

**AGENDA**  
**COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK**  
February 23, 2021  
**via GoToMeeting**  
9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Standpipe Beaver Mines
  - Refer to afternoon report G1b
3. Coal Development Policy Discussion
  - Lethbridge City Council Draft Resolution
4. Social Media Discussion
5. Follow Up Resident Concern – Post Bus Incident
6. Closed Session:
  - ICF – FOIP Section 17
  - PCEMSC – FOIP Section 17
  - Regional Airport Fee Proposal – FOIP Section 17
7. Adjournment

*Excerpt from Minutes  
City Council Meeting held Tuesday, February  
9, 2021*

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***Moved By:***  
**S.R. Miyashiro/B.A. Crowson**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**  
**Coal Mining on the Eastern Slopes of the Rockies**

**6.1**

WHEREAS Lethbridge is downstream from the proposed mining site and gets its water from the Oldman River and whereas these proposed projects have the potential of affecting the water in the entire Oldman Watershed; and

WHEREAS Lethbridge's and southern Alberta's economy and jobs may be impacted long-term if water quality issues affect the quality of our irrigation water and the reputation of our agri-food processing hubs may be damaged for years; and

WHEREAS Lethbridge and surrounding communities obtain their drinking water from the Oldman River and do not have the ability, as other communities affected by selenium pollution do, of digging a new well or finding a new source of water; and

WHEREAS there is at present, little scientific information on how to address selenium at the water treatment level; and

WHEREAS there are growing concerns among other southern Alberta communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council support other communities in their efforts, and direct the Mayor to write a letter to Premier Kenney, including the Ministers of Environment and Energy, **and the Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change – the Honourable Johnathan Wilkinson**, asking the Provincial Government to:

- 1. Thank the Government of Alberta for re-instating the 1976 Coal Policy; and**
- 2. Bring forward a comprehensive public consultation on proposed changes to the 1976 policy; and**
- 3. Complete a thorough and complete analysis of potential watershed impacts that will result from allocating water to mining operations that could impact the supply of water to existing and future downstream users;**
  - a. Complete a thorough and complete analysis of potential water quality impacts from mining operations, including but not limited to, higher levels of selenium in the river systems; and**
  - b. Complete a thorough and complete analysis of the effectiveness of selenium mitigation technologies; and**
  - c. Commit to ongoing monitoring and testing for selenium levels in Alberta river systems. Establish selenium thresholds for water safety and procedures to cease mining operations when thresholds are exceeded; and**
- 4. THAT Council also ask the Government of Alberta to review the Mine Financial Security Program to ensure that it is properly financed to ensure reclamation of any project that may go ahead so Albertans don't end up with another abandoned well program and/or if the environmental issues are not dealt with in advance, that there is money to do proper clean-up; and**
- 5. THAT Council request a full stop on any and all Watershed Water Allocation amendments, including those in the Oldman Watershed, pending Public Consultation on a new Alberta Coal Policy and comprehensive review of the potential watershed impacts on the Oldman Basin; and**
- 6. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council voice support on the Stop Work Orders for all existing exploration; and**
- 7. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council invite the MLA – Lethbridge East, Nathan Neudorf, MLA – Lethbridge West, Shannon Phillips and the Member of Parliament for Lethbridge, Rachael Harder to a conversation with Council on these matters, and to forward a copy of the letter to them.**