

Municipality of Lakeland Ridges
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 13th, 2025

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Leonard Foster
Councillor Perry Bull
Councillor Linda Porter
Councillor Randy Stairs
Councillor Chris Yerxa
Councillor Gary Grant

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Susan Patterson – CAO/Clerk

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor Ross Stairs
Councillor Patti Budd
Lana Sharpe – Treasurer

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Foster called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Stairs and seconded by Councillor Grant to approve the January 13th, 2025 regular meeting agenda.

All in favor.

Motion carried #01-2025

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

None

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

It was moved by Councillor Bull and seconded by Councillor Stairs to approve the minutes of the December 9th, 2024 with one addition. Councillor Porter would like it noted that under section 6, item k) that council also requested that staff look into a Land Use Agreement at the Ducks Unlimited location in Benton.

All in favor.

Motion carried #02-2025

5. PUBLIC INPUT/INQUIRES/PRESENTATIONS:

a) MP Richard Bragdon presented Clifton Furrow with the King Charles III Coronation Medal in recognition of over 65 years of volunteer service.

b) Greg Grant – postponed his presentation until the February council meeting.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

a) **Budget update** – The 2025 budget was submitted on Friday, January 10th but needed some revisions that required a new motion from council. Time ran out and the Minister set the tax rates at a 0.0135 increase for all eight subunits. Council is now required to pass a balanced budget, using the set tax rates, to be submitted to ELG for review and approval by January 31, 2025.

b) **Andy Baird** – Andy sent an email on January 13th informing council that he didn't think he was the correct person to create a CAO by-law. He suggested Andre Daigle or an HR Firm. Council agreed to ask Andre Daigle.

c) **Andre Daigle** – Andre proposed a Teams meeting for January 20th at 7pm to review the Code of Conduct by-law. Council confirmed the date.

d) **Street Light Policy** – reviewed changes.

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Porter and seconded by Councillor Grant to approve the Street Light Policy as written.

All in favor.

Motion carried #03-2025

e) **By-Law Enforcement Officer** – Mayor Foster informed council that he reached out to the RSC to get the name of the person that is currently providing this service to Hartland and Plaster Rock. He asked that Susie reach out and get an estimated cost.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

8. MAYOR'S REPORT:

No report given.

9. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS:

No reports given.

10. CAO'S REPORT:

No report this month as all items were covered within the agenda.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT:

No report provided.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Resignation letter from Councillor Buckingham – Upon Councillor Buckingham's request, his resignation letter was read publicly.

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Randy Stairs and seconded by Councillor Perry Bull to accept the resignation letter and declare the vacancy in Ward 4.

All in favor.

Motion carried #04-2025

b) Treasurer on leave – Susie informed council that she had received a medical note from Treasurer, Lana Sharpe, effective January 7 until April 7, 2025.

c) Emergency Response Policy for Fire Departments – Council Stairs shared Woodstock's policy and suggested council adopt a similar policy. This would allow Fire Department's to bill for MVA's (excluding Lakeland Ridge's residents).

13. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

14. CLOSED SESSION:

68(1)(j) – Mayor Foster and council asked the CAO/Clerk to leave the meeting. No clerk was present for the remainder of the meeting.

15. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

16. ADJOURNMENT – time unknown as clerk was not present.

Mayor

CAO/Clerk