



MINUTES – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Meeting of Valley Waters Council was held on January 14, 2025, 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building. Those present were Mayor Randy McKnight, Deputy Mayor Carey Beth Gillis, Councillors Harold Keith, Charity McDonald, Lindsey Ganong, Mary Francis Keirstead, and Stephen Muir. Staff: Angela McLean and Jackie Clement

Motion: To approve the meeting agenda with a change, removing item 7B.

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

Seconded by: Councillor Keith

MOTION CARRIED.

No recording of Conflicts of Interest.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Muir

Seconded by: Councillor Ganong

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Ganong

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Gillis

MOTION CARRIED.

CAO's REPORT: Councillor Keith questioned how much CN land is on Perkins Drive. The CAO will follow up. Councillor Ganong inquired why CN would be more apt to allow the tracks to be used than the land near the tracks. The CAO explained that the section of tracks that would be used has been decommissioned. For active tracks, there are restrictions in place for safety reasons and distances required by CN.

Councillor Muir asked how 911 calls are dispatched to our Fire Departments. The CAO will verify but explained that there is a scale depending on severity of the situation. Councillor Muir would like clarification regarding a call where there was a spinal injury.

Deputy Mayor Gillis asked about next steps after DTI refused our request for a crosswalk near BES.

Mayor McKnight asked if both schools would be required to cross in an emergency. He believes the School Board has an interest as well. The CAO suggested a letter written campaign to DTI and the MLA, and will do a social media post. We should also ask for a proper sidewalk.

Councillor McDonald inquired about the changes to hauling contracts which the CAO is re-negotiating. The CAO explained that they are now paid by Circular Materials for recyclables.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. KRSC Building Permit Report, December 2024

NEW BUSINESS & CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS:

Motion: To amend the resolution of November 25, 2024 as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the sum of **\$4,573,698** be the total operating budget of Valley Waters, that the sum of **\$4,067,782** be the Warrant of the local government for 2025, and that the residual tax rate for Wickham be \$0.6136.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Gillis

Seconded by: Councillor McDonald

MOTION CARRIED.

The motion to approve Annual Committee and Board Appointments is being postponed to the next meeting. Council was asked to send expressions of interest to the CAO.

The funding request from MADD was not supported. Council has previously agreed that funding will remain for local charities only.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, MAYOR'S AND COUNCILLORS' REMARKS:

A. RSC Committees: All meetings remain on hold. The Mayor and CAO met with Minister Kennedy on December 16 who indicated that the Premier has given him a mandate to come up with a solution for Fiscal Reform this spring.

B. UMNZ Zone Reps: There has not been a meeting. The CAO asked if we could ask UMNZ to lobby for better communication with DTI.


C. Valley Waters Advisory Committees: Meetings will resume later this month.

D. Nutrien Civic Centre: Councillor Muir notified Council that he submitted his resignation from this board last week. Mayor McKnight reminded Council that the Belleisle Community Pool also has events and sponsor programs. Councillor Muir also mentioned that CAO had already made a post about ice safety, but he asked if another post could be made.

E. The CAO will poll Council to book a working session for the Strategic Plan.

Motion: To adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Moved by: Councillor Muir


MAYOR


CLERK/TREASURER