muzychka thanked the Citizen Committee for all their hard work.

Moved by Councillor Blatz, "that Council modify the recommendations from the Citizen Committee on Council Remuneration."

*Councillor Blatz requested it noted: In response to the Citizen Committee, that Council does bring forward any claim for per diem amounts in excess of individual Council Members budget allotment be approved/denied in an open regular council meeting.*

Council discussion ensued on Honoraria and Cost of Living.

### **Council accepted the following recommendations from the Committee:**

Paragraph 1.3 be corrected to state: "...events listed under 2.2." as this is a typographical error.

Paragraph 1.4 be changed to read as follows;

"The Mayor and Council Honoraria is tied to increases in the Alberta Consumer Price Index, shall be reviewed on a yearly basis, and shall not be greater than the Cost of Living Allowance awarded to staff."

That Paragraph 2.4 be added, and be as, "Any claim for per diem amounts in excess of individual Council Members budget allotment 'Professional Development Plan' be approved/denied in an open regular council meeting.

*Councillor Overwater requested it noted; that if there is something that an Elected Official doesn't have on their learning plan, it does come forward to Council for approval.*

Under the heading, "EXPENSE SUBMISSION AND REIMBURSEMENT" paragraph 7 be rewritten as: "To provide transparency to the taxpayers, elected officials must be accountable for the Expenses they incur. Quarterly remuneration ~~claims~~ payment for each member of council shall be separately posted to the town's website."

In the section titled "DEDUCTIONS AND BENEFITS, Benefits: the paragraph starting with, "Premiums are..." shall be changed to read as follows;  
"Premiums payment rate/ratio must match staffs, for:"

**Council rejected the following recommendation from the Committee:**

~~Paragraph 2.2 have the bullet: "Adequate preparation time for the above."~~ Added.

Council requested the following amendment to the Policy:

Under the heading, "REMUNERATION REVIEW" paragraph 2 be rewritten as: "Council **shall** attend interviews with the Citizens' Ad Hoc Committee for the review of the Town of Olds Council Remuneration and Benefits Policy 106C.

CAO Merritt indicated that these changes are for 2021, and that Administration will bring this policy back to Council in 2021 for approval.

Motion Carried 20-467

**CLOSED SESSION**

**FOIP Section 17 - Disclosure harmful to personal privacy**

Moved by Councillor Ryan, "that Council move to closed session in accordance with section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* to discuss matters exempt from disclosure under sections 17 at 2:27 p.m., with CAO Michael Merritt, Director Linderman and Legislative Clerk, Marcie McKinnon in attendance."

Motion Carried 20-468

Directors Chant and Wagstaff, and media representative left the Chamber gallery.

Moved by Councillor Harper, "that this meeting reconvene to the regular Council meeting."

Motion Carried 20-469

*Mayor Muzychka recessed the meeting at 2:38 p.m.*

*Mayor Muzychka reconvened the meeting at 2:50 p.m.*

**6D) Public at Large - Appointments**

**Olds Municipal Library Board (OML)**

Moved by Councillor Ryan, "that Lisa Szafron be appointed to the Olds Municipal Library Board (OML), for a term of two (2) years, to expire at the 2022 Organizational Meeting."

Motion Carried 20-470

Moved by Councillor Bennett, "that Council accept the Mountain View County Council appointment of Councillor Dwayne Fulton to the Olds Municipal Library Board (OML), and endorse the appointment to the OML for a term of one (1) year, to expire at the 2021 Organizational Meeting."

Motion Carried 20-471



#### **Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC)**

Moved by Councillor Blatz, "that Council's October 26, 2020, appointment of Rob Irwin to the Olds Policing Advisory Committee (OPAC) for a one year term, to expire at the 2021 Organizational Meeting be rescinded and that Rob Irwin be appointed to the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC), for a one year term, to expire at the 2021 Organizational Meeting."

Motion Carried 20-472

#### **Olds Policing Advisory Committee (OPAC)**

Moved by Councillor Thomson, "that Michael Keeling-Barrand be appointed to the Olds Policing Advisory Committee (OPAC) upon completion of a suitable criminal record and swearing of an Oath of Office, for a term of one year, to expire at the 2021 Organizational Meeting."

Motion Carried 20-473

Mayor Muzychka narrated a Town of Olds Press Release on COVID-19 at Olds Aquatic Centre. The Olds Aquatic Centre had a patron who participated in the Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> Leisure Swim since test positive for COVID-19, this patron accessed the Aquatic Centre between 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. that day.

AHS asks any patrons who attended the facility between 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. on November 6<sup>th</sup> to monitor for symptoms as detailed in the [AHS COVID-19 Self Assessment](#) and use Health Link 811 if needed.

AHS is investigating those individuals considered to be [close contacts](#). Any close contacts identified in this process will be contacted directly by the AHS team who is responsible for these next steps in the tracing protocol.

The Town of Olds remains committed to our COVID-19 safety protocols in place at our Recreation Facilities intended to limit the potential spread of COVID-19.

We appreciate the community's continued patience and understanding as we work through these challenging times.

*(The Town of Olds - Press Release will be held with the minutes.)*

#### **Added Item**

##### **6E) Veterans' Week – November 5-11, 2020**

Councillor Blatz spoke on the limitation on participation for Remembrance Day events and that it is important we recognize Veterans' Week in Canada this week from November 5-11, 2020, we honour those who have served Canada, past and present, in times of war, military conflict and peace with November 8 marking Indigenous Veterans Day.

Moved by Councillor Ryan, "that Council accept the information presented by Councillor Blatz on Veterans' Week and to thank all those past and present who protect our freedoms."

Motion Carried 20-474

#### **7. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

None

#### **8. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE**

None

#### **9. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**

##### **9A) Correspondence and Information**

Moved by Councillor Harper, "that the Correspondence and Information Report ending November 9, 2020 be received for information."

Motion Carried 20-475

Mayor Muzychka indicated final item on the agenda was closed session for OI/OFL update.

Councillor Thomson recused himself, declaring pecuniary interest as the Executive Director of Olds Institute and left the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

**Added Item – Closed Session**

**FOIP Section 16 Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party**

Moved by Councillor Bennett, "that Council move to closed session in accordance with section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* to discuss matters exempt from disclosure under sections 16 at 3:03 p.m., with CAO Michael Merritt, Director Linderman and Director Wagstaff in attendance."

Motion Carried 20-476

Directors Chant and Marcie McKinnon left the Chamber gallery.

Moved by Councillor Blatz, "that this meeting reconvene to the regular Council meeting."

Motion Carried 20-477

*Mayor Muzychka recessed the meeting at 3:36 p.m.*

*Mayor Muzychka reconvened the meeting at 3:45 p.m.*

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Ryan, "that this meeting be adjourned at 3:45 p.m."

Motion Carried 20-478



Michael Muzychka,  
Mayor



Michael Merritt,  
Chief Administrative Officer

These minutes were approved on the twenty-third day of November, 2020.



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***For Immediate Release***

## **Olds Aquatic Centre Patron Tests Positive for COVID-19**

**November 9, 2020, Olds, Alberta**

The Olds Aquatic Centre had a patron who participated in the Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> Leisure Swim since test positive for COVID-19, this patron accessed the Aquatic Centre between 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. that day.

AHS asks any patrons who attended the facility between 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. on November 6<sup>th</sup> to monitor for symptoms as detailed in the [AHS COVID-19 Self Assessment](#) and use Health Link 811 if needed.

AHS is investigating those individuals considered to be [close contacts](#). Any close contacts identified in this process will be contacted directly per AHS tracing protocols.

The Town of Olds remains committed to our COVID-19 safety protocols in place at our Recreation Facilities intended to limit the potential spread of COVID-19.

The Olds Aquatic Centre remains open with its scheduled programming.

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding as we work through these challenging times.

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**For more information:**

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