

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA**  
 IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY JULY 24, 2024, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
 OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE  
 5135 – 50<sup>TH</sup> STREET, VILNA AT 5:30 P.M.

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Leroy Kunyk  
 Deputy Mayor Tammy Lynn Thompson  
 Loni Leslie, Administration

**Via Zoom:** Councillor Paul Miranda and  
 Earla Wagar, CAO

**DELEGATIONS:** Vilna & District Agricultural Society and Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society

**GALLERY** Dan, Janet, Tamara, Mary, Hank, Linda, Marlaine, Grant, Ron Farmer, Kyle, Charlie.  
 (Last names withheld by choice of the attendee)

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

**1. AGENDA:**

<p><b>1. AGENDA</b></p> <p><b>2. DELEGATION:</b> Vilna Ag Society          Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society</p> <p><b>3. MINUTES</b>          a. June 4, 2024 Regular Council</p> <p><b>4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:</b></p> <p><b>5. REPORTS:</b></p> <p><b>6. BUSINESS:</b>          a. RFD – Library Board Re-Appointments          b. RFD – Letters signed by the Mayor between Council meetings</p> <p><b>7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES</b>          a. Bylaw #596-24 Regional Emergency Management</p> <p><b>8. FINANCIAL</b>          a. <b>Accounts paid June 1-30, 2024</b> <b>\$105,387.44</b>             i. A/P <b>June 1-30, 2024</b> (132-146) \$72,888.66             ii. EFT <b>June 1-30, 2024</b> (24023-24028) \$15,404.43             iii. EFT Payroll <b>June, 2024</b> \$17,094.35</p> <p><b>9. CORRESPONDENCE:</b></p> <p><b>10. NEXT MEETINGS:</b></p> <p><b>11. CLOSED SESSION</b></p> <p><b>10. ADJOURNMENT</b></p>
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**RES: 088-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Agenda for the July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Council Meeting be adopted as presented. **CARRIED**

**2. DELEGATIONS:**

- a) **Vilna & District Agricultural Society (Ag Society)** – On behalf of the Ag Society, the current President brought forward concerns that their funding and other revenue streams are not sufficient to continue operations at the Vilna Arena. Discussion ensued with a commitment to check with the Village of Vilna insurer to inquire if it’s possible to add the building to the Village insurance policy.
- b) **Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society** – A presentation was made by the President of the Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society expressing intense frustration regarding the structure leaning on the hotel property toward the Pool Hall. The owner of the hotel has been asked several times to move the leaning structure. Discussion ensued and the owner of the hotel indicated that he would have it done at the latest by the end of day August 5, 2024.

**3. MINUTES**

- a) **Regular Council Meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

**RES: 089-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Minutes of the June 4, 2024 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – None**

**5. REPORTS**

**a) Mayor Kunyk –**

- i. Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission June 12, 2024 -**  
A status update and discussion of future management options.
- ii. Vilna/Bellis Citizens on Patrol June 12, 2024 –** Local community crime reports and planning of summer outreach activities.
- iii. Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee – Fire June 17, 2024 –**  
Regionalization negotiations, use of provincial fire inspectors.
- iv. Evergreen Regional Waste Services Commission June 20, 2024 –** Metal recycling contracts. New technology on potential impacts on garbage collection. Research into sharing resources and level of service between municipalities.
- v. Vilna Pool Hall July 4, 2024 –** Summer activities, completion of exterior renovations nearing and updates to bylaws planned.
- vi. Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission Workshop July 17, 2024 –** Management options and examination of water rates.
- vii. Vilna & District Municipal Library July 23, 2024 –** Staffing challenges looking up, a successful audit report and Rural Services Grant received.

**b) Deputy Mayor Thompson –**

- i. Smoky Lake Foundation June 21, 2024 –** Nothing significant to report.
- ii. Muni-Corr –** Bylaw updates.
- iii. Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission Workshop July 17, 2024 –** Commission Management Services.
- iv. Alberta Energy Strategy, Bonnyville –** With David Yager – special advisor to the Premier. Alberta’s long term vision and proposed reparation of drying wells.

**c) Councillor Miranda - None**

**d) CAO Report**

<b>Property Taxes</b>	
<b>BALANCE Current Taxes July 23, 2024</b>	
2024(incl. 2024 May levy)	\$119,466.99
<b>ARREARS</b>	\$117,845.60
<b><u>TOTAL TAXES OWING</u></b>	<u>\$237,312.59</u>
<b><u>Interest &amp; Penalties</u></b>	<u>\$48,252.08</u>
	\$285,564.67
Less Village property (Tax Recovery)	(\$38,824.79)
	<b>\$246,739.88</b>
Less Preauthorized monthly payments for 2024	-50,331.43
	<b>\$196,408.45</b>
Includes Tax Recovery (differing stages)	\$95,751.16
Payment agreements in place	\$9,424.81
Payment agreements requested, not yet completed	30,853.39

**ADMINISTRATION**

- The former Federal Gas Tax Fund (was \$50,000 per year) agreement with the Province as the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) has increased our annual grant to \$65,613.00 for 2024.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

- The water commission has put in place a municipal water restriction.
- The heat has limited how much can be done outdoors in the afternoon – start earlier and inside work in the afternoon.

**SEWAGE LAGOON RELEASE**

- The sewage lagoon was released. Beaver dams taken out after a trapper removed the beavers. Sample results satisfactory.

**NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1**

- This is a service and contract agreement with Telus and mandated by the CRTC to digitize addressing and secure the 911 operating systems through our dispatch centre Bonnyville Regional Fire Authority. Agreement will be signed and sent.

**FIRE BANS**

- Smoky Lake County and Vilna have declared Fire Bans which include off highway vehicle use. Bans will stay in place until safe to lift.

**RED CROSS**

- Red Cross contacted us, offering N95 masks and are sending a case of 440 individually wrapped N95's for distribution to staff and residents if needed for wildfire smoke.

**WATER RESERVOIR**

- We are close to going to tender for the preconstruction services contractor. The engineer is posting the tender this week.
- Alberta Transportation is receptive to increasing the grant to match to the increase in cost. First we need to know new estimates.

**LEGISLATIVE CHANGES**

- Bill 18, requires any federal funding to provincial entities to be approved by the province;
- Bill 20, changes civic election finance law, enhances the powers to remove Councillors or overturn bylaws, limits options for voters without ID and allows political party affiliations Edmonton and Calgary ballots; and
- Bill 21, allows the province to take command of a local emergency response and not declare as a provincial one. Also enables the diversion of water during a drought.
- All 3 bills have received Royal Assent.

**COMMUNITY STANDARDS**

- Letters and notices have been sent out and deadlines for action are approaching.
- Some work has been done by contractor on tax recoveries and expired notices.
- House number notices went out with the last utility billing.

**RCMP MOUNTIE MINUTE**

- Sgt. Anita Doktor has been issuing a weekly synopsis of the activities of the detachment. They have certainly been busy.

**BANK**

- Our capital savings account holds money moved from a GIC. When the money was moved, a glitch caused the account to not accumulate interest. Administration inquired and on July 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we received all backdated interest properly calculated totaling \$21,766.56 deposited to the account.

**RES: 090-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the reports be accepted as information.

**CARRIED**

**6. BUSINESS****a) Library Board Re-appointments**

**RES: 091-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** That the Village of Vilna re-appoint the following individuals to the Village of Vilna Library Board for the specified terms at the request of Public Library Services Branch – Municipal Affairs in order to satisfy the Alberta Libraries Act requirements and best practices:

Susan Krawchuk – for a 3 year term beginning August 1, 2023 and with an expiry date July 30, 2026,

and

Janet Abramic – for a 3 year term beginning October 11, 2023 and with an expiry date of October 10, 2026.

**CARRIED**

**b) Letters signed by the Mayor between Council meetings**

**RES: 092-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** That the Village of Vilna Council approve the actions of the Mayor in the signing of letters of urgency regarding our region's physician recruitment challenges addressed to the Alberta Minister of Health and to the Alberta Minister of Mental Health and Addiction and signed by each Chief Elected Official in the region; and additionally a letter regarding the cost of the Federal Carbon Tax on municipalities and therefore citizens to the Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau.

**CARRIED**

**7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES**

**a) Bylaw 596-24**

This bylaw is an update to the Regional Emergency Management to recognize changes to legislation and other administrative items.

**RES: 093-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** moved first reading of Village of Vilna Bylaw #596-24 Regional Emergency Management. **CARRIED**

**RES: 094-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** moved second reading of Village of Vilna Bylaw #596-24 Regional Emergency Management. **CARRIED**

**RES: 095-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** third reading of Village of Vilna Bylaw #596-24 Regional Emergency Management with unanimous consent of all Councillors present. **CARRIED**

**8. FINANCIAL**

**Accounts paid June 1-30, 2024 \$105,387.44**

- i. A/P June 1-30, 2024 (132-146) \$72,888.66
- ii. EFT June 1-30, 2024 (24023-24028) \$15,404.43
- iii. EFT Payroll June, 2024 \$17,094.35

**RES: 096-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the accounts paid between June 1 and June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$105,387.44 be approved. **CARRIED**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Municipal Affairs Minister – Letter Re: Canada Community Building Fund Grant

**RES: 097-024 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson** that the Correspondence presented at the July 24, 2024 Council meeting be accepted for information. **CARRIED**

**10. MEETING SCHEDULE**

- a) August 14, 2024, 10am – Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission
- b) August 15, 2024, 10am – Evergreen Regional Waste Services Commission
- c) August 21, 2024 – Regular Council – 5:30 p.m.
- d) August 26, 2024, 5:00pm – Joint Municipalities – Bellis
- e) August 29, 2024, 9:00am – Smoky Lake Region Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee – Fire
- f) August 12, 2024 – MuniCorr
- g) August 16, 2024 – Citizens on Patrol

**RES: 098-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** that the Meeting Schedule be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

**Public Question Period – None**

**11. CLOSED SESSION – None**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**RES. 099-024 Moved by Mayor Kunyk** adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council held of June 4, 2024 at 7:20 p.m. **CARRIED**

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Leroy Kunyk

S E A L

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Earla Wagar, CAO