



Council Brief of the

December 15, 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) Economic Development Lethbridge – Canada’s Premier Food Corridor Ignition Project

Council was given a presentation on the Canada’s Premier Food Corridor Ignition Project and voted in favour of drafting a letter of support for the project.

SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS:

1) Application #2022-0-168 – Scholten – NE1/4 12-11-22-W4M

Council approved the application subject to the conditions outlined in the draft resolution. The application is for a property line adjustment of two adjacent parcels, by subdividing land from an agricultural title and consolidating it to an adjacent country residential title.

2) Application #2022-0-171 – Prairie Gem Farms Ltd. – SW1/4 35-9-19-W4M

Council approved the application subject to the conditions outlined in the draft resolution. The application is to subdivide a first parcel out farmstead subdivision from a quarter-section title for country residential use.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1) CORPORATE SERVICES

a. Quarterly Financial Report: August – October 2022

The Manager of Finance and Administration presented the August – October financial report, which projects a surplus of \$155,536 in 2022. The full report is available online at <https://lethcounty.ca/p/financial-publications>.

b. 2023-2025 Operating & 2023-2027 Capital Budget

Council approved:

- **Operating budget expenses**
 - 2023: \$30,204,555
 - 2024 in principle: \$30,538,430
 - 2025 in principle: \$30,804,015
- **Capital budget expenses**
 - 2023: \$14,170,000
 - 2024 in principle: \$14,715,000
 - 2025 in principle: \$8,231,000
 - 2026 in principle: \$9,688,000
 - 2027 in principle: \$8,985,000

More information on the budget is available at <https://whatshappening.lethcounty.ca/2023-budget>.

c. Foothills Little Bow Association Meeting Resolution

Council approved that the following resolution be brought forth at the Foothills Little Bow Municipal Association meeting in January for consideration:

WHEREAS the Province of Alberta sets the rules and regulations for all municipalities within the Province including property assessments guidelines;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Alberta has frozen farmland assessment values since 1995;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are unable to assess farmland within their municipalities based on inflation and/or current market values in an effort to levy tax dollars that could be used to support infrastructure and assist in offsetting annual tax levy increases;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have the autonomy and option to adjust farmland assessments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) urge the Province of Alberta to unfreeze farmland assessments and allow municipalities to utilize their discretion to increase farmland assessments as they see fit.

2) COMMUNITY SERVICES

a. Animal Control Bylaw Amendment

Council approved that an amended Bylaw 20-020 – Animal Control be read a first time, and that hamlet residents be consulted on the proposed changes. At the November 17, 2022 Council meeting, a motion was adopted which directed administration to prepare amendments to the Animal Control Bylaw that would allow for the keeping of animals in hamlets based on parcel size, with a maximum number of permitted animals limited to five. Public engagement will begin in January 2023 at <https://whatshappening.lethcounty.ca/>.

b. Regionalized Emergency Management Program ACP Grant Application

Council voted in favour of supporting the Town of Picture Butte's application under the Alberta Community Partnership grant program for the creation and operation of a regionalized emergency management program involving the municipalities of Coaldale, Coalhurst, Lethbridge County, Nobleford, Picture Butte, and Barons.

3) ADMINISTRATION

a. Invitation: Coaldale Chamber of Commerce Award & Appreciation Banquet – January 28, 2023

Council approved that any member of Council be authorized to attend the event.

b. Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association (SAEWA) Request for Letter of Support – ACP Grant Application

Council voted in favour of providing a letter of support to SAEWA for their Alberta Community Partnership grant application for funding to complete the Memorandum of Understanding to move forward with a preferred vendor in partnership to develop the 300,000-tonne energy from waste facility at the Newell County landfill site.

4) INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Alberta Community Partnership Grant Support – Coalhurst Regional Water/Wastewater Master Plan

Council voted in favour of supporting the Town of Coalhurst's submission for an Alberta Partnership grant application for the Coalhurst Regional Water/Wastewater Master Plan.

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE UPDATES:

1) Lethbridge County Council Attendance Update - November 2022

Division 1 – Councillor Lorne Hickey

November 2	Family and Community Support Services Meeting
November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 7-10	Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention
November 11	City of Lethbridge Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 15-17	Family and Community Support Services Conference
November 29	Budget Deliberations

Division 2 – Reeve Tory Campbell

November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 4	CAO/Reeve Meeting
November 4	Mayors & Reeves
November 4	Farming Smarter 10 Year Celebration
November 7-10	Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention
November 11	Town of Coaldale Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 16	Economic Development Lethbridge Board Meeting
November 17	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 17	Water Security Meeting
November 21	Exhibition Park, Ownership Engagement Committee Meeting
November 22	Virtual Meeting, Minister of Justice, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services
November 23	Exhibition Park Presentation
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coaldale Draft Intermunicipal Development Plan Open House
November 25	M.A.D.D. Project Red Ribbon Kickoff, Coaldale Fire Hall
November 25	Team Lethbridge Practice Session
November 26	Coaldale & District Emergency Services 2022 Annual Awards Ceremony
November 27	Mayor's 2 nd Annual Community Hockey Challenge
November 29	Budget Deliberations
November 30	Team Lethbridge Media Kickoff/Launch

Division 3 – Councillor Mark Sayers

November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 7-10	Rural Municipalities of Alberta Convention
November 11	Exhibition Park Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 17	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coaldale Intermunicipal Development Plan Open House
November 25	Coaldale Parade of Lights Parade
November 26	Coaldale & District Emergency Services 2022 Annual Awards Ceremony

Division 4 – Deputy Reeve John Kuerbis

November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 17	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coalhurst Intermunicipal Development Plan Meeting
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coaldale Draft Intermunicipal Development Plan Open House
November 25	Highway 3 Announcement in Medicine Hat
November 26	Community Futures Lethbridge Region Board & Growth Meetings
November 29	Budget Deliberations
November 30	Truth and Reconciliation Training in Standoff

Division 5 – Councillor Eric Van Essen

November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 7-10	Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention
November 14	Meeting with CAO
November 17	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 18	Highway 3 Twinning Development Association
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coaldale Draft Intermunicipal Development Plan Open House
November 25	Highway 3 Announcement in Medicine Hat
November 29	Budget Deliberations

Division 6 – Councillor Klaas VanderVeen

November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 7-10	Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention
November 11	Picture Butte Cenotaph Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 17	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 18	Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association Board Meeting – Wheatland County
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coalhurst Intermunicipal Development Plan Meeting
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coaldale Draft Intermunicipal Development Plan Open House
November 29	Budget Deliberations

Division 7 – Councillor Morris Zeinstra

November 3	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 7-10	Rural Municipalities of Alberta Fall Convention
November 14	Meeting with CAO
November 17	Lethbridge County Council Meeting
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coalhurst Intermunicipal Development Plan Meeting
November 24	Lethbridge County/Town of Coaldale Draft Intermunicipal Development Plan Open House
November 29	Budget Deliberations

CLOSED SESSION:**1) Labour Relations (FOIP Section 24 – Advice from Officials)**

No motion was made.

2) Personnel Matter (FOIP Section 19 – Confidential Evaluations)

No motion was made.