

MINUTES

Council Meeting
Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124
November 20, 2019
MD Administration Building, Slave Lake, AB

MEMBERS PRESENT

Murray Kerik - Reeve
Becky Peiffer - Division 1
Sandra Melzer - Division 1
Brian Rosche - Division 2
Brad Pearson - Division 2

MEMBERS ABSENT

Robert Esau - Division 1

IN ATTENDANCE

Allan Winarski - Chief Administrative Officer, MD LSR
Lana Spencer - Recording Secretary, MD LSR
Pat Sibilleau - Director of Finance, MD LSR
Alanis Marleau - HR Coordinator/Communications, MD LSR
Ann Holden - Planning & Development Officer, MD LSR
Khaled Mouallem - Utilities Foreman, MD LSR
Joe McWilliams - Lakeside Leader

CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Kerik called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA**

MOTION 399-19

Moved by Councillor Peiffer to adopt the Agenda with the following additions:

- V.S.I. Services Ltd.
- Board and Committee Appointments
- Budget Dates

CARRIED (5-0)

Reeve Kerik acknowledged the passing of fellow Councillor, Jeff Commins stating that he was a true asset to the community and will be greatly missed around this table and as a friend.

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES**

MOTION 400-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to adopt the *November 6, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes* as presented.

CARRIED (5-0)

MOTION 401-19

Moved by Councillor Rosche to adopt the *November 6, 2019 Public Hearing Meeting Minutes* as presented.

CARRIED (5-0)

ADMINISTRATION

BENCH PLAQUE DEDICATION - COUNCILLOR JEFF COMMINS

Council announced their intention of installing a plaque in memory of Councillor Jeff Commins at one of the two benches located at the Widewater Viewpoint. Administration confirmed that they have been in contact and will work with the family on the epitaph.

MOTION 402-19

Moved by Councillor Rosche that Council direct Administration to place a plaque on one of the benches at the Widewater Viewpoint in memory of Councillor Jeff Commins.

CARRIED (5-0)

APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER -BY-ELECTION

The Elected Authority may, by resolution, appoint a Returning Officer if someone other than the Chief Administrative Officer is to be the Returning Officer.

MOTION 403-19

Moved by Councillor Rosche to appoint Alanis Marleau as Returning Officer for the 2020 By-Election.

CARRIED (5-0)

2020 BY-ELECTION PROCEDURE

Nomination Day:

In the case of any by-elections that may occur between the 2017 and 2021 general elections, nomination day must occur 4 weeks prior to Election Day.

Notice of nomination day must be provided to the electors within the municipality by publishing a notice in the newspaper or publication circulating in the area for at least once a week in each of the two consecutive weeks prior to nomination day.

Nomination Day: January 8, 2020 between the hours of 10:00 and 12:00 Noon @ the Administration Building

MOTION 404-19

Moved by Councillor Melzer that Nomination Day for the 2020 By-Election being January 8, 2020 between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Noon held at the Administration Building be accepted for information.

CARRIED (5-0)

Voting Stations:

In accordance to the Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA), Section 36(1) The returning officer, if authorized by a resolution, may divide the local jurisdiction into voting subdivisions. If voting subdivisions are not established, the ward (division) is considered to be one voting subdivision.

Although this allows the Returning Officer to designate the location of more than one voting station, the Returning Officer has decided against more than one voting station.

The one Voting Station will be held at the MD Administration Building.

MOTION 405-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson that the one voting station being held at the MD Administration Building designated for the 2020 By-Election be accepted for information.

CARRIED (5-0)

Advance Vote:

An elected authority, by resolution, may provide for the holding of an advance vote on any vote to be held in an election. The Returning Officer must ensure that no advance vote is held within 24 hours of Election Day and determine the days and hours when the advance vote opportunity is to be held.

MOTION 406-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson an Advance Vote be facilitated on January 30, 2020 between the hours 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the 2020 By-Election.

CARRIED (5-0)

Election Day:

The Notice of Election and Requirements will be published throughout the month of January in the Lakeside Leader and advertised on the MD Website and local radio station.

Election Day will be held February 7, 2020 for the office of (1) Councillor for Division 2 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Voting Station will be located at the Slave Lake MD Administration Building (Division 2).

MOTION 407-19

Moved by Councillor Melzer that Council accepts for information that the Election Day is being held on February 7, 2020 for the office of (1) Councillor for Division 2 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

CARRIED (5-0)

AGRICULTURE ACT APPEAL PANEL APPOINTMENTS

The Agriculture Act Appeal Panel Policy J.18 adopted in 2019 states:

2.0 The Appeal Panel will consist of 3 members of the following five appointed members:

2.0.1 One member of Council (and one alternate) that does not stand on the Agricultural Service Board; and

2.0.2 four members of the agricultural community (must be residents within the Municipal District boundaries), acting as a pool of members.

2.0.3 Quorum of the Appeal Panel will be at minimum three members.

At the Organizational Meeting, Council made two members-at-large appointments and no alternate Councillor appointment for the Agriculture Act Appeal Panel.

MOTION 408-19

Moved by Councillor Peiffer to appoint Nancy Sand as a member-at-large to the Agriculture Act Appeal Panel for a one-year term.

CARRIED (5-0)

MOTION 409-19

Moved by Councillor Peiffer to appoint Councillor Pearson as an alternate to the Agriculture Act Appeal Panel for a one-year term.

CARRIED (5-0)

V.S.I. SERVICES LTD.

Councillor Melzer advised Council that at the V.S.I. meeting, it was requested to be considered that a 30-minute veterinary service fees for inspection on bees can be added as an eligible species to the list of VSI services.

Reeve Kerik advised that bees are studied by an entomologist and not a practiced service for veterinarians.

MOTION 410-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to approve the addition of bees and an eligible species on the list of V.S.I. Services Ltd. provided services.

DEFEATED (0-5)

BOARD AND COMMITTEES

With Councillor Jeff Commins passing, Councillor Pearson requested that Council provide support in the interim for representation on various Boards and Committees Councillor Commins was appointed to.

MOTION 411-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to temporarily appoint Councillor Rosche to the Lesser Slave Regional Waste Services Commission until after the 2020 by-election.

CARRIED (5-0)

MOTION 412-19

Moved by Councillor Peiffer to temporarily appoint Councillor Pearson to the Slave Lake Airport Commission until after the 2020 by-election.

CARRIED (5-0)

MOTION 413-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to temporarily appoint Councillor Esau to the Municipal Planning Commission until after the 2020 by-election.

CARRIED (5-0)

MOTION 414-19

Moved by Councillor Melzer to temporarily appoint Councillor Pearson to the Slave Lake Chamber of Commerce until after the 2020 by-election.

CARRIED (5-0)

MOTION 415-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to temporarily appoint Councillor Melzer to the Tri-Council Health Advocacy Committee until after the 2020 by-election.

CARRIED (5-0)

BUDGET MEETING DATES

Administration requested Council to amend scheduled budget dates.

MOTION 416-19

Moved by Councillor Rosche to amend Budget Meeting Dates to December 3rd, 5th and 6th, 2019.

CARRIED (5-0)

FINANCE

FINANCE REPORT

Council was presented with the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending October 31, 2019 including Municipal Operating Revenues and Expenses, Capital Fund and Statement of Financial Position.

Administration explained the budget process for carry forward project from previous year(s). Carry forward funds are transferred into reserves for the year in which it was approved to ensure taxation implications does not occur year after year on the same project.

MOTION 417-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to accept the *Finance Report* for month ending October 31, 2019 as information.

CARRIED (5-0)

CHEQUE REGISTERS

MOTION 418-19

Moved by Councillor Rosche to accept the *Cheque Registers* as information.

CARRIED (5-0)

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT**

INFORMATION ON INCENTIVES TO COMPLETE SUBDIVISIONS – TIME EXTENSION

Administration presented Council with examples, and options on incentives for developers to complete their subdivision in a timely manner and reasons for providing these incentives.

From Councils comments from the review, Administration will revise Subdivision Time Extension Policy H.7.

A draft Subdivision Information Package was also reviewed with Council.

	<p>MOTION 419-19 Moved by Councillor Pearson to table the <i>Information on Incentives to Complete Subdivisions – Time Extension</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED (5-0)</p>
RECESS	12:12 p.m.
RECONVENE	1:24 p.m.
	Administration continued with their presentation on time extension initiatives.
	<p>MOTION 420-19 Moved by Councillor Melzer that Administration to bring back to Council a revised <i>Subdivision Time Extension Policy H.7</i> with the addition of the incentives determined at this meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED (5-0)</p>
TAXATION	<p>SHALLOW GAS TAX RELIEF</p> <p>Alberta Municipal Affairs (MA) has advised the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River (MD) that the Government of Alberta has announced property tax relief for shallow gas producers.</p> <p>There will be a reduction of 35% on 2019 property taxes on shallow gas wells and related pipelines. There is some indication that there will be lower assessments in future years for older shallow gas assets. The lower assessment would be implemented in 2020.</p> <p>The MD will need to notify companies as required and issue refunds where more than 65% of property tax bill has been paid. The signed resolution and certification form will need to be submitted to the MA for review. Once the MA has received the resolution and certification, Alberta Education will credit the MD with the equivalent amount of the refund to the identified companies. The MD has missed the first cut off and will receive the rebate from Alberta Education in March 2020.</p> <p>For the 2019 tax year, there will be no financial impact to the MD. The total amount of the Shallow Gas Tax Relief for 2019 for properties in the MD is \$604.89. The amount has been confirmed by the MD tax department and assessors</p> <p>MOTION 421-19 Moved by Councillor Melzer that:</p> <p>Pursuant to section 347 of the Municipal Government Act, for all properties identified in the appendix – Summary of Tax Relief by Company, attached to and forming part of the council minutes, Council authorizes the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancellation and/or refund of the 2019 property taxes paid or owing so as to reduce by 35 per cent property taxes levied as per section 353 (2) of the Municipal Government Act, which includes municipal property taxes, requisitions detailed in section 326(1)(a) and 359(1)(2), as well as special taxes levied under section 382(1) where the tax rate is based on the assessment.• Cancellation and/or refund of tax penalties associated with the 2019 property taxes levied as per section 353(2) of the Municipal Government Act. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED (5-0)</p>
UTILITIES	<p>SMITH MEMBRANE TANK REPAIRS</p> <p>Administration advised Council that the membrane tank in Smith is in need of some urgent repairs.</p> <p>When the tank was purchased years ago, it was delivered without any protection. Not having any protection on it caused it to take some damage from rocks and such along the highway which later turned into small dents and rust spots which have grown into much bigger holes.</p>

Some of these damages also created rust spots inside the tank which of caused the fiberglass repairs to fall apart and creating small pieces to float around and damage membranes.

The current risk is that these small pieces will continue to harm our new membranes and that a very thin wall of fiberglass is all that is holding these tanks from falling apart where these large rust holes have developed. If one of these holes were to open up, this would drain the tank and eventually decommission the Smith Water Treatment Plant.

By repairing the inside and outside of the tank, the tank will have a much longer life and will protect the membranes from any further damages.

Council questioned the extent of the initial inspection of the tank and once work commences, if there will be more deficiencies found driving the estimate to higher costs. They also questioned the cost of purchasing and installing of a new tank.

Administration confirmed that more issues may be found once work commences. Once repairs are complete, the tank will have a lifespan of 10-20 years. Additionally, installing a new tank will cause issues of down time waiting for a new tank and installation leaving residents without water.

MOTION 422-19

Moved by Councillor Rosche that Administration have a non-destructive test (NDT) completed on the Smith Water Treatment Plant tank to verify extent of damage. Secondly, have Administration secure a quote for the replacement of the tank.

CARRIED (5-0)

BOARD REPORTS

Regional Library Board

- Appointments were made
- Smith renovations needed: flooring, wheelchair access
- Flatbush renovations needed: ceiling tiles

SHARA

- Casino fundraiser date approved
- Appointments were made
- Activities: Horn scoring, New Year's Eve dance, curling bonspiel on outdoor pad

Slave Lake Airport

- Appointments were made
- Fencing background
- Reviewed 2020 Budget
- Going forward with purchasing sweeper (\$322,000)

VSI

- Saskatoon Veterinary School is not accepting enrollment of Alberta students
- 52 Members
- 2.8 % increase

RMA

- Councillor's Rosche and Melzer spoke at the RMA Open Forum (1-minute time limit) on roads/rivers/rights and bridge/culvert maintenance
- Meeting discussions with the Minister of Municipal Affairs & RCMP K Division

Alberta Health Advisory

- Recruitment Update
- Presentation: Mental Health for Youth, Transportation Seniors funding cuts, hospital nutrition

MOTION 423-19

Moved by Councillor Pearson to accept the *Board Reports* as information.

CARRIED (5-0)

ADJOURNMENT

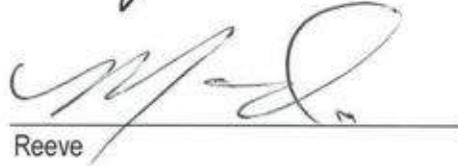
MOTION 424-19

Moved by Councillor Melzer to adjourn the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

CARRIED (5-0)



Chief Administrative Officer



Reeve