



**Minutes of the Regular of the Council of the Town of Bentley**

**December 12, 2023**

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**Date and Place** Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Town of Bentley held Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6:45 p.m., in the Bentley Municipal Office

**In Attendance** Mayor Greg Rathjen  
Deputy Mayor Eastman  
Councillor Grimsdale  
Councillor Valiquette  
Councillor Hansen  
CAO, Marc Fortais

**Call to Order** Mayor Rathjen called the regular meeting to order at 6:45pm

**Indigenous Acknowledgement** "We acknowledge that we are meeting on Treaty 6 Territory and Home of Metis Nation Region 3, on land that is part of a historic agreement involving mutuality and respect. We recognize all the many First Nations, Metis, Inuit, and non-First Nations whose footsteps have marked these lands."

**Read by Mayor Rathjen**

**Agenda**

**Motion 259/2023** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT the agenda of the December 12, 2023, Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council be amended to include an additional item as other business to discuss The Canada Green and Inclusive Buildings Program Application and the Federal Governments lack of response to the application."

**Carried**

**Motion 260/2023** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT the amended agenda of the December 12, 2023, Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council be accepted."

**Carried**

## Previous Minutes

**Motion 261/2023** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT the minutes of the November 28, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council be accepted."

**Carried**

## Financial

### a) Prepaid Cheque Listing – Cheques No. 20230875 to 20230891

**Motion 262/2023** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT Cheques No. 20230875 to 20230891 be received for information."

**Carried**

### b) Mayor and Council Remuneration Listings - November paid in December.

**Motion 263/2023** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT Mayor and Council Remuneration Listings for November and paid in December be received for information."

**Carried**

## New Business

### a) 2024 Preliminary Budget Presentation

CAO Marc Fortais provided a detailed presentation of the 2024 preliminary budget, there were several questions asked of the budget and the councillors made the following amendments to the budget:

**Motion 264/2023** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT the CAO be directed to revise the CPI index increase for staff wages from the 3.8% used in the preliminary budget to 2.5%."

**Carried**

**Motion 265/2023** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT the capital budget amount for the Oxford Park bathroom in the amount of \$235,405 be removed from the Preliminary 2024 budget."

**Carried**

**Motion 266/2023** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP), be given 1 years notice of the Town of Bentley's intention to withdraw from the organization."

**Carried**

**Motion 267/2023** Moved by Councillor Eastman, "THAT the 2024 preliminary budget, as amended through motions 264 to 266, be approved; AND

"THAT CAO Marc Fortais be directed to incorporate the amendments and bring the revised budget back to Council and the public as amended in the New Year at the first council meeting on January 9, 2024."

**Carried**

## **Correspondence**

### **a) Lacombe County Council Highlights – November 14, 2023**

**Motion 268/2023** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT correspondence item a) be accepted as information."

**Carried**

## **Other Business**

### **a) Town Office Closure for Christmas Holidays**

- **Closed Monday December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and opens again on Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.**
- Any payments received in the drop box and dated December 31, 2023, will be processed on Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, as if received on December 31, 2023

### **b) Canada Green and Inclusive Buildings**

- Mayor Rathjen provided an update on his conversations with Blaine Calkins Office.
- Mayor Rathjen also shared a letter with council that he wrote to the honorable Sean Fraser MP regarding our grant application.
- A formal meeting has been requested with the minister to discuss our application.

**Other business was shared as information – no formal motions**



## Council Reports

- a) Greg Rathjen
- b) Deputy Mayor Valiquette
- c) Councillor Hansen
- d) Councillor Eastman
- e) Councillor Grimsdale

**Motion 269/2023** Moved by Deputy Mayor Valiquette, "THAT the November council reports be accepted as information."

**Carried**

## Adjournment

**Motion 270/2023** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT the regular meeting of council for December 12, 2023, be adjourned at 9:27pm."

**Carried**



Mayor Greg Rathjen



CAO Marc Fortais