

Municipality of Lakeland Ridges
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 13th, 2026

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Leonard Foster
Deputy Mayor Ross Stairs
Councillor Linda Porter
Councillor Patricia Budd
Councillor Randy Stairs
Councillor Chris Yerxa
Councillor Gary Grant
Councillor Barb Glanville

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Susan Patterson – CAO/Clerk
Lana Sharpe – Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

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 Yerxa to approve the March 9th, 2026 regular meeting agenda with the additions of Kirkland Community Hall and Financial Spending Authority.

All in favor.

Motion carried #0031-2026

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

none

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Grant and seconded by Councillor Glanville to approve the March 9th, 2026, regular meeting minutes.

All in favor.

Motion carried #032-2026

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Grant and seconded by Councillor Yerxa to approve the April 9th, 2026, special meeting minutes.

All in favor.

Motion carried #033-2026

5. PUBLIC INPUT/INQUIRIES/PRESENTATIONS:

a) Meductic Park Revitalization Committee – Mike MacIlroy addressed council on behalf of the committee requesting assistance in obtaining financial support for reviving and repairing the Meductic Memorial Park. They also asked for council's support and cooperation for grant application, tendering and permit submission. A brief overview of the committee's plans was read.

A spring cleanup day will be held on April 25 with plans to repair and fix some broken equipment. The committee requested council fund the cost of these materials. The estimated cost being under \$1,000.

Councillor Stairs said that would fall within the authority of the CAO. Susie asked that the quotes be forwarded to the office.

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Stairs and seconded by Councillor Grant to allow the Meductic Park Revitalization Committee to work with the staff and future council on the park project.

All in favor.

Motion carried #34-2026

b) Fire Resiliency update – Chief Foster informed council that the plan had been completed. Western New Brunswick Service Commission were overseeing the project. There are some errors that needed to be corrected before it will be made public.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) Animal Control By-Law – The third and final reading, by title only, was completed.

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Stairs and seconded by Councillor Glanville to adopt the Animal Control By-Law.

6 Yay votes

2 Nay votes from Councillor Porter and Councillor Budd

Motion carried #035-2026

b) NLFD expansion RFQ – Mayor Foster suggested waiting and allow the newly elected council decide due to the restrictions to decision making leading into the election. Councillor Stairs suggested moving forward because money had already been approved for the project. There was a discussion around the timing for posting on NBON and then calling a special meeting to review and award the tenders. Mayor Foster asked staff to move forward.

c) Meductic Septic in the park – A motion was made last fall to postpone the installation until April due the weather. The supplies were supposed to have been ordered at that time to take advantage of 2025 prices. Stairs Contracting, who was awarded the job, said they were told the pricing would not change much and they were waiting for the ground to dry up a bit but should start the project within two weeks.

d) Meductic Park update on licence agreement – Everything has been sent into the Property Services Branch for review.

e) Meductic Fire Rescue Truck – The truck has arrived and has been through the Canadian inspection. It will get plated this week.

f) Skiff Lake Waste Disposal site – AV will prepare a lease agreement for the use of the land. Once that is in place we can move forward with the fencing.

g) Letter of response from Minister - Mayor Foster read a letter of response from the Minister regarding a complaint from a Debec area resident. His department will be looking into the matter further.

h) Strategic Plan – the final plan is no complete. Susie will forward a copy to all of council. She also explained that there is a working document that staff will use to record progress as projects move forward.

i) Kirkland Community Hall – Councillor Porter questioned the funding for the Kirkland Hall. Susie reminded council that the funding was removed during the budget process. She also explained that the Kirkland Rec Committee was given a cheque for \$2500 in the fall to cover the cost of their 2025 insurance and the cost of their 2026 insurance.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

8. QUESTIONS REGARDING MAYOR'S REPORT

No report provided. Mayor Foster informed council the WNBSC board were continuing their work with Horizon and Margaret Melanson. They have now hired a full-time recruiter on a six-month term. There are at least four new doctors but with others leaving it keeps the staffing numbers about the same. They will also be installing a “tap system” in the parking lot so you no longer have to worry about having change.

9. QUESTIONS REGARDING COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

No reports provided.

10. QUESTIONS REGARDING CAO'S REPORT

Report was provided. No questions.

11. QUESTIONS TO THE TREASURERS REPORT

No report provided.

a) Motion to approve interest on CCBF accounts – Lana explained she was still waiting for confirmation from the auditor.

12. NEW BUSINESS

a) Quote for new lock system at MFD – Chief Foster asked for a quote from Oakford Company Ltd. for locking system at the Meductic Building. The quote includes 3 card readers, electric strike, fobs and at least 20 cards plus repair panic bar on the fire station door and install a longer sweep on the back door. The cost is \$8481.25 (including tax) plus the cost of an electrician. Susie reminded council that the current system was just installed last fall and cost over \$6,000 and that the problem with the fireman's door was with the door itself and not the locking system. Council decided to hold off at this time. We will need to have some fix the back door so it shuts properly.

b) North Lake Park Update – Mayor Foster said a meeting has been scheduled to meet with the Deputy Minister of Tourism on April 21st. He mentioned the petition that Richard Ames presented in the legislature and the video's that Greg Boone was sharing on social media.

c) Laptop return – A reminder to return laptops after May 11th.

d) Rural Plan By-Law – Councillor Porter said she spoke with Conor Tripp who confirmed the same information that the CAO gave council at the last meeting. It would be two years before they start our plan. She requested that Mayor Foster speak to the RSC and ask that they start our plan now because having to wait two more years was unacceptable. Mayor Foster suggested complaints be sent to our MLA as the RSC is provincially operated and their mandate will probably be increasing in the near future.

e) Letter to Minister of Agriculture – Councillor Budd read a letter that she and Councillor Porter worked on regarding the cuts made to the veterinary services/program. Council agreed the letter should be sent on behalf of council.

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Stairs and seconded by Councillor Grant to send the letter drafted by Councillor Budd and Councillor Porter to Premier Holt and several other officials listed.

All in favor.

Motion carried #036-2026

f) Finance Spending Authority – Councillor Stairs felt the Treasurer should be given full spending authority.

MOTION: It was moved by Councillor Stairs and seconded by Councillor Porter to allow the Treasurer to have full spending authority.

After a long debate, and due to the fact that the item was added to the agenda at the last minute with no supporting information, Mayor Foster asked if Councillor Stairs would like to rescind his motion. Councillor Stairs wanted the motion to go to a vote.

3 Yay votes (Councillor Stairs, Councillor Yerxa & Councillor Budd)

6 Nay votes

Motion denied.

13. UPCOMING EVENTS

An updated list has been posted on our website social media page

14. CLOSED SESSION

None

15. Date & Time of next meeting: June 8th, 2026

16. ADJOURNMENT at 9:10pm.

Mayor

CAO/Clerk