



Rural Municipality of Lumsden No.189 and Town of Lumsden
Meeting Minutes
Joint Administration Supper Meeting January 21, 2020 - 06:00 PM

Call to Order

The R.M. of Lumsden No. 189 Council hosted the Joint Council Supper meeting for Council members of the Town of Lumsden and R.M. of Lumsden No. 189, held at the RiverPark meeting room, on Thursday, January 21, 2020 at 6:38 p.m. with Deputy Reeve Cody Jordison presiding.

Present:

Deputy Reeve, Chair: Cody Jordison
Mayor: Bryan Matheson

RM Councillors:

Glenda Schlosser

Town Councillors:

Jane Cogger, Byron Tumbach, Verne Barber, Dave Cameron

Staff:

Chief Administrative Officer: Monica Merkosky
Director of Finance: Ryan Haresign
Director of Planning and Development: Luke Grazier
Assistant Administrator: Krystal Strong
RM Public Works Manager: Leighton Watts

Delegates:

Honorable Lyle Stewart, MLA-Lumsden Morse
Chief Jeff Carey, Lumsden & District Fire Department (left at 6:54 pm)

Absent:

RM of Lumsden No. 189, Reeve: Kent Farago
RM Councillors: Jeremy Andrew, Cody Garbutt, John Langford
Town Councillors: Rhonda Phillips, Wes Holobetz

The group had a catered supper at 6:00 p.m. with the official meeting commencing at 6:38 p.m.

Introductions

Deputy Reeve, Cody Jordison, took a moment to introduce the Honourable Lyle Stewart, MLA for Lumsden-Morse, as well as the new Division No. 2 Councillor for the RM of Lumsden, Glenda Schlosser.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Councillor Cogger

"That we approve the agenda as presented."

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes

January 17, 2019 Supper Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Councillor Barber

"That the minutes of the January 17, 2019 supper meeting be approved, as circulated."

CARRIED

Delegations

6:40 pm - Lumsden & District Volunteer Fire Department - 2019 Annual Report

Lumsden & District Volunteer Fire Department (LDFD) Chief, Jeff Carey, appeared before Councils to present the 2019 Annual Report. Highlights include:

- 48 calls in 2019, down from 2018 (the Bethune Fire Department is trained and equipped to handle more calls, so that may be why calls are down, among other factors).
- Membership is full at 24 members, there were no changeovers this year. Members are highly qualified, they have good equipment and excellent training, which helps retain members.
- An in-house training weekend (Firefighter Boot Camp) went really well and they will do this again in 2020, rather than bringing in an outside instructor
- Goal for 2020 is to focus on upgrading medical skills
- LDFD will also be discussing assisting First Responder calls, by rotating members of the LDFD to ride out with First Responders
- Will be looking into the FireSmart Program
- The firehall is scheduled to be expanded in 2024, including more parking bays and training space added to the west side of the building
- LDFD has been practicing drills and evacuations with the schools and Heritage Home. Next will be the James Street Condo's.

Lumsden & District Volunteer Fire Department - 2019 Annual Report

Moved by: Councillor Tumbach

"That the report of the Lumsden & District Volunteer Fire Department be accepted, as presented by Fire Chief Jeff Carey."

CARRIED

Greetings from Honourable Lyle Stewart

The Honourable Lyle Stewart, brought greetings and praised the RM of Lumsden and Town of Lumsden for working collaboratively to achieve their community's goals.

Project Updates

Town of Lumsden Wastewater Treatment Facility - Mayor Bryan Matheson

Mayor Bryan Matheson indicated that the Wastewater Treatment Facility construction continues. The original plan to be operational in October of 2020 has now been postponed to January 2021. Construction also continues on Lift Station #1 (located near Kissel Cabbage).

Accept Wastewater Treatment Facility Report

Moved by: Councillor Barber

"That the Wastewater Treatment Facility report be accepted, as presented by Mayor Bryan Matheson."

CARRIED

RM of Lumsden No. 189 Updates - Deputy Reeve Cody Jordison

Deputy Reeve, Cody Jordison, provided updates regarding plans for the 2020 mulching program, including work scheduled for the Pense Grid.

Accept RM of Lumsden Update Report

Moved by: Councillor Cameron

"That the report of the Deputy Reeve, Cody Jordison, be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

Councillor Forum

Town of Lumsden Solar Project - Mayor Bryan Matheson

Mayor Bryan Matheson announced that the Town of Lumsden is in the development stages of a large solar project, in conjunction with the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The project has received a grant of \$1.6M, with a total project cost of \$2.6M. The project will supply solar power to the Wastewater Treatment Facility, two lift stations, Qu'Appelle Valley Nordic recreation site and the Recycle Centre. It will be the largest battery storage project in Western Canada. Construction will start in the spring and the Town expects an 8-10-year cost recovery period.

Highway Signs & Sign Corridor - Mayor Bryan Matheson

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mymmy

Mayor Bryan Matheson commented that the Town is waiting on the Department of Highways & Infrastructure to complete the Sign Corridor expansion project. The expansion should help clean up the abundance of illegal signs located along Highway No. 11, which are an eye sore.

Regional Cooperation Workshop - Mayor Matheson

Mayor Bryan Matheson reminded Councils that SARM and SUMA are hosting a Regional Cooperation Workshop in Lumsden on Wednesday, January 29th at the Centennial Hall.

Administration Highlights - CAO Monica Merkosky

At the request of Councillor Verne Barber, Chief Administrative Officer, Monica Merkosky provided the following Administrative Highlights:

- The new Munisoft Software conversion is going well.
- New in 2020, Assessment Notices will be sent out separately and earlier than Tax Notices. The 2020 assessments have been received by SAMA, for both the Town and the RM.
- The office will be converting our Chart of Accounts to match the Provincial Chart of Accounts.
- Work continues on setting up new financial statements using the new software.
- It has become obvious that the new software may require new servers in the office, the current servers do not seem to keep up and operate too slowly.
- Management has met and discussed filling the vacancy in the office. Hiring a Junior Planner will assist the Director of Planning and Development, who has an extremely demanding workload that is currently unsustainable.
- Monica commented that she very much appreciates the hard work of her staff.

Lumsden & District Heritage Home - Councillor Byron Tumbach

Councillor Byron Tumbach advised the Hon. Lyle Stewart that he had been appointed to the Heritage Home Board and that they, like many other care facilities, are experiencing an infrastructure problem. Councillor Tumbach also explained his concern with the Saskatchewan Health Authority requiring every care facility to produce an audited financial statement by May 15th annually, when their year-end is March 31st. Councillor Tumbach feels that a 45-day period to have financial statements audited is unrealistic.

Regional Cooperation - Suggested SUMA Resolution - Mayor Bryan Matheson

Mayor Bryan Matheson advised the RM Council that the Town will submit a resolution at the upcoming SUMA convention, encouraging SUMA to work collaboratively with SARM to allow both SARM and SUMA members to attend training sessions together related to regional cooperation.

Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Cogger

"That we adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm."

CARRIED



Chairperson



Chief Administrative Officer