



Council Brief of the

May 19, 2022 Regular Meeting

This document is provided for informational purposes only and is not the approved minutes of the Lethbridge County Council meeting.

DELEGATIONS:

1) CIBC Wood Gundy

Representatives from CIBC Wood Gundy provided Council with an update on the County's investments and the current economy.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1) COMMUNITY SERVICES

a. Draft Fire Bylaw No. 22-002 - First Reading

Council approved first reading of the bylaw, which combines four of the County's current fire-related bylaws into one and includes content updates on fines, roles, and clarity regarding Fire Bans and Restrictions.

b. January - March 2022 Community Peace Officer Report

Lethbridge County's Community Peace Officer provided Council with an update of his activities in the first quarter of 2022:

- 42 case reports (compared to 24 in the same period in 2021)
- 108 traffic violation tickets issued and 62 written warnings
- Two major unsightly premises matters were successfully resolved

c. Requests from Air Show Committee

Council directed administration to accommodate the requests made by the Lethbridge Air Show Committee and to bring forward a road closure bylaw to the next meeting. The Committee has requested a temporary road closure near the airport, and for the County to supply a water truck and the Community Peace Officer's assistance during the two-day event.

2) MUNICIPAL SERVICES

a. Agricultural Service Board Composition and Bylaw

Council directed administration to draft an Agriculture Service Board (ASB) Bylaw that establishes the board with a membership of four council members and three members-at-large. Council approved that the ASB Terms of Reference be amended to not conflict or duplicate matters addressed in the ASB Bylaw. In accordance with provincial legislation, Council is required to adopt a bylaw that establishes the Agricultural Services Board.

b. 2022 Calgary Stampede BMO Farm Family Awards – July 11, 2022

Council selected Reeve Tory Campbell and a guest to represent Lethbridge County at the 2022 BMO Farm Family awards presentation. This year's award winner representing Lethbridge County is the Vanden Elzen family who farm in electoral Division 2 (Reeve Campbell's division).

3) CORPORATE SERVICES

a. 2022 Bursary Ad-Hoc Selection Committee

Council approved that an ad hoc Bursary Selection Committee of three council members be established to review the 2022 bursary applications. The committee members are Councillors Mark Sayers, John Kuerbis and Lorne Hickey.

4) ADMINISTRATION

a. Highway 3 Twinning Development Association - Request for Letter of Support

Council directed administration to draft an amended letter of support for the association.

CORRESPONDENCE

1) Alberta Municipal Affairs

A letter from Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs thanking Reeve Campbell for their meeting at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta Spring 2022 Convention, where concerns around the proposed provincial police force, farmland assessment, and the Local Government Fiscal Framework were discussed.

COUNCIL UPDATES:

Council provided an update of their activities from April 2022:

Division 1 – Councillor Lorne Hickey

April 6 Family and Community Support Services Meeting
April 7 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 12 CAO – Council Update
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 14 Audit Committee Meeting
April 20 Green Acres Foundation Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 21 Intermunicipal Committee – City of Lethbridge
April 27 Green Acres Foundation Meeting

Division 2 – Reeve Tory Campbell

April 1 CAO/Reeve Meeting
April 1 Virtual Meeting w/MLA Neudorf
April 1 Mayors and Reeves
April 4 Exhibition Park Board Training
April 6 Physician Recruitment Meeting with City of Lethbridge
April 7 County Council Meeting
April 7 Chinook Arch Library Board Meeting
April 9 Vimy Ridge Day Remembrance, Lethbridge Cenotaph
April 11 Meeting with Village of Barons
April 11 Fire Services Discussion
April 11 Team Lethbridge Meeting
April 12 CAO – Council Update
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 14 Audit Committee Meeting
April 14 Meeting with Coalhurst Mayor
April 20 Economic Development Lethbridge Board Meeting
April 20 Exhibition Park – Ownership Engagement Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 21 Intermunicipal Committee – City of Lethbridge
April 29 CAO/Reeve Meeting

Division 3 – Councillor Mark Sayers

April 7 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 12 CAO – Council Update
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 28 SouthGrow Board Meeting

Division 4 – Councillor John Kuerbis

April 1 Highway 3 Twinning Development Association AGM
April 7 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 12 CAO – Council Update
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 14 Audit Committee Meeting
April 15 Ratepayer Concern Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 25 Regional Waste Commission Meeting
April 26 Water Commission Meeting
April 27 Community Futures Regular Meeting
April 27 Diamond City Community Association AGM

Division 5 – Councillor Eric Van Essen

April 1 Highway 3 Twinning Development Association AGM
April 7 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 12 CAO – Council Update
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting

Division 6 – Deputy Reeve Klaas VanderVeen

April 1 Mayors and Reeves
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 25 Lethbridge Regional Waste Meeting
April 29 Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association Board Meeting

Division 7 – Councillor Morris Zeinstra

April 7 Lethbridge County Council Meeting
April 12 CAO – Council Update
April 14 Agricultural Service Board Meeting
April 21 Lethbridge County Council Meeting

CLOSED SESSIONS:**1) Water Supply Request (FOIP Section 16 - Disclosure Harmful to Business Interests of a Third Party)**

Council approved that a letter be sent through the Reeve, from Council to the Town of Coaldale Mayor indicating the urgency of this matter.

2) Discussion on Proposed Development (FOIP Section 16 - Disclosure Harmful to Business Interests of a Third Party)

Council approved that:

WHEREAS, Lethbridge County's Vision Statement is "Lethbridge County is Canada's most innovative rural community;" and

WHEREAS, from that statement the four goals include:

- Governance;
- Relationships;
- Region;
- Prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Lethbridge County has received an unsolicited proposal calling for the establishment of the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster ONE from a privately funded and managed organization; and

WHEREAS, the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster will help to advance the four goals of the Lethbridge County Vision Statement by developing a facility to enable and support the Circular Economy through the integration of all aspects of agricultural activities including livestock production, crop production, renewable energy, restorative farming and Bio-Organic Fertilizer Production; and

WHEREAS, the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster will enhance the County by fostering economic growth resulting in additional funding for infrastructure and services, increased employment, training, and business opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster will further enhance the County by reducing the environmental impacts of agriculture activities resulting in a healthier and sustainable environment; and

WHEREAS, the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster will support the economic success of all stakeholders in the region by inclusion of First Nations stakeholders in the governance, revenue-sharing and economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster will attract new investment in innovation and new technologies that will result in the County becoming Canada's most innovative agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, Lethbridge County and First Nations partners will not be required to fund the capital or operating costs of funding the design, engineering, and construction of the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster; and

WHEREAS, the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster as the Landlord will cover the operating costs by collecting rents from compatible tenants who share the vision of a more sustainable and prosperous future;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Lethbridge County will collaborate with the proponents of the Lethbridge County Bio-cluster ONE to support the establishment and operation of this venture through reasonable means at its disposal including:

- Assisting with the procurement of approximately 2.0 million cubic meters of raw untreated water per annum by lobbying any government agency, irrigation district, water-supplying organization or other enterprise within or adjacent to the outer boundaries of Lethbridge County, that may be able to supply water; and
- The county will consider rights-of-way access in accordance with county policies and bylaws; and
- Other measures as may reasonably be required to ensure the safe, economical, and environmentally sustainable establishment and operation of the Lethbridge County Bio-Cluster for the life of the project.