

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9  
Tuesday, June 27, 2023 2:00 pm  
Council Chambers

Present: Reeve Rick Lemire, Deputy Reeve Tony Bruder, and Councillors Dave Cox, John MacGarva and Harold Hollingshead.

Staff: CAO Roland Milligan, Director of Finance Meghan Dobie, Public Works Manager Patrick Gauvreau, Development Officer Laura McKinnon, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Rick Lemire called the meeting to order, the time being 2:00 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor John MacGarva

Moved that the agenda for the June 27, 2023 Committee meeting be amended to include:

Closed Session:

- a) Draft Strategic Plan – FOIP Sec. 24.1.a

AND THAT, the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

2. Delegations

- a) Travel Alberta

Yvonne Chau, Travel Alberta Team Member, Manager, Destination Development Southern Rockies & Calgary, attended the meeting at this time to discuss the changes with Travel Alberta and how they can work with the MD's and Towns in the area.

Travel Alberta's mandate is to work with local government and businesses to allow a community led co-creation of a plan to facilitate tourism in the area. This allows for a local government and businesses to have a say in how they want to see tourism develop in certain areas. They are also working with Alberta Parks to ensure that they understand what tourism means for the region, not just for the parks. Travel Alberta has been able to assist with advocating for municipalities with their concerns with increased traffic due to tourism.

Travel Alberta produced a survey to residents in the region regarding tourism, 82% of residents were in favor of increased tourism in our region, as opposed to 78% provincially wide. Council's concerns are that the Town may see economic benefit to businesses, the MD is left with the cost for extra road maintenance, garbage left out, lack of boat inspection areas etc. Travel Alberta is willing to share the surveys from our area with Council for their information.

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Tourism in our region has grown exponentially since the start of COVID as people are exploring their backyards more and more. Travel Alberta is looking at a holistic approach to growth and what would work in the areas that will see increased tourism. MD Council would like to be in communication with Travel Alberta prior to plans being put out to the public to ensure that the MD can be made aware and have comment. Travel Alberta is also working on a plan for an education component for visitors to an agriculture area.

Yvonne Chau left the meeting at this time, the time being 2:50pm.

b) Fire Hall

Fire Chief Pat Neumann attended the meeting at this time to discuss the current Fire Hall and the space limitations it currently has. The hall was built in the 1980's and has only had cosmetic changes to it since then. At present time there is a needs assessment taking place for all the Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission buildings to determine what the needs are and what can be retrofit or needs rebuilt.

Chief Neumann left the meeting at this time, the time being 3:00 pm.

c) Spring Point Colony

Mike Walter with Spring Point Colony attended with many colony members to request what is happening with the doctors that were at the local hospital. Historically we had 11 doctors in the community, we are currently down to 4 or 5. Council is aware of the shortage of doctors and has been working with the Town of Pincher Creek to work with Alberta Health Services and Ministers to address these concerns. This issue isn't just a Pincher Creek issue, many small communities are facing the same challenges.

The Associate Clinic in Town is a business and not ran by Alberta Health Services, therefore it is up to the clinic to do all the recruiting and hiring.

Linda Hammond spoke up to say that more and more people are self treating, and diagnosing at home rather than going to the hospital or clinic.

Council stated that AHS is a complaint driven system, and people need to speak up about the concerns. A suggestion was made for the colonies to send letters, with signatures, to the Ministers with their concerns.

Council appreciates the colonies attending a meeting and bringing forward issues in our community. Council will continue to lobby for more physicians in the area.

Colony members left the meeting at this time, the time being 3:33 pm.

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3. Closed Session

Councillor Dave Cox

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 3:40 pm.

- a) Draft Strategic Plan – FOIP Sec. 24.1.a

Councillor Tony Bruder

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 4:40 pm.

Carried

5. Round Table

Councillor Tony Bruder – resident called and stated they bought a garbage truck, uses it for only his own property. Took it to the landfill and it was over the 2 ton weight limit and was charged. Resident requested Council looks at how billing is done with landfill. Administration will look at a possibility of landfill doing cumulative weight, not a daily limit.

Councillor Harold Hollingshead – questioned status of leases. MD administration is currently reviewing how leases are dealt with.

Reeve Rick Lemire – Transmission Line Routes are made public for the Transalta Riplinger Projects Transmission Line. Possible open house in the MD to discuss.

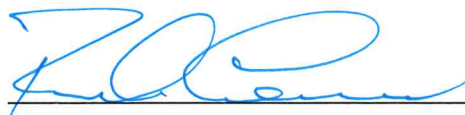
Councillor John MacGarva – Discussion around business licenses and how the MD plans to institute.

6. Adjournment

Councillor Tony Bruder

Moved that the Committee Meeting adjourn, the time being 5:24 pm.

Carried

  
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REEVE

  
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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER