

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA
 IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY March 13, 2024, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE
 5135 – 50TH STREET, VILNA AT 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Leroy Kunyk
 Councillor Paul Miranda (virtually)
 Deputy Mayor Tammy Lynn Thompson
 Earla Wagar, CAO

ABSENT: Loni Leslie, Administration

GALLERY Hank & Linda Keller

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

1. AGENDA:

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| 1. AGENDA | | |
| Additions/Changes | | |
| 2. DELEGATION | | |
| • YOLO Nomads – Luke Panek | | |
| • Aspenview School Board - | | |
| • Sgt. Anita Doktor | | |
| 3. MINUTES | | |
| a) February 14, 2024 Regular Council | | |
| 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: | | |
| 5. REPORTS: | | |
| 6. BUSINESS: | | |
| a. NAAGO Membership | | |
| b. Wildfire Rapid Response Program | | |
| c. Water Reservoir | | |
| 7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES | | |
| 7.1 Bylaw 592-24 – Regional Emergency Management | | |
| 7.2 BYLAW #593-24 / 569-21 –MUNICORR | | |
| 7.3 Policy #511 Drought | | |
| 8. FINANCIAL | | |
| a) Accounts paid February 1 – 29, 2024 \$141,225.04 | | |
| i. | A/P Feb. 1 – . 29, 2024 (092-106) | \$102,390.59 |
| ii. | EFT Feb. 1 – 29, 2024 (24004-24011) | \$ 22,347.13 |
| iii. | EFT Payroll February, 2024 | \$ 16,487.32 |
| 9. CORRESPONDENCE: | | |
| a. RhPAP Award Nomination | | |
| b. Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, RE: Review of ICF's | | |
| c. Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, RE: 2024 Budget Grants | | |
| d. Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, RE: Library Budget Increase | | |
| 10. NEXT MEETINGS: | | |
| a. March 13, 2024 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m. | | |
| b. March 20, 2024 – Associated Engineers – Noon | | |
| c. March 21, 2024 – Evergreen Regional Waste – 10:00 a.m. | | |
| d. March 25, 2024 – MuniCorr – 10:00 a.m. | | |
| e. March 26, 2024 – HUB - 10:00 a.m. | | |
| f. March 27, 2024 – ICC – Housing – 9:00 a.m. | | |
| g. April 3, 2024 – ICC – Regional Fire – 9:00 a.m. | | |
| h. April 3, 2024 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission – 1:00 p.m. | | |
| i. April 4, 2024 – Regional Emergency Management – 9:00 a.m. | | |
| j. April 8, 2024 – MuniCorr – 10:00 a.m. | | |
| k. April 10, 2024 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m. | | |
| 11. CLOSED SESSION | | |
| a. MuniCorr | | |
| 12. ADJOURNMENT | | |

RES: 025-024 Deputy Mayor Thompson that the Agenda for the regular meeting of March 13th, 2024 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

2. DELEGATIONS:

- a. Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP** spoke to Council about their priorities in policing for the 2023/25 year.
- She informed Council of the increase in community engagement initiatives in Vilna. They have increased their presence at the school by hosting Lunch with the Youth, and they have held Lunch with Seniors at the Lodge which was very well received.
 - The statistics indicate that there are more Break and Enter crimes in the region but Sgt. Doktor attributes this increase in statistics to the increase in the number of incidents that are being reported. She stressed that people need to report.
 - The Citizens on Patrol program is expanding to include Waskatenau.
 - She encouraged people to sign up for the Rural Crime Watch program as well.

RES: 025a-024 Mayor Kunyk thanked Sgt. Doktor for the visible increase in police presence in the Village and moved that Council set the policing priorities for 2024/2025 to be

- Crime Reduction
- Property Crimes
- Community Engagement.

CARRIED

b. Aspenview School District Superintendent Constantine Kastrinos and Board Member Donna Cherniwchan addressed Council regarding the status of Vilna School.

- They indicated that the enrollment of the School has dropped substantially following the construction of a new school on Saddle Lake Reserve. The Saddle Lake Council has eliminated the bussing for K - 3 school students so the current population of the school has fallen from 175 to 117 student. The 2024/25 school year will see the elimination of bussing for 4 – 6 grade students.
- Discussion around providing unique opportunities for student such as the New Beginnings Program and Daily Living Skills programs were shared.
- Athabasca University and Portage College both offer Trade Preparation courses.
- It was suggested that perhaps the Bussing Boundaries should be reviewed.
- The Outreach Program could be expanded to provide Motivation as well as Modular style teaching.
- Superintendent Kastrinos indicated that 30% of the Vilna School funding is provincial and 75% of it is federally funded. This formula will change as the school population changes.

Mayor Kunyk thanked them for coming to meet with Council and assured them that the Village understands the importance of keeping our school active and confirmed that community participation is important.

- c. Luke Panek and Joseph Hanks from YOLO Nomads** discussed the next quarter of promotions and indicated that they have created a new software connection that will expand links to more of the Village assets such as the Library, and new businesses.

3. MINUTES

a) Regular Council Meeting February 14th, 2024

RES: 026-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 14th, 2024 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. REPORTS

a. Mayor Kunyk

Evergreen Waste Commission Feb 15, Zoom

- Discussion of inert waste cell construction.
- Beaver River trials and negotiations are going well.
- Issue of cooking oil and motor oil combinations for recycling.

Citizen's on Patrol Feb 22, 2024 Vilna

- New Cst. has started.
- Property crime rate remains consistent.
- Annual fundraising plans.

Northern Lights Library Division Feb 23, 2024 Zoom

- Grant to reduce barriers for indigenous library usage.
- New website and Trac App developments.

Vilna & District Municipal Library APLSB Board Training Workshop, Vilna

- Board basics of municipal library operations.

- Roles, responsibilities, funding policies.

Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society Feb 29, 2024 Vilna

- Volunteer recognition and appreciation event discussion.
- Discussion of 2024 weekend events, game and rental rates.
- Increase in security, backroom repairs.
- Trial run of Wednesday evening

Vilna & District Municipal Library Regular Meeting, March 12, 2024 Vilna

- Policy updates nearly complete.
- Discussion of expansion of infrastructure, programs and services.

Vilna & District Municipal Library AB Culture Days Grant Workshop, March 13th, 2024 Vilna

- Preliminary discussion of Sept 2024 Culture Days event.
- To involve local businesses, artists, to increase cultural awareness. Street Fair atmosphere.

b. Deputy Mayor Thompson

Smoky Lake Foundation-Feb17/24:

- Vilna Lodge is doing well and very resident focused.
- Next scheduled board and budget meeting is March 22/24 @ 9:00am

SL Region Fire & Rescue Committee Feb 26/24:

- Discussion about incentives and recruiting members.
- Next scheduled meeting is April 15/24 @ 9:00am

Highway 28/63 Water Commission Feb 29/24:

- Discussion about ribbon cutting at the Whitefish Lake Reservoir. Date to be determined.
- Discussion around drought.
- Advise municipalities about a drought bylaw.
- Next scheduled meeting is April 3/24 @ 1:00pm

AHS Community Engagement with Minister Lagrange March 7/24 in St Paul

- Brainstormed ineffective and effective ways for rural Alberta in regards to AHS models.

Veterans' Memorial Highway Association March 8/24:

- Discussed alternatives for all members to have their voice heard in the VMHA.
- Discussed the information that was announce by the Premier of Alberta.
- Discussed the layout of a pamphlet that highlight communities along Highway 36..
- Next scheduled meeting April 26/24@11:00am

Muni-Corr March 11/24:

- Update on bylaw that was sent out to the municipalities.
- Lots of activity on the trail mostly ATV'S as there was not much snow this year for grooming the trail for skidoos.
- Next scheduled meeting is March 25/24 as a special meeting.
- Next scheduled regular board meeting April 8/24

Smoky Lake Energy and Climate Community Engagement Sessions, Metis Crossing March 13/24

- Iron and Earth facilitated small group discussions in the changing economy and the transition away from non-renewable energy sources.
- These sessions were aimed to cut through the noise by engaging in discussion specific to the citizens of the Otipemisiwak Metis Government.

c. Councillor Miranda

No meetings to report.

d. CAO Report

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| BALANCE Current Taxes February 29, 2024 | |
| 2024 | (\$15,732.89) |
| ARREARS | \$133,436.13 |
| TOTAL TAXES OWING | \$117,703.16 |
| Interest & Penalties | 47,971.77 |
| Less Village property (Tax Recovery) | (\$38,824.79) |
| | \$125,850.22 |

ADMINISTRATION

- We are nearing the completion of the 2023 audit. Hopefully we will have the prepared statements ready for the next Council Meeting.
- Loni has applied to get her Water Wastewater Certificate. She is on a training course this week.

PUBLIC WORKS

- With the snow almost gone they are working to reduce the potential for ice slip and falls.

SEWAGE LAGOON UNBIDDEN RELEASE

- The sewage lagoon issue has been temporarily resolved. The beaver dam was removed and the water was able to flow along the channel.
- In April we will apply for a permit to complete the release.
- Once the ground thaws we will have a contractor come in and repair the faulty valve.

WATER MAIN BREAK – 49 AVE EAST

- It would be wonderful to make it through a winter without a water main break. However it doesn't seem to be in the cards.
- The break on 49th Avenue & 49th Street was identified on Monday, March 4th. We called the contractor immediately, only to discover that we were 3rd on the list for repairs that day. The Minus 35 temperatures didn't help.
- There was a concern that if the water valve was shut off to isolate the break the whole 2 blocks could freeze resulting in needing to repair the line from 50th street to 48th street. The alternative was to reduce the pressure and let the water run until it could be repaired.
- On Friday afternoon, March 8th the repair was completed. The excavation had to be left open until Monday because it seemed that Telus had a line in the street that wasn't marked and it got cut. As it turned out the line had been abandoned so no one lost telephone service.
- The excavation was filled in on Tuesday.

WATER RESERVOIR

- We received the completed designs for the reservoir. Unfortunately the cost of construction has gone up exceedingly and the original estimate of \$4,750,000.00 was considerably too low.
 - The Engineers are looking a ways to reduce costs.

RES: 027-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the reports be accepted as information.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS

a. Northeast Alliance for Growth and Opportunity

RES: 028-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson the Village of Vilna resolve to defer membership in the Northeast Alliance for Growth and Opportunity at this time, and it be considered each year at the Organizational meeting.

CARRIED

b. Wildfire Rapid Response Program

RES: 029-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that the Village of Vilna appreciate that the Smoky Lake County has resolved to establish a Wildfire Rapid Response Program for 2024, fully funded by Smoky Lake County for the Smoky Lake Region, in response to anticipated drought forecasted and current drought conditions being experienced throughout Alberta in Year 2024, and stipulate the program to include the following points:

- Commencing on April 15th, 2024, for approximately six weeks, subject to change depending on snow melt and precipitation;
- Involving up to a maximum of four members per day, and with
 - Firefighters being provided a standby cost I the amount of \$100.00 per day or a day-rate in the amount of \$300.00 per member and

- If necessary, an out-of-region firefighter's rate in the amount of \$300.00 per day plus means and mileage.

CARRIED

c. Water Reservoir Design

RES: 030-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson Council meet with Associated Engineering to determine where portions of the Water Reservoir Project can be amended to bring the cost closer to the initial estimate.

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES

a. Bylaw #592-24 Regional Emergency Management (DRAFT)

Council reviewed the draft of the Bylaw and will discuss it at the next Regional Emergency Management meeting.

b. North MuniCorr Bylaws #569-21 & 593-24

RES: 031-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that the decision to pass Bylaw #593-24 be withheld until questions pertaining to enforcement and responsibilities be clarified.

CARRIED

c. Policy #511 – Water Conservation & Water Use Policy

RES: 032-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda that Policy #511 – Water Conservation and Water Use be approved.

CARRIED

8. FINANCIAL

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|---|---------------------|
| a. Accounts paid February 1 – 29, 2024 | \$141,225.04 |
| i. A/P Feb. 1 – Feb. 29, 2024 (092-106) | \$102,390.59 |
| ii. EFT Feb. 1 – Feb. 29, 2024 (24004-24011) | \$22,347.13 |
| iii. EFT Payroll February, 2024 | \$16,481.32 |

RES: 033-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the accounts paid between February 1, 2024 and February 29, 2024 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- RhPAP Award Nomination
- Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, RE: Review of ICF's
- Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, RE: 2024 Budget Grants
- Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, RE: Library Budget Increase

a)

RES: 034-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda that the Correspondence presented at the March 13, 2024 Council meeting be accepted for information.

CARRIED

10. MEETING SCHEDULE

- March 13, 2024 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m.
- March 20, 2024 – Associated Engineers – Noon
- March 21, 2024 – Evergreen Regional Waste – 10:00 a.m.
- March 22, 2024 – Smoky Lake Foundation – 10:00 a.m.
- March 25, 2024 – MuniCorr – 10:00 a.m.
- March 26, 2024 – HUB - 10:00 a.m.
- March 27, 2024 – ICC – Housing – 9:00 a.m.
- April 3, 2024 – ICC – Regional Fire – 9:00 a.m.
- April 3, 2024 – Highway 28/63 Water Commission – 1:00 p.m.
- April 4, 2024 – Regional Emergency Management – 9:00 a.m.
- April 7, 2024 – Vilna Ag. Society – 7:30 p.m.

- l. April 8, 2024 – MuniCorr – 10:00 a.m.
- m. April 10, 2024 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m.
- n. April 16, 2024 – Vilna Public Library – 7:00 p.m.

RES: 035-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the Meeting Schedule be approved as presented.

CARRIED

11. CLOSED SESSION

RES: 036-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that Council move into Closed Session to discuss a MuniCorr concern, as per Section 21, Disclosure Harmful to Intergovernmental Relations, at 8:00 p.m.

CARRIED

RES: 037-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda that Council move out of Closed Session at 8:30 p.m.

CARRIED

RES: 038-024 Moved by Councillor Miranda that Council of the Village of Vilna, as a member of Highway 28/63 Water Services Commission, reject the proposal by North East MuniCorr to charge Municipal Commissions for the use of the Rights of Way, but that the agreement of December 4th, 2001 between the 10 Participating Municipalities in North East MuniCorr be honored, with Section 5.6 b.i stating "*It is specifically agreed that in the event that:*

i. Any Party wishes to place a municipal utility line in the Right of Way Lands and accordingly requires a right of way agreement from the Company in respect thereof; and

ii. The fronting of a right of way in respect of a municipal utility line in the Right of Way Lands to one of the Parties hereunder has been approved in accordance with the terms of this agreement:

the Company shall not require that any compensation be paid to the Company in respect of such municipal utility line or in respect of such right of way agreement," and

Section 5.5 Operating Costs stating "*in the event that the Company requires additional funding from time to time to carry out its obligations in respect of the Lands (in addition to any monies it may receive in respect to the Lands) the Parties hereto agree to contribute to such required funding by contributing their respective Proportionate Share of such required funding of same within forty-five (45) days of receipt of a request from the Company for such a contribution*" be followed.

CARRIED

12. ADJOURNMENT

RES. 039-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council held on March 13, 2024 at 8:30 p.m. 15th, 2024

CARRIED

Leroy Kunyk

S E A L

Earla Wagar, CAO