



STIRLING
Village of Stirling
Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2025 - Regular Meeting of Council - 07:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Stirling was held in the Council Chambers, located at the Stirling Community Centre/Lions Hall at 409 - 2 Street, on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Trevor Lewington, Deputy Mayor Larry Nilsson, Councillors Gary Bikman, Justin Davis, and Matthew Foss

CAO, Scott Donselaar
Municipal Clerk, Aletta Lightfoot

1. Regular Council Meeting – Call Meeting to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2025-001

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Nilsson

That the agenda be adopted as amended to include:

- Discussion Item 8.5: MPC Meeting Schedule

Carried

3. Recognition

There were no recognitions.

4. Delegations

4.1 Honourable Grant Hunter, MLA Taber-Warner

Hon. MLA Hunter asked if there were any upcoming changes that would impact Stirling?

- Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) formula
 - waiting on budget (deliberations in March)
 - in 2024 Stirling received approximately \$288,00.000 in LGFF funding
 - smaller municipalities don't necessarily have the same accessible tools that larger communities have access to
- Provincial Policing Cost
 - Federal government negotiated a 39% increase in police wages, leaving the provinces (and therefore, the municipalities) to pay for it
 - Communities under 5,000 are responsible for paying that cost

Hon. MLA Hunter briefly spoke on a few high points over the 2024 year:

- Three key pieces of Alberta legislation passed in 2024:
 1. Education Act
 - parents need to be involved and authorize pronoun requests for their children
 2. Health

- puberty Blockers
 - age of consent (adult decisions)

3. Only biological females are allowed to compete in women's sports
 Alberta Advantage - measures?

- December 2024
 - Added 35,000 jobs in Alberta
 - 40% of Canada's private sector jobs were created in Alberta

Premier Smith

- New tax bracket (saving Albertans over \$600/year)
 - stay tuned!

Thank you, Hon. MLA Hunter for supporting Stirling and helping finance the current and future large infrastructure projects that Stirling is planning (e.g.: lift station and forcemain upgrade [2024] and the water treatment project in 2025)

4.2 The Prentice Institute

Councillor Nilsson left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Councillor Nilsson returned to the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

The Barons-Eureka-Warner - Family & Community Support Services (BEW-FCSS) Needs Assessment Project, led by the Prentice Institute at the University of Lethbridge, is a 23-month initiative (June 2024 – March 2026) to evaluate community needs and assets across the 16 municipalities in the BEW region. The project aims to improve municipal service delivery by identifying gaps, understanding well-being needs, and providing data for planning and budgeting in alignment with Alberta's Provincial Prevention Priorities: homelessness, family and sexual violence, employment, mental health, and aging in communities.

Currently in the data collection phase, the project seeks broader participation in interviews and focus groups, especially from elected officials, municipal employees, and service providers. Key outputs include municipal needs and priorities reports, asset inventories, survey reports, and focus group results. The findings will support informed decision-making, shared services, and a collective focus on preventing social challenges.

5. Closed Session: Section 16 and 25 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Councillor Davis left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Councillor Davis returned to the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

2025-002

5.1 Motion to Enter into Closed Session

Moved By: Councillor Foss

To enter into Closed Session at 7:30 p.m. as per Sections 16 and 25 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Anne French (Grassroots Realty Group South) was present

Beth Nelson was present

Todd Nelson was present

Carried

2025-003

5.2 Motion to Come out of Closed Session

Moved By: Councillor Davis

Anne French (Grassroots Realty Group South) left at 7:48 p.m.

Beth Nelson left at 7:48 p.m.

Todd Nelson left at 7:48 p.m.

To come out of Closed Session at 8:15 p.m.

Carried

2025-004

5.3 Motion from Closed Session

Moved By: Mayor Lewington

To direct Administration to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting, with a Closed Session, for Wednesday, February 5, 2025, starting at 6:00 p.m.

Carried

6. Minutes

2025-005

6.1 Adoption of Minutes – December 18, 2024

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on December 18, 2024 be approved as amended.

Carried

6.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6.3 Motion Tracker

Council reviewed the Motion Tracker.

7. Financial Items

2025-006

7.1 Accounts Payable - #20240998 - #20250005, and EFT #310 - EFT #355

Moved By: Councillor Foss

That accounts payable Cheque #20240998 to Cheque #20250005, and EFT #310 to EFT #355 be approved.

Carried

2025-007

7.2 Bank Reconciliation: October, November & December 2024

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Nilsson

That the Bank Reconciliation for October, November & December 2024 be approved.

Carried

2025-008

7.3 Budget Report

Moved By: Councillor Bikman

That the Budget Report dated January 10, 2025 be accepted as information.

Carried

8. Items for Discussion

2025-009

8.1 2024 Development Officer Year End Report

Moved By: Councillor Bikman

To accept the 2024 Development Officer Year End Report as information.

Carried

2025-010 **8.2 2022 to 2025 Strategic Business Plan Update**

Moved By: Councillor Bikman

To accept the 2022 to 2025 Strategic Business Plan Update report as information.

Carried

2025-011 **8.3 New Website Review**

Moved By: Councillor Bikman

To accept the new website review report as information.

Carried

8.4 Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw

2025-012 **8.4.1 Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw - First Reading**

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Nilsson

To provide First Reading to Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

Carried

2025-013 **8.4.2 Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw - Second Reading**

Moved By: Councillor Bikman

To provide Second Reading to Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

Carried

2025-014 **8.4.3 Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw - Proceed with Third Reading**

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Nilsson

To proceed with Third Reading (as pursuant to section 97 of the Procedures Bylaw) of Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously

2025-015 **8.4.4 Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw - Third and Final Reading**

Moved By: Councillor Davis

To provide Third and Final Reading to Bylaw 553-25: Amendment to Bylaw 551-24 Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.

Carried

2025-016 **8.5 MPC - Meeting Schedule**

Moved By: Mayor Lewington

That Council direct Administration to amend the Corporate Handbook to reflect meetings of the Municipal Planning Commission to 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, and further direct that the Development Officer be authorized to set meetings earlier should agenda requirements necessitate. Council further directs that all forms and processes related to the MPC meeting be amended accordingly.

Carried

2025-017

9. CAO Report

Moved By: Councillor Foss

That the CAO Report be accepted as information.

Carried

10. Council Committee Meeting Reports

Mayor Lewington:

- Meeting with CAO Donselaar regarding marketing opportunities for Ridge Utilities on January 6
- Interview with Chris Brown for the Cross Border Network podcast on January 8

Deputy Mayor Nilsson:

- Nothing to report

Councillor Bikman:

- Chief Mountain will be evaluating/studying the effectiveness of diverting food and yard waste through collection of organics at curb-side. Stantec (consulting) is assisting. There was some discussion of providing incentives to municipalities that have developed organic recycling programs.

Councillor Davis:

- Nothing to report

Councillor Foss:

- Nothing to report

2025-018

11. Correspondence and Items for Information

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the following correspondence be accepted as information:

Carried

11.1 Mayors & Reeves

11.2 Edmonton Global - Global Builds

11.3 Chinook Arch Regional Library System

11.4 Ridge Regional Public Safety Services Commission (RRPSSC)

11.5 Alberta Municipal Affairs

11.6 Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission

2025-019

12. Council Highlights

Moved By: Councillor Davis

To highlight the following from this Council Meeting for immediate public release:

- Honourable Grant Hunter, MLA Taber-Warner
- Prentice Institute - Community Outreach: FCSS Needs Assessment
- Mass Notification sign up - visit the new website!

Carried

2025-020

13. **Adjournment**

Moved By: Councillor Bikman


That the agenda matters have been concluded and that the meeting be adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Carried

These minutes to be approved on the 5th day of February 2025



Mayor - Trevor Lewington



CAO - Scott Donselaar