



STIRLING

Village of Stirling

Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2026 - 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, September 16, 2026, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Scott Barton, Deputy Mayor Stacey Maynes, Councillors Justin Davis and Nikole Norris

Chief Administrative Officer, Scott Donselaar
Senior Administrative Assistant, Aletta Lightfoot

1. Regular Council Meeting – Call Meeting to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

3. Recognition

Council would like to recognize What's Pop'n Pop Shop. This is the final week the Pop Shop will be open. The last day is Saturday, September 19, from 12:00pm - 7:00pm.

4. Delegations

4.1 SouthGrow - Peter Casurella, Executive Director

Council received a presentation from SouthGrow Regional Economic Development outlining the organization's ongoing initiatives and accomplishments throughout Southern Alberta. SouthGrow highlighted its work in strategic collaboration, marketing and communications, and economic development, including community economic development planning, investment attraction, regional partnerships, infrastructure, agri-food development, and energy initiatives.

Highlights from 2025 included the expansion of the Southern Alberta Economic Summit to a two-day event with more than 160 attendees; nearly 300 stakeholder interviews completed as part of Community Economic Development Planning; support for a \$500 million biofuel investment in Alberta; assistance to 26 communities and organizations through the Grant Hotline; installation of more than 200 Blackfoot language signs; and continued advancement of the SouthGrow Power Project, Highway 3 Twinning, and regional investment and trade initiatives. SouthGrow continues to represent 29 communities and more than 180,000 residents across Southern Alberta.

SouthGrow also presented its 2026–2027 priorities, which include continued regional partnerships, the SouthGrow Power Project, economic development and investment attraction, community economic development plans, regional business licensing, trade missions, labour and biofuel research, and energy innovation initiatives.

4.2 SouthGrow - Morgan Elemans, Economic Development Officer

Council received the Village of Stirling 2026 Community Economic Development Plan prepared by SouthGrow Regional Initiative. The Plan was developed using municipal documents, stakeholder input, regional research, and SouthGrow's knowledge of the community to identify Stirling's economic development strengths, challenges, opportunities, and priorities.

The review identified Stirling as a safe, family-focused community with strong community pride, a K-12 school, recreation and tourism assets, fibre broadband, National Historic Site status, a net-zero identity, and proximity to Lethbridge. Key challenges include a limited local business and service base, a predominantly residential tax base, limited commercial and industrial land, aging infrastructure, and a lack of diverse housing options, particularly rental, smaller-unit, and seniors housing.

The Plan establishes five priority strategy areas: Housing and Land Readiness; Local Business and Services Growth; Infrastructure and Servicing Capacity; Tourism and Community Identity; and Regional Positioning and Attraction. Recommended projects include reviewing opportunities for additional housing types and seniors housing; planning for annexation and future development land; identifying and attracting needed businesses and services; aligning infrastructure improvements with growth areas; pursuing infrastructure grants; strengthening tourism and recreation opportunities; and marketing Stirling to prospective residents, remote workers, businesses, and investors.

The Plan also provides performance measures to assist the Village in monitoring progress in areas such as housing and land development, business growth, infrastructure readiness, tourism, and resident and investment attraction.

5. Minutes

2026-244

5.1 Adoption of Council Minutes – September 2, 2026

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on September 2, 2026 be approved as amended.

Carried

5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no new business arising from the Approved Minutes.

5.3 Motion Tracker

Council reviewed and discussed the Motion Tracker.

6. Financial Items

2026-245

6.1 Accounts Payable

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

That accounts payable:

- Cheque #20260079 to Cheque #20260085,
- EFT #20266902 to EFT #20266923

be approved.

Carried

7. Items for Discussion

7.1 Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation: Bringing Hearts Home

Council discussed.

7.2 2026 ABmunis Resolutions Book

Council discussed.

2026-246

7.3 Bylaw 566-26: Residential Assessment Subclasses Bylaw

Moved By: Councillor Davis

To provide Third and Final Reading to Bylaw 566-26: Residential Assessment Sub-Classes Bylaw.

Carried

2026-247

8. CAO Report

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

That the CAO Report be accepted as information.

Carried

9. Council Committee Meeting Reports

Mayor Scott Barton:

- September 3, 2026 - ORRSC Board meeting the Main discussion centered around their 2027 Budget and Strategic Plan. The Villages fees will increase in 2027.
- September 4, 2026 - Mayor's and Reeve's meeting. MLA Grant Hunter provided a very thorough review of issues the province is dealing with. There was a very positive Q&A. Please let me know if you would like a copy of his briefing notes.
- September 9, 2026 - Meeting with CAO

Deputy Mayor Stacey Maynes:

- Fall Festival is this Saturday, September 19
 - 3pm - 7pm
 - Night Walk starts at 9:00pm

Councillor Justin Davis:

- Ridge Water Services Commission

Councillor Nikole Norris:

- Nothing to report

2026-248

10. Correspondence and Items for Information

Moved By: Councillor Norris

That the following correspondence be accepted as information:

Carried

10.1 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)

10.2 Ridge Regional Public Safety Services Commission (RRPSSC)

10.3 Oldman River Regional Services Commission (ORRSC)

10.4 Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission (CMRSWSC)

10.5 Louise ZoBell Legacy Auction

11. Council Highlights

Moved By: Mayor Barton

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

- SouthGrow presentations:
 - Village of Stirling 2026 report
 - 2026 Community Economic Development Plan
 - [Grant Advice Hotline](#) (free of charge)
- Fall Festival is THIS Saturday
Sept. 19 3pm - 7pm
Reunion Centre
nighttime walk starts at 9pm
- FCSS Clothing Exchange
Wednesday, Sept. 30
Stirling Community Centre
donations accepted until Sept. 29
[drop off at Stirling FCSS building (417 – 2 St)]

Carried

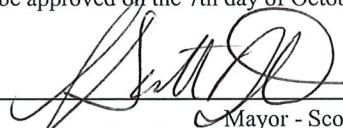
12. Adjournment

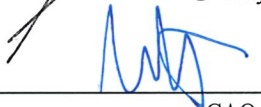
Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the agenda matters have been concluded and that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Carried

These minutes to be approved on the 7th day of October 2026.



Mayor - Scott Barton

CAO - Scott Donselaar