



**Minutes of the Regular of the Council of the Town of Bentley  
October 22, 2024**

*Regular Council meeting will be followed by the Town of Bentley Organizational Meeting approximately 7:30pm*

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**Date and Place** Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Town of Bentley held Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the Bentley Municipal Office

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

**Call to Order** Mayor Rathjen called the regular council meeting to order at 6:30pm

**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 192/2024** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT the agenda of the October 22, 2024, regular meeting of council be amended to include an item to discuss Utility Bylaw as Other Business."

**Carried**

**Motion 193/2024** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT the amended agenda of the October 22, 2024, regular meeting of council be accepted."

**Carried**

**Previous Minutes**

**Motion 194/2024** Moved by Deputy Councillor Grimsdale "THAT the minutes of the October 22, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council be accepted."

**Carried**

**Financial**

**a) Prepaid Cheque Listing – Cheques No. 20240778 to 20240827**

**Motion 195/2024** Moved by Deputy Mayor Eastman, "THAT Cheques No. 20240778 to 20240827 be received for information."

**Carried**

**New Business**

**a) Resident Letter of Concern – Herbicide Spraying**

**Motion 196/2024** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT administration be directed not to conduct any further herbicide spraying until Mayor and Council are provided further information regarding costs and options for alternative forms of spraying that are less harmful to the environment; AND THAT this information be provided to Mayor and Council by no later than May of next year.

**Carried**

**b) Bylaw 251-2024 – Bylaw to establish \$500,000 Line of Credit for 3 years for operating costs**

**Motion 197/2024** Moved by Councillor Valiquette, "THAT Bylaw 251-2024 a bylaw to establish a \$500,000 Line of Credit to cover any operating shortfalls for the next 3 years be read a first time this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2024."

**Carried**

**Motion 198/2024** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, "THAT Bylaw 251-2024 a bylaw to establish a \$500,000 Line of Credit to cover any operating shortfalls for the next 3 years be read a second time this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2024."

**Carried**

**Motion 199/2024** Moved by Deputy Mayor Eastman, "THAT Bylaw 251-2024 a bylaw to establish a \$500,000 Line of Credit to cover any operating shortfalls for the next 3 years be considered for third and final reading this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2024."

**Carried Unanimously**

**Motion 200/2024** Moved by Councillor Hansen, "THAT Bylaw 251-2024 a bylaw to establish a \$500,000 Line of Credit to cover any operating



shortfalls for the next 3 years be read a third and final time this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2024.”

**Carried Unanimously**

**c) Effluent Access Agreement – Baytex Energy Ltd**

**Motion 201/2024** Moved by Councillor Hansen, “THAT Mayor and Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, Marc Fortais to negotiate a contract with Baytex Energy for access to treated effluent from the wastewater treatment lagoons owned by the Town of Bentley.”

**Carried**

**Correspondence**

- a) Lacombe County Council Highlights October 10, 2024
- b) ATCO Gas Franchise Agreement – notice of application to be filed with Alberta Utilities Corporation

**Motion 202/2024** Moved by Councillor Grimsdale, “THAT correspondence item a to b be accepted as information.”

**Carried**

**Other Business**

**a) Utility Bylaw**

Councillor Hansen requested an update regarding the Utilities Bylaw.

CAO Marc Fortais indicated that the bylaw was much more complex than originally anticipated:

- The bylaw will consolidate, the garbage bylaw, utilities bylaw and also consider changes to recycling through the extended producer responsibility program.
- The bylaw will consider contracting commercial and residential garbage pickup out to find cost savings and better efficiency in service delivery.
- The bylaw will also take into consideration the findings from the Asset Management Phase I and II program, from the perspective of consideration of rates to ensure adequate reserves are established into the future.
- The bylaw mitigates risk and is being re-written from a risk avoidance standpoint to ensure that language protects the town and is clearer to the residents regarding whom is responsible for what when it comes to breaks or leaks.
- The bylaw will consider a new fee structure and a penalties and fine structure to allow for better enforcement of issues and ensure fairness when enforcement takes place, with escalating consequences for repeat offenders.

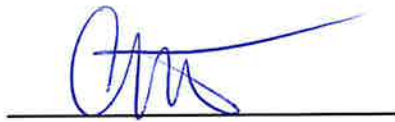


- Rates also involve research to neighboring communities to determine where Bentley is at in comparison to other communities.
- The update is a comprehensive update to the bylaw that will serve Bentley well for many years to come and still requires a full legal review.
- It is 98% complete, but due to competing priorities, there has not been time to get back to the bylaw.
- It is anticipated that it will come back in the first quarter next year, after budget, strategic planning and audit are completed.

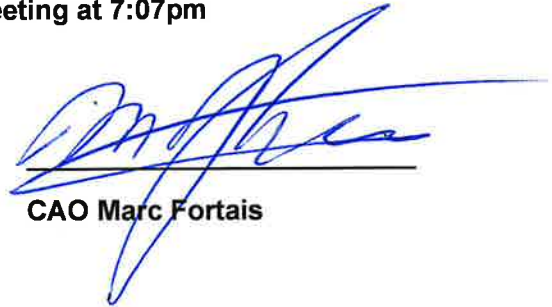
**No formal motion was made regarding this item**

**Adjournment**

**Mayor Rathjen adjourned the meeting at 7:07pm**



**Mayor Greg Rathjen**



**CAO Marc Fortais**