



# MINUTES

## Council Meeting

9:30 AM - Thursday, December 16, 2021  
Council Chambers

The Council Meeting of Lethbridge County was called to order on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 9:30 AM, in the Council Chambers, with the following members present:

**PRESENT:** Reeve Tory Campbell  
Deputy Reeve Klaas VanderVeen  
Councillor Lorne Hickey  
Councillor John Kuerbis  
Councillor Mark Sayers  
Chief Administrative Officer, Ann Mitchell  
Director of Community Services, Larry Randle  
Director of Public Operations, Jeremy Wickson  
Infrastructure Manager, Devon Thiele  
Manager of Finance & Administration, Jennifer Place  
Executive Assistant, Candice Robison

Absent: Councillor Morris Zeinstra

### A. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Tory Campbell called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Reeve Campbell shared the following highlights from 2021:

- Council awarded \$2,000 in post-secondary bursaries to local students for the second year in a row
- A new online business directory was launched in early 2021 to provide a space for customers to find information on County businesses
- In the spring, Council approved the County's first-ever Asset Management Plan for infrastructure and physical assets.
- A new public engagement platform called What's Happening was launched in June.
- A new rural living and agriculture extension newsletter was launched in the summer.
- Lethbridge County won an international financial award for our financial publications, an accomplishment shared by only 11 other municipalities in Canada.
- Several capital projects were completed, including road reconstruction in the Sunset Acres subdivision, Fairview stormwater pond construction, paving a portion of the Broxburn industrial park as well as Readymade Road. A bridge was replaced north of Iron Springs this fall.
- The municipal election was held in October, with two new Councillors being elected in Divisions 3 and 4. There were no candidates in Division 5, so a by-election was called and will be held December 13.
- Public Works Level of Service documents were approved by Council, which provide a guide for maintenance operations in the County over the next year.
- Council attended the provincial Rural Municipalities of Alberta convention in Edmonton this November, where they had the opportunity to speak with ministers on issues important to the County.

**B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Reeve Campbell stated the following:

We acknowledge that we are on territories in Alberta of many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

**C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Council added the following item to the December 16, 2021 agenda:

- G.1.3 - MD of Taber Grant Application Letter of Support Request
- G.2.5 - 2:00 p.m. - Link Pathway Update

400-2021 Councillor Sayers      MOVED that Lethbridge County Council approve the December 16, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda as amended. CARRIED

**D. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**D.1. County Council Meeting Minutes**

401-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen      MOVED that the December 6, 2021 Regular County Council Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented. CARRIED

**E. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**F. DELEGATIONS**

**G. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**G.1. MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

**G.1.1. Shaughnessy Phase 4 Engineering and Land Purchase - Request for Additional Funding**

402-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen      MOVED that County Council approves an additional \$26,000 from the Municipal Sustainability Initiative towards the Shaughnessy Phase 4 Engineering and Land Purchase project for a total budget of \$116,000. CARRIED

**G.1.2. 2022 Agricultural Service Board Conference/Westin Hotel Edmonton January 25th to 27th, 2022**

403-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen      MOVED that County Council authorize any member of the Agricultural Service Board wishing to attend the 2022 Provincial ASB Conference in Edmonton scheduled for January 25th to 27th, 2022 to do so. CARRIED

**G.1.3. MD of Taber Grant Application Letter of Support Request**

404-2021 Councillor Kuerbis      MOVED that County Council support the MD of Taber's application for the Alberta Community Partnership Grant Application under the Intermunicipal Collaboration component for the purpose of developing options and implementation of formalizing the South Regional Storm Water Drainage Committee partnership. CARRIED

**G.2. COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**G.2.1. Repeal of Establishment and Operation of Fire Department Bylaw No. 771**

405-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that Repeal of Inactive Bylaws No. 21-022 be read a first time.  
CARRIED

406-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that Repeal of Inactive Bylaws No. 21-022 be read a second time.  
CARRIED

407-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that Council proceed to consideration of third reading of Repeal of Inactive Bylaws No. 21-022.  
UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

408-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that Repeal of Inactive Bylaws No. 21-022 be read a third time.  
CARRIED

**G.2.2. Economic Development - 2021 4th Quarter Report of major projects and activities**

409-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that the Economic Development - 2021 4th Quarter Report be accepted for information.  
CARRIED

Reeve Campbell recessed the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:52 a.m.

**G.2.3. Invitation for Lethbridge County councillors to attend 2022 EDA Xperience Annual Conference and Alberta Economic Development Leaders' Summit from April 6-8, 2022 in Kananaskis**

410-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that any Lethbridge County councillor who wishes to attend (either in-person or virtually) the Xperience 2022 EDA Annual Conference and Leadership Summit from April 6-8, 2022 be authorized to do so.  
CARRIED

**G.2.4. SouthGrow Regional Initiative**

411-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that council approves and funds Lethbridge County's continued membership in SouthGrow Regional Initiative for the 2022-23 fiscal year, and appoint a member of council to serve as Lethbridge County's representative to the SouthGrow Board of Directors.  
CARRIED

**G.3. CORPORATE SERVICES**

**G.3.1. Tax Penalty Waiver Request Roll #54330100**

412-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that County Council not waive tax penalties in the amount of \$99.23 as requested for tax roll #54330100.  
CARRIED

**G.3.2. Fire Services Response Fees Waiver Request**

413-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that County Council not waive the Fire Service Fees in the amount of \$3,087.50 per Invoice #113684 as requested and further that, any unpaid balances on the invoice be added to the related property tax roll as of December 31, 2021 per the Municipal Government Act if a payment plan is not accepted.

CARRIED

**G.3.3. Bylaw 21-021 - 2022 Utility Rates**

414-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that Bylaw 21-021 - 2022 Utility Rates be read a first time.

CARRIED

415-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that Bylaw 21-021 - 2022 Utility Rates be read a second time.

CARRIED

416-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that Council consider third reading of Bylaw 21-021 - 2022 Utility Rates.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

417-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that Bylaw 21-021 - 2022 Utility Rates be read a third time.

CARRIED

**G.3.4. Quarterly Financial Report - August to October 2021**

418-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that the surplus wages, per diem and travel rates in the Council budget as of December 31, 2021 be transferred to the Council Discretionary Reserve.

CARRIED

419-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that the additional revenues earned in the Planning & Development Department as of December 31, 2021 be moved to the Tax Equalization Reserve.

CARRIED

420-2021 Deputy Reeve VanderVeen MOVED that the additional revenues earned from Fire Services and Fines as of December 31, 2021 be transferred to the Emergency Services Contingency Reserve.

CARRIED

421-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that the funds received for the Municipal Operating Support Transfer to assist with the cost increases and reduced revenues in 2020 due to COVID in the amount of \$1,053,334 be transferred to the Tax Equalization Reserve.

CARRIED

**G.4. ADMINISTRATION**

**H. CORRESPONDENCE**

**H.1. National Police Federation**

**H.2. Royal Canadian Mounted Police**

**H.3. Coaldale-Lethbridge Growing Project Canadian Food Grains Bank**

422-2021 Deputy                      MOVED that Correspondence items H.1 - National Police Federation, Reeve                      H.2 - Royal Canadian Mounted Police and H.3 - Coaldale-Lethbridge VanderVeen              Growing Project Canadian Food Grains Bank be accepted for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Campbell recessed the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:04 p.m. with all members of Council present as previously stated.

**G.3 CORPORATE SERVICES**

**G.3.5 2022 - 2024 Operating & 2022 -2026 Capital Budget**

423-2021 Councillor              MOVED that the 2022 Operating Budget expenses in the amount of \$28,532,195 as outlined in Attachment 1 be approved, and that the 2023 and 2024 Operating Budget expenses in the amounts of \$28,895,285 and \$29,313,538 respectively be approved in principle.

CARRIED

424-2021 Councillor              MOVED that the 2022 Capital Budget expenses in the amount of \$9,877,500 as outlined in Attachment 1 be approved, and that the 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 Capital Budget expenses in the amounts of \$11,555,000, \$11,535,000, \$6,846,000 and \$8,193,000 respectively be approved in principle.

CARRIED

**I. NEW BUSINESS**

**J. COUNTY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**K. CLOSED SESSION**

**K.1. - Land Matter (FOIP Section 16 - Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)**

425-2021 Councillor              MOVED that the Lethbridge County Council Meeting move into Closed Session, pursuant to Section 197 of the *Municipal Government Act*, at 1:18 p.m. for discussion on the following:

*K.1. - Land Matter (FOIP Section 16 - Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)*

Present during the Closed Session:

Lethbridge County Council

CAO

Senior Staff

Administrative Staff

CARRIED

426-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that Lethbridge County Council Meeting move out of the closed session at 1:52 p.m.

CARRIED

**G. COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**G.2.5 2:00 p.m. – Link Pathway Update**

427-2021 Deputy Reeve MOVED that Council provide conditional approval for MPE to investigate the 800m stretch of the route within the County right of VanderVeen way.

CARRIED

Peter Casurella, Henry Doeve and Kim Welby representing the Cor Van Raay Link Pathway were present to provide an update for Council.

**K. CLOSED SESSION**

**K.2. - Utility Company Discussion (FOIP Section 16 - Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)**

428-2021 Councillor Kuerbis MOVED that the Lethbridge County Council Meeting move into Closed Session, pursuant to Section 197 of the *Municipal Government Act*, at 2:38 p.m. for discussion on the following:

*K.2. - Utility Company Discussion (FOIP Section 16 - Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party)*

Present during the Closed Session:

Lethbridge County Council

CAO

Senior Staff

Administrative Staff

CARRIED

429-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that Lethbridge County Council Meeting move out of the closed session at 3:06 p.m.

CARRIED

**L. ADJOURN**

430-2021 Councillor Sayers MOVED that Lethbridge County Council Meeting adjourn at 3:07 p.m.

CARRIED

Reeve

CAO