

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY December 13, 2023, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

5135 – 50<sup>TH</sup> STREET, VILNA AT 5:30 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Leroy Kunyk  
Councillor Paul Miranda  
Deputy Mayor Tammy Lynn Thompson  
Loni Leslie, Administration  
Earla Wagar, CAO

**ABSENT:**

**GALLERY** Mike & Susan Nay

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Kunyk called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

1. AGENDA:

1.	AGENDA		
		Additions/Changes	
2.	DELEGATION		
3.	MINUTES		
	a)	November 8, 2023	
4.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:		
5.	REPORTS:		
6.	BUSINESS:		
	a.	Alberta Recycling Management Authority – Extended Producer Responsibility	
	b.	NAAGO Membership	
	c.	ICC ad hoc Housing Committee	
	d.	Water Reservoir Design	
	e.	Vilna & District Municipal Library Budget	
	f.	Fraser Airframe Invoice	
	g.	2024 Operating Budget	
	h.	Christmas Office Closure	
7.	BYLAWS AND POLICIES		
8.	FINANCIAL		
	a)	Accounts paid November 1 – 30, 2023	\$50,061.97
		i. A/P Nov. 1 – . 30, 2023 (059-066)	\$11,658.30
		ii. EFT Nov. 1 – 30, 2023 (2023084-2023092)	\$19,218.36
		iii. EFT Payroll November 2023	\$19,185.31
9.	CORRESPONDENCE:		
	a.	News Release from Smoky Lake Foundation	
11.	ADJOURNMENT		

RES: 213-023 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the Agenda be accepted with the addition into correspondence of a News Release from the Smoky Lake Foundation.

CARRIED

2. DELEGATIONS: Mike Nay addressed Council with a series of questions;
- a. How many unlicensed vehicles are allowed on a property;
  - b. A concern about the number of quads being driven through the Village and identifying homes where vehicles are coming from.

3. MINUTES
- a) Regular Council Meeting November 8, 2023

RES: 214-023 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the minutes of the regular meeting of November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. REPORTS

a) Mayor Kunyk

November 14, 2023 – Vilna & District Municipal Library

- Staff attended Stronger Together Alberta Library Conference. Informative new ideas for higher standards.

- Changing their schedule from Tuesday, Thursday (4:30 – 7:30) & Saturday from noon to 4:00 to **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00**

**November 15, 2023 – Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee**

- Elections: Mayor Kunyk elected as Chair
- Discussion of regionalization of fire services, insurance rates, labour shortage.
- Move to consider hiring/contracting full time firefighters for 10 weeks of the year.

**November 16, 2023 – Evergreen Regional Waste Commission**

- Updates to Provincial recycling regulations. Shifting recycling from local governments to waste producers.
- Discussion of Commission evolving into a corporation to look after waste, take over hauling.

**November 16, 2023 – Vilna /Bellis Citizens On Patrol**

- Increase in RCMP staff and patrols leading to greater efficiencies, more arrests.
- Education programs for schools are still in planning stages.

**November 22, 2023 – Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society**

- Elections: New Chair – Daniel McMullen.
- Locks to be replaced on exterior doors. Evidence of unknown individuals, smoking, sleeping in basement and bedroom.
- Community BBQ to be moved to a rotated volunteer schedule, maybe not as often.
- Operating hours to be increased to every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with 2 volunteers each day.
- More promotions and better organizing, media presence going forward.

**November 23, 2023 – Vilna Solar Farm Open House**

- Attended Open House, solar farm to be built in County, near Vilna Transmission Station. Two years until completion.

**December 4, 2023 – Village Council & Associated Engineers re: Water Reservoir**

- Extension of population trend line to 25 years to match debenture schedule.
- Discovery that implementation of tennis court above the current reservoir contributed to its deterioration.

**December 6, 2023 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission**

- Organizational Meeting. No changes.
- Discussion of potential change in managing partner in future months.

**December 13, 2023 – Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee**

- Regionalization of Fire Services. Discussion of budgets and funding models and staffing models.
- Discussion of adding 2 full time members, contracting for 10 weeks each year.
- Discussion about using equalization vs TSI recommendations.

**b) Deputy Mayor Thompson****November 17, 2023 - Smoky Lake Foundation**

- I was elected as the Vice Chair of the Smoky Lake Foundation Board during the Organizational meeting.
  - **Bar V Nook**
    - Hard to get staff to get their vaccination.
    - Disinfecting high touch areas.
    - New flooring completed.
    - Christmas Party December 15, 2023. I replied back to the email to attend. Now I am not too sure with Covid and the flu on the rise in our area.
  - **Vilna**
    - A donation of iPads and head phones from Heart for Music from BC came in the residents love it.
    - I attended their Christmas Party on November 25, 2023. I arrived a bit late but better late than never. I missed the meal but I had dessert. I was the only board member that attended other than my alternate. I spoke a few words on behalf of the Smoky Lake Foundation Board.

**November 20,2023 - Muni-Corr**

- Looking to hire an individual to reach out to municipalities who are not on the board to provide information on the benefits of Travel Lakeland.
- The use of QR Codes along the trail.

**November 26, 2023**

- Vilna Light up was successful. Thank you to Earla, Loni and my husband for all their help.

**December 4, 2023 - Associated Engineering**

- We were all there.

**December 6,2023 - Highway 28/63 Water Commission**

- Organizational meeting- Mileage rate change to 0.68 one rate across the board.
- Regular Board Meeting- Budget passed
- Board to meet in Thorhild in the new year to do a short tour of the water commissions operation.

**December 11, 2023 - Muni-Corr**

- Land Review. Marianne will meet with each municipality to update Muni-Corr’s land with GIS for accurate info.
- Marvin’s Report- Locks are changed at Heinsburg.
- Marvin had a discussion with the Vice President of Off Vehicles of Alberta and will continue further discussions in January 2024.
- Mariannes Report
- Riverland Recreation Trail Society-Robert Pruneau will have a table on behalf of the Iron Horse Trail at the Vermillion Snowmobile Expo where he will have brochures and Activity Guides.
- The RTIC Committee will be dissolved and the committee will be incorporated into STEP
- Lisa Roper Outdoors donated a \$10,000 Ad package to the DMO a 30 second commercial will air on national television during 2 fishing shows. (Sportsman Channel and World Fishing Network). 3 primetime 30 second spots per week for 26 weeks.
- Muni-Corr- Marianne is still working on stage area design plans.
- Meeting set for early January with St. Paul to discuss Heinsburg property.
- Smoky Lake Foundation December 11, 2023
- Met with Homeland Housing at Bar V Nook for the signing of the Operational Contract with Homeland Housing. Managers were also called in to meet with Raymond Cormie from Homeland Housing.

**c. Councillor Miranda**

**November 14, 2023 – Vilna & District Agricultural Society**

- Year End report was presented
- Summary of Grant Applications
- Contracted new cleaning staff.

**December 4, 2023 – Associated Engineers – Reservoir Replacement**

- Progress on schedule.

**c. CAO Report**

<b>BALANCE Current Taxes December 31, 2023</b>		(93,105.89)
<b>ARREARS</b>		\$120,060.35
<b><u>TOTAL TAXES OWING</u></b>		\$213,166.24
<b><u>Interest &amp; Penalties</u></b>		
Less Village property (Tax Recovery)		(\$24,839.99)
		<b>\$188,326.25</b>

**ADMINISTRATION**

- We are slowly getting things caught up.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

- Public Works is very appreciative of the warmer weather. They are concerned that if we don’t get snow but the temperatures drop we could experience water line problems.

**CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PLAN**

- The new truck has arrived and we have added steps to be able to reach the top of the box, and put seat covers on the seats. The men have indicated that they will continue to use the garbage truck as long as it will hold out.

**WATER RESERVOIR**

- Council all attended the Virtual Meeting with Associated Engineers. We will be receiving the Detail Design prior to the meeting.

**RURAL IMMIGRATION PROGRAM**

- Upon review, Loni pointed out that the Rural Immigration Program will not work for Sandeep and he will have to use the Rural Entrepreneur program to get his Permanent Residency Card. Unfortunately Sandeep had already left for India before this was discovered. He will be applying for an extension when he returns. We will work with him then to help him.

**DISPOSAL OF RECORDS**

- Previously you had provided me with a resolution to dispose of documents. We had the shredding company arrive on Monday and shred all documents over 7 – 12 years old that are allowed to be destroyed.

**FRASER AIRFRAME**

- A letter from this company is an item on the agenda. He has forwarded an invoice that he submitted in 2022. His major concern is snow removal. Perhaps public works was misinformed as to the property lines. It seems they have not been clearing up to the property line, but stopping back of the property line by about 100 feet. This will be brought to their attention.

**2024 INTERIM BUDGET**

- The MGA requires that Council approve a draft budget for the upcoming year by December 31<sup>st</sup>. We have updated the 2023 budget with the ledger entries to November. There will be changes to the actual ledger entries after the audit is completed. The Budget will be presented a few more times prior to the final approval in May when the taxes will be levied.

**RES: 215-023** Moved by **Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the reports be accepted as information. **CARRIED**

**6. BUSINESS****a. Alberta Recycling Management Authority**

**RES: 216-023** Moved by **Mayor Kunyk** that the Village of Vilna requests that the Evergreen Regional Waste Commission, on behalf of the Village of Vilna, fill out and submit the registration for the Alberta Recycling Management Authorities “Extended Producer Responsibility” Recycling program that will require waste creating businesses to accept responsibility for the cost of collection and disposal of recyclable waste. **CARRIED**

**b. Northeast Alberta Alliance for Growth & Opportunity**

**RES: 217-023** Moved by **Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Village of Vilna recognizes the necessity of lobbying for projects that used to be considered essential services and were recognized by the senior governments without lobbying. Further, the Village of Vilna recognizes that the introduction of regional initiatives are created to enhance or maintain current levels of services, and that in order to be heard by the senior governments, regional initiatives create a louder voice than individual municipality’s and therefore the Village of Vilna agrees to join the Northeastern Alberta Alliance for Growth and Opportunity and pay the annual membership of \$250.00 for 2024 and review the initiative prior to 2025. **CARRIED**

**c. ICC ad hoc Housing Opportunities Committee**

**RES: 218-023** Moved by **Mayor Kunyk** that Deputy Mayor Thompson be appointed as representative and Councillor Miranda as the alternate representative for the Village of Vilna on the Intermunicipal Collaboration ad hoc Regional Housing Initiative Committee. **CARRIED**

**d. Water Reservoir Design**

**RES: 219-023 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Council of the Village of Vilna accept the detailed designs for the new treated water reservoir and pump station. **CARRIED**

**e. Vilna & District Municipal Library 2024 Budget**

**RES: 220-023 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the Council of the Village of Vilna approve the Vilna and District Municipal Library 2024 Operating Budget as presented. **CARRIED**

**f. Fraser Airframe Inc. Invoice**

**RES: 221-023 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that in consideration of Invoice #1 received on August 2, 2022 and again on December 4, 2023 from Fraser Airframe Inc, it be determined that without having received previous authorization for the work, the Village deny the request for payment. **CARRIED**

**g. 2024 Budget**

**RES: 222-023 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the Interim 2024 Operating Budget be adopted as presented indicating a potential increase of about 10% to Fire Protection. **CARRIED**

**h. 2023 Christmas Office Closure**

**RES: 223-023 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the Village office be closed for the Christmas period from Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 to Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 and that any payments for taxes or utilities that are due on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 will be accepted on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 without penalty. **CARRIED**

**7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES**

**8. FINANCIAL**

<b>a. Accounts paid November 1 – 30, 2023</b>	<b>\$50,016.97</b>
i. A/P Nov. 1 – Nov 30, 2023 (059-066)	\$11,658.30
ii. EFT Nov. 1 – Nov 30, 2023 (2023094-2023092)	\$19,218.36
iii. EFT Payroll November 2023	\$19,185.31

**RES: 224-023 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the accounts paid between November 1, 2023 and November 30, 2023 be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

**a) Smoky Lake Foundation News Release re: CAO and Management Services**

**RES: 225-023 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the News Release from the Smoky Lake Foundation be accepted for information. **CARRIED**

**10. MEETING SCHEDULE**

- a. December 6, 2023 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission – 10:00 a.m.
- b. December 11, 2023 – MuniCorr – 10:00 a.m.
- c. December 13, 2023 – Regional ICC, 10am
- d. December 13, 2023 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m.
- e. December 15, 2023 – Smoky Lake Foundation – 9:00 a.m.
- f. December 21, 2023 – Senior’s Center Pot Luck
- g. December 19, 2023 – School Christmas Concert
- h. December 21, 2023 – Evergreen, 10am
- i. December 21, 2023 – Vilna School Lunch
- j. January 4, 9, or 10 – Regional Fire and Rescue TSI Presentation
- k. January 10, 2024 – Yolo and Council 5:30
- l. January 15, 2024 – Muni-Corr, 10am (change due to Ukr. Christmas)
- m. January 16, 2024 – Regional Fire Ad Hoc Working Group
- n. January 16, 2024 – Regional Emergency Management, 1pm
- o. January 16, 2024 – RCMP – Smoky Lake Community Engagement, 6pm

- p. January 23, 2024 – NLLS General Board Meeting – Zoom 10am
- q. January 29, 2024 – Joint Municipalities, Waskatenau – 5pm

**RES: 226-023 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Meeting Schedule be approved as presented.  
**CARRIED**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**RES. 227-023 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the Regular Meeting of Council held on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be adjourned at 6:50 p.m.  
**CARRIED**

Leroy Kunyk

S E A L

Earla Wagar, CAO