

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA**  
 IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY May 22, 2024, 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  
 Deputy Mayor Tammy Lynn Thompson  
 Councillor Paul Miranda (virtually)  
 Earla Wagar, CAO  
 Loni Leslie, Administration

**ABSENT:**

**DELEGATION:** Damien Binnie-Brown

**GALLERY** Hank & Linda Keller

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Kunyk called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**1. AGENDA:**

Additions/Changes		
2. DELEGATION:	Damian Binie-Brown, AGENDA	re: Animal Control
3. MINUTES	April 10, 2024 Regular Council	
4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:		
5. REPORTS:		
6. BUSINESS:	Alberta Advantage Immigration Program – Rural Renewal Stream	
	Regional Municipal Energy Manager	
	Roll #206 Tax Forgiveness	
7. BYLAWS & POLICIS	Policy 252 – Surveillance Cameras	
8. FINANCES		
	<b>Accounts paid April 1-30, 2024</b>	<b>\$67,820.19</b>
	A/P <b>April 1-30, 2024</b> (120-131)	\$38,756.04
	EFT <b>April 1-30, 2024</b> (24018-24022)	\$11,597.65
	EFT Payroll <b>April 2024</b>	\$17,466.50
	2024 Budget	
	b-1 595-24 Tax Rate Bylaw	
	b-2. 594-24 Maintenance Levy Bylaw	
9. CORRESPONDENCE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MuniCorr, RE: Water Commission Levy</li> </ul>	
11. CLOSED SESSION		
12. ADJOURNMENT		

**RES: 055-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the Agenda for the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting be accepted as presented with the addition of Item 11, Closed Session. .

**CARRIED**

**2. DELEGATIONS:**

a. Damien Binnie-Brown spoke to Council about the possibility of providing Animal Control services. He is in process of opening a dog kennel south of Vilna and is considering including a Stray Dog Kennel.

**Mayor Kunyk** thanked him for attending and asked that he communicate with Administration when he has his credentials confirmed.

**3. MINUTES**

a) **Regular Council Meeting April 10th, 2024**

**RES: 056-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**5. REPORTS**

a. **Mayor Kunyk**

**Vilna/Bellis Citizens On Patrol – April 17, 2024 – Bellis**

- Crime increasing with summer weather. Additional Funding approved by Smoky Lake County;

- 9 new members;
- Discussion on training, expansion, fundraising.

**Evergreen Regional Waste Commission – April 18, 2024**

- Discussion of future Auditor bid/tenders.
- Beaver River bid was lots. Will renegotiation in 18 months.
- Discussion on wind turbine blades, blades break easily, cannot be repaired or recycled. Evergreen did not express an interest.

**Joint Municipalities Meeting – April 29, 2024 – Vilna**

- Reports from RCMP and Aspenview
- Sharing of regional concerns. Presentation on success of Metis Crossing tourism;
- Update on school developments, enrollment concerns, attention spans of modern youth.
- Introduced the option of regionalizing libraries.

**Physicians & Health Care Professionals – April 30, 2024**

- Awaiting news of repairs of Vilna Health Centre;
- Appreciating event, cookies for all health care workers in region.
- Smoky Lake PCN cardiac clinic seeking funding.
- Vet clinic sold, no large animal vet in Smoky Lake

**Vilna Historic Pool Hall – May 2, 2024**

- Update on exterior renovation project.
- Update on security;
- Promotional planning
- Summer BBQ planning.

**Smoky Lake County Rural Crime Watch AGM – May 7, 2024**

- Elections.
- Crime prevention initiatives
- Cameras and RAVE call outs.

**Highway 28/63 Water Commission – May 8, 2024**

- Update on Water For Life membership. Discussion of Management contracts options.

**Vilna & District Municipal Library - May 14, 2024**

- Library Manager is on sick leave;
- Discussion on hiring an interim library manager.
- Second reading of updated Library Policies.

**Evergreen Regional Waste Commission – May 16, 2024**

- May have a Managing Partner for an ACP Grant;
- Discussion of Financials;
- Discussion of volume of hazardous waste treatment within the region.

**b. Deputy Mayor Thompson****Highway 28/63 Water Commission – May 14, 2024**

- Scheduling a tour of all of the facilities for June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Ukrainian Twinning – May 13, 2024**

- Working with Ukrainian Teachers to determine how children can communication between the two countries.

**c. Councillor Miranda****HUB – Connect for Food – Co-sponsored with Community Futures - April 15, 2024**

- Several presentations
- Discussions around difficulty of supplying local food.

**RCDC – April 26, 2024**

- Election of Chair – Paul Miranda

**Joint Municipalities Meeting – April 29, 2024**

- The Energy Management program was introduced by Smoky Lake County. Through the program a municipal energy manager will consult with municipalities to:

The Municipal Energy Manager Program (MEM) offers staffing grants to municipalities in Alberta to offset the salary of an energy manager. Through the program, a municipal energy manager will consult with municipalities to:

- Conduct an energy audit on the highest energy-consuming municipal building,
- Develop an energy management plan,
- Educate facility managers on best practices,
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and
- Conduct an energy audit on the highest energy-consuming municipal building,
- Develop an energy management plan,
- Educate facility managers on best practices,
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and
- Lead energy-efficient retrofits from start to finish.

**Vilna Agricultural Society – April 29, 2024**

- Scheduled the Summer Programs
  - Cowboy Fest
  - Boom Town Days
- Got Grant confirmation to renovate the kitchen at the Cultural Centre.
- Sandeep Kommina from the Grocery Store is creating a Badminton Court and a Pickle Ball Court in the Arena.

**RCDC – April 30, 2024**

- Presentation from two organizations to help with Rural Renewal Stream.
- Smoky Lake Chamber of Commerce is offering to work with Town of Two Hills contractor to administer the program for the Smoky Lake Region.
- Town of Slave Lake would be willing to provide the program, however all of the applicants would have to work through Slave Lake, rather than Smoky Lake Region.
- Resolved to work with Smoky Lake Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Two Hills for the Alberta Advantage initiative.
- It was indicated that the direction of RCDC and the hiring of a new CEDO would be deferred until the County has hired a new CAO.
- There was an indication that perhaps RCDC should be more of a Community Development Committee.

**d. CAO Report**

<b>BALANCE Current Taxes April 30, 2024</b>	
<b>2024</b>	(\$33,682.27)
<b>ARREARS</b>	<u>\$166,508.59</u>
<b><i>TOTAL TAXES OWING</i></b>	<u>\$132,826.32</u>
<b><i>Interest &amp; Penalties</i></b>	
Less Village property (Tax Recovery)	<u>(\$38,824.79)</u>
	<b><u>\$94,001.53</u></b>

**ADMINISTRATION**

- The ACP Grant for the 13-Ways Project for Regional Service Sharing was finalized and we received the \$50,000.00 outstanding grant payment.
- We have received \$150,000.00 toward the current ACP Grant for design engineering services using the project studies that we have had done previously. This way if there happens to be some Shovel Ready funds show up, we will be closer to being eligible.
- Loni has totally the current grant funds that are available to offset the increase in the estimated project cost for the Water Reservoir.

**ALBERTA ADVANTAGE – RURAL RENEWAL STREAM**

- The Village has been approved to support immigrants working through the Entrepreneurial Program of the Alberta Advantage.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

- Working on water valves and locates for the Reservoir Project.

**SEWAGE LAGOON RELEASE**

- The sewage lagoon release is scheduled to have started today.

**WATER RESERVOIR**

- Loni has totally the current grant funds that are available to offset the increase in the estimated project cost for the Water Reservoir.
- I have spoken to Alberta Transportation about the possibility of increasing the loan to match to increase in the quote

**LEGISLATIVE CHANGES**

- The Province has passed 1<sup>st</sup> readings on several new Acts which will have an impact on the municipalities Bills 18, 20, 21

**COMMUNITY STANDARDS**

- We received a letter from the Pool Hall indicating that they are concerned about the hotel property and the unsightly condition it's in.
- I will be sending out letters to all property owners who are in default in accordance with the bylaw, including unsightly premises, derelict vehicles, street addresses, etc. The letter will indicate that if the work is not complete within 30 days, the Village will hire a contractor and the costs will be attached to the taxes.

**RES: 057-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the reports be accepted as information. **CARRIED**

**6. BUSINESS****a. Alberta Advantage Immigration Program – Rural Renewal Stream**

**RES: 058-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the Village of Vilna endorse a letter of support for the Smoky Lake Region (Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Vilna, and Village of Waskatenau) to become a Designated Community under the Rural Renewal Stream (RRS) through the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP); and approve the Smoky Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce to be the lead in submitting the Rural Renewal Community Designation Application form and act as the Economic Development Organization (EDO) who will lead and manage the project and represent the Community through the designation period (approximately three-years) to fulfill the responsibilities of a designated community which are:

- identifying and working with community employers that have permanent (minimum of 12 months, full-time, non-seasonal) jobs that need to be filled;
- connecting with settlement providing organizations to identify and plan for some of the settlement needs within the community;
- developing additional criteria (optional) to recruit foreign nationals; which may include narrowing down occupations that the community is interested in recruiting;
- responding to foreign national inquiries while community is actively recruiting;
- collaborating with employers on selecting and endorsing the foreign national; and
- developing and implementing a plan for welcoming and settling foreign national(s) to the community.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**b. Regional Municipal Energy Manager**

**RES: 059-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that while this opportunity is timely, there is a cost inference and therefore be it moved that the Village of Vilna defer from participating in the program at this time. **CARRIED**

**c. Roll #206 – Tax Forgiveness**

**RES: 0060-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the 2023 Auditors correction of Roll #206 assessment error in the amount of \$496.65 be cancelled. **CARRIED**

## 7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES

### a. Policy #252 – Surveillance Cameras

The Village Office has had new inside and outside surveillance cameras installed. Policy 252 was introduced as an information item.

**RES: 0061-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that Policy #252 be accepted for information.

**CARRIED**

## 8. FINANCIAL

a. Accounts paid April 1 – 30, 2024	<b>\$67,820.19</b>
i. A/P Apr. 1 – Apr. 30, 2024 (120-131)	\$38,756.04
ii. EFT Apr. 1 – Apr. 30, 2024 (24018-24022)	\$11,597.65
iii. EFT Payroll April, 2024	\$17,466.50

**RES: 0062-024**

**Councillor Maranda** that the accounts paid between April 1, 2024 and April 30, 2024 be approved as presented.

**Moved by**

**CARRIED**

### b. 2024 Operating and Capital Budget

**RES: 063-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### b.1 Bylaw 595-24 – 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw –

**RES: 064-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that 1<sup>st</sup> reading be given to Bylaw #595-24, 2024 Tax Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

**RES: 065-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that 2<sup>nd</sup> reading be given to Bylaw #595-24, 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

**RES: 066-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that it be agreed unanimously that 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading be given to Bylaw #595-24, 2024 Tax Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

#### b.2 Bylaw 594-24 - 2024 Maintenance Tax Bylaw

**RES: 067-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that 1<sup>st</sup> reading be given to Bylaw 594-24, 2024 Maintenance Tax Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

**RES: 068-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that 2<sup>nd</sup> reading be given to Bylaw #594-24, 2024 Maintenance Tax Bylaw

**CARRIED**

**RES: 069-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that it be agreed unanimously that 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading be given to Bylaw #594-24, 2024 Maintenance Tax Bylaw.

**CARRIED**

#### b.3 Bylaw 586-23

**RES: 070-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the Bylaw #586-23 to divide non-residential assessment Class 2 properties be divided into sub classes, be accepted as information.

**CARRIED**

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

a. North East MuniCorr – Letter pertaining to charging water commissions an annual levy.

**RES: 071-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the Correspondence presented at the April 10, 2024 Council meeting be accepted for information.

**CARRIED**

**10. MEETING SCHEDULE**

- a. June 12, 2024 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m.
- b. June 12, 2024 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission – 10:00 a.m.
- c. June 17, 2024 – Regional ICC Committee - Fire - 9:00 a.m.
- d. June 20, 2024 – Evergreen Regional Waste – 10:00 a.m.
- e. June 21, 2024? – Smoky Lake Foundation – 9:00 a.m.?
- f. June 24, 2024 – Highway 28/63 Operations Orientation Bus Tour – 8:00am
- g. June 26, 2024 – Alberta HUB AGM and meeting 5:00pm
- h. July 10, 2024 – Regular Council

**RES: 072-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Meeting Schedule be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

**11. CLOSED SESSION**

**RES: 073-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Meeting move into Closed Session at 8:20 p.m. **CARRIED**

**RES: 074-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda** that the meeting move out of Closed Session at 9:30 p.m. that the Meeting Schedule be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**RES. 075-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council held on May 22, 2024 at 9:30 p.m. **CARRIED**

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Leroy Kunyk

S E A L

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Earla Wagar, CAO