

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY AUGUST 20, 2025 IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS
OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE
5135 – 50TH STREET, VILNA AT 5:30 PM

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

VIRTUALLY PRESENT:

ABSENT:

DELEGATIONS: None

GALLERY: Jennifer Trider

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Kunyk called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm

1. AGENDA:

<div><div>1. AGENDA</div><div>a. Additions/Changes</div><div>2. DELEGATION:</div><div>3. MINUTES</div><div>a. July 30, 2025</div><div>4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</div><div>5. REPORTS</div><div>a. Council</div><div>b. Administration</div><div>6. BUSINESS:</div><div>a. Regional Street Sweeper</div><div>b. Set Tax Sale Reserve Bids</div><div>c. 2024-2025 Municipal Accountability Program (MAP) Review Report</div><div>7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES</div><div>a. 608-25 Pet Ownership Bylaw</div><div>b. 610-25 Land Use Bylaw – Preliminary Review of Municipal Planning Services submission.</div><div>8. FINANCIAL</div><div>a. Accounts paid to August 18, 2025<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div>i. Computer Cheques (257-258)</div><div>ii. Online Banking (20250818-0001-0004)</div><div>iii. E-Transfers (818-001 – 818-003)</div><div>iv. Credit Cards -Transfers (715-001)</div><div>v. Auto Withdrawals (818-0001)</div><div>vi. CRA 20250818-0001</div><div>vii. July 2025 Payroll</div><div>9. CORRESPONDENCE:</div><div>a. ATCO Franchise Fee forecast</div><div>b. Letter and Q1 April to June 2025 RCMP Community Report, and Crime Stats</div><div>c. MLA request and response to infrastructure priorities</div><div>d. Canada Community Building Fund 2025-2026 Allocation – up \$664.00</div><div>e. DRAFT letter request to Minister for increase in Reservoir funding through the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership</div></div>	<div><div>\$48,904.88</div><div>\$ 7,505.30</div><div>\$12,353.73</div><div>\$ 740.30</div><div>\$ 246.00</div><div>\$ 297.51</div><div>\$ 6,950.84</div><div>\$20,811.20</div></div>
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RES: 103-025 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the Agenda for the August 22nd, 2025 meeting be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

2. DELEGATION – None

3. MINUTES

a. Regular Council Meeting July 30, 2025

RES: 104-025 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the minutes of the July 30th, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – None

5. REPORTS

a. Mayor Kunyk

i. July 30, 2025 – Friends of the Pool Hall Society

- Proposing renovations to front windows
- Renovated the Community Bulletin Board

ii. August 12, 2025 – Vilna Municipal Library

- Working on some kids programs for the summer
- Applying for a New Horizons Grant
- Developing a Seniors Computer Workshop through FCSS
- Working toward getting the library out of debt by 2027.

iii. Victim Services

- Looking for office space in Vilna for the Victim Services Coordinator

b. Deputy Mayor Thompson

i. August 20, 2025 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission

- Reviewed Bylaws to determine whether some items in bylaws would be better suited in policies.

ii. Kikino Rodeo – August 16th, 2025

- Met with Minister of Indigenous Affairs, Rajan Sawheny, reminded her that many indigenous people live in Vilna.

c. Councillor Miranda No meetings to report.

d. Administration Report to Council August 20, 2025

WATER RESERVOIR

- The cribbing and rebar work for the foundation base has been done.
- Admin, with AE's assistance is submitting a grant application with ABMunis for the solar panel portion of the building.
- Still awaiting final estimate of costs to enable us to sign a contract. Then we can apply for the remainder of approved funding monies and an increase due to cost. A draft letter is prepared to go to Minister Dreesen when we have that. The pricing was to be finalized on the 15th.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Tree trimming and cutting is underway/done and stump grinding is underway this week. Boulevards and municipal properties look spiffy. Public works worked extra hard to have the Village looking great for Fair weekend. The tractor shelter is up and tractor housed. County staff & equipment generously came in to help also.

PROPERTY TAXES

PROPERTY TAXES

BALANCE Current Taxes Aug 20, 2025	
2025 Tax O/S not incl. Monthly payments	\$ 42,860.17
2025 Monthly payments to December 2025	\$ 50,498.06
Current (2025) Taxes Owing	\$ 93,358.23
All Prior Years Taxes Owing <u>except Village</u> owned Incl. Int	\$ 93,570.35
Total Current & Previous years on all except Village owned	\$ 186,928.58
Property now owned by Village no longer assessing tax, from previous tax recovery years, but can be sold – Tax owing plus interest to date removed from the roll.	\$ 75,119.58
TOTAL TAXES OWING INCLUDING VILLAGE OWNED	\$ 262,048.16

FYI-2025 Tax Sale Taxes Owing \$ 92,626.51

ADMINISTRATION

- The fellow who made a presentation to Council a couple of years ago, about building an animal shelter aka "pound" has his licensing etc. underway with the County. He has his permit, now building for the venture and working his way through the process. Still some time away.
- We had a serious dog biting complaint. The RCMP have laid a complaint against the owner under the Dangerous Dog Act. This will be the second charge for this dog under the Dangerous Dog Act.
- The tax recovery auction sale notice for September 17, 2025 will be published in the September 3, 2025 Redwater Review and has been posted to the Village website.

- We need to get moving on with the new Land Use Bylaw to comply with provincial legislation.
- We have started the process of changing our website to Catalis. We look forward to a much easier site to navigate and work with – less time-consuming.
- CAO vacation; August 24 to September 9, 2025
- MLA van Dijken requested information about highest priorities we have for water/wastewater infrastructure. Sent – increase in funding for reservoir, water line replacements 49th Ave E and 51st Avenue W – where all breaks have been in the past 4 years.
- Attended an information session about the new privacy and access to information legislation. The provincial government will no longer support inquiries from those needing direction.
- Letters have been sent to homeowners – noxious weed (particularly burdock) issues. Most have begun work.
- All the events held on Boomtown weekend went very well, with high attendance, particularly the Rodeo and the Car Show.

RES: 105-025 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the reports be accepted as information.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS

a. Regional Street Sweeper

The Regional Street Sweeper that was purchased for \$165,000.00 with a grant in 2008 is finally wearing out. The administrators met to discuss the possibility of replacing it.

To re-purchase a sweeper, the costs would range from \$200,000.00 - \$350,000.00. The hourly rate would be nearly double the current rate of \$1,500.00 per cleaning. A second option of purchasing a sweeper attachment for the Gehl skid steer was put forward.

RES: 106-025 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the Village of Vilna begin to seek options to purchase an attachment for the Village's Gehl skid steer but continue to use the regional sweeper while it is still operable, and that when the time comes, strive to opt for the choice of a payout of the regional sweeper financial reserve based on a percentage, or based on hours used, and budget for the remainder in the next following capital budget.

CARRIED

b. Municipal Tax Recovery Sale – Reserve Bids

RES: 107-025 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that the Reserve Bids for the properties offered for sale at the Tax Recovery Auction scheduled for September 17th, 2025 be set at the Current Assessment Values and that the payment terms are as those posted in the Alberta Gazette advertisement published on July 31, 2025.

CARRIED

c. 2024-2025 Municipal Accountability Program Review Report

The Municipal Accountability Program consists of multi-year cycle reviews, ordered by the Minister under Section 571 of the MGA. While this program is available to all municipalities, upon the request of a council and with the approval of the Minister, municipalities with populations of 2,500 or less are automatically scheduled for a visit once every five years. Vilna was randomly selected for a municipal accountability review in 2024-2025. Working with the chief administrative officer (CAO), support is provided to mitigate any minor legislative gaps that may be identified. Ministry staff work with CAOs to validate compliance. The report identified gaps and recommendations where processes required better clarification, and develop corrective solutions where needed. The outcome of this program will be strong, well-managed, accountable municipalities and a strong collaborative relationship between the CAOs and the ministry.

RES: 108-025 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the Municipal Accountability Review Report be accepted as information.

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES

a. Bylaw #608-25 Pet Ownership Bylaw

RES: 109-025 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that first reading be given to Bylaw #608-25 known as the Pet Ownership and Control Bylaw.

CARRIED

RES: 110-025 Moved by Councillor Miranda that second reading be given to Bylaw #608-25 known as the Pet Ownership and Control Bylaw.

CARRIED

RES: 111-025 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that with full and unanimous consent, third reading be given to Bylaw #608-25 known as the Pet Ownership and Control Bylaw, and that with the final reading of this Bylaw, Bylaw #560-21 be repealed. **CARRIED**

b. Bylaw #610-25 Village of Vilna Land Use Bylaw

The current Village of Vilna Land Use Bylaw was initially passed in 1998 with numerous amendments made to it.

RES: 112-025 Moved by Mayor Kunyk first reading be given to Bylaw #610-25 known as the Village of Vilna Land Use Bylaw. **CARRIED**

Mayor Kunyk declared a recess at 7:40 p.m. resuming at 7:50 p.m.

8. FINANCIAL

a. Accounts paid to August 20, 2025 \$48,904.88

i. Computer Cheques (257-258)	\$ 7,505.30
ii. Online Banking (818-001 – 818-004)	\$ 12,353.73
iii. E-Transfers (807-001-818-003)	\$ 740.30
iv. Credit Cards -Transfers (818-001)	\$ 246.00
v. Auto Withdrawals (818-001)	\$ 297.51
vi. CRA 20250818-0001	\$ 6,950.84
vii. July 2025 Payroll	\$ 20,811.20

RES: 113-025 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the accounts paid for July 31 – August 20, 2025, totaling \$48,904.88 be approved. **CARRIED**

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. ATCO Franchise Fee forecast
- b. Letter and Q1 April to June 2025 RCMP Community Report, and Crime Stats
- c. MLA request and response to infrastructure priorities
- d. Canada Community Building Fund 2025-2026 Allocation – up \$664.00
- e. DRAFT letter request to Minister for increase in Reservoir funding through the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership

RES: 114-025 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the correspondence be accepted for information. **CARRIED**

10. MEETING SCHEDULE

- a. August 20, 2025 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission
- b. August 21, 2025 – Evergreen Regional Waste
- c. August 22, 2025 – ICC
- d. August 25, 2025 – Smoky Lake Foundation – Special Meeting
- e. August 26, 2025 – Friends of the Pool Hall
- f. August 25, 2025 – Smoky Lake Car Show Meeting
- g. September 2, 2025 – Physicians and Healthcare Professionals
- h. September 8, 2025 – MuniCorr – 10:00 a.m.
- i. September 9, 2025 – Law & Wild BBQ – Smoky Lake Curling Rink 4 – 7
- j. September 9, 2025 – Library Board
- k. September 10, 2025 – Regular Council
- l. September 12, 2025 – NLLS
- m. September 19, 2025 - HUB
- n. September 22, 2025 – Nomination Day
- o. September 24, 2025 – Physician and Health Care Professionals
- p. September 29, 2025 – Joint Municipalities – Vilna
- q. October 1, 2025 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission
- r. October 7 & 8, 2025 – Community Futures Power Up North Conference
- s. **October 20, 2025 – Municipal Elections**
- t. **October 27, 2025 – Council Training**

RES: 115-025 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that the Meeting Schedule be approved with additions. **CARRIED**

11. CLOSED SESSION

RES: 116-025 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that in accordance with Section S. 20 (1) of the Access to Information Act – Personal Privacy, Council shall move into Closed Session at 8:00 p.m.

RES: 117-025 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that Council moves out of Closed Session at 9:00 p.m. **CARRIED**

12. ADJOURNMENT

RES. 118-025 Mayor Kunyk adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council held July 30, 2025 at 9:00 pm
CARRIED

Leroy Kunyk, Mayor

S E A L

Loni Leslie, CAO