



Meeting Minutes of the Town of Didsbury  
Regular Council Meeting  
May 25, 2021  
Held through ZOOM Meetings

The regular meeting of Council for the Town of Didsbury was held through ZOOM Meetings on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 commencing at 6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor R. Hunter  
Deputy Mayor B. Windsor  
Councillor J. Baswick  
Councillor C. Engel  
Councillor D. Moore  
Councillor E. Poggemiller

**Staff:** Chief Administrative Officer, E. Gorner  
Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer, A. Riley  
Director of Engineering & Infrastructure, C. Fox  
Director of Community Services, N. Aasen  
Manager of Legislative Services/Recording Officer, L. Smith

**Regrets** Councillor M. Crothers

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mayor Hunter made an addition of item: 7.6 – CPR Railway Ties within Municipal Boundaries

Res. 246-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel to approve the agenda as amended.

Carried

**DELEGATION/PRESENTATIONS** – *No delegations or presentations*

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Res. 247-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to approve the May 11, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

Carried

Res. 248-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to approve the May 19, 2021 Additional Council Meeting Minutes as amended.

Carried

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** *No public hearings*

**BYLAWS & POLICIES**

**Utility Charges Bylaw 2021-03**

Res. 249-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to grant third and final reading to Utility Charges Bylaw 2021-03 as amended.

Carried

**Tax Rate Bylaw 2021-04**

Res. 250-21      MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to grant third and final reading to Tax Rate Bylaw 2021-04 as amended, with a tax revenue split of 86.6% for residential and 13.4% for non-residential.

Carried

**Policy CS 003-21 Community Grant Program**

Res. 251-21      MOVED by Councillor Moore to approve Policy CS 003-21 Community Grant Program as amended, with the first in-take deadline on July 15, 2021.

Carried

Res. 252-21      MOVED by Councillor Moore to rescind Policy CS 001 Promotional Requests.

Carried

Res. 253-21      MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to rescind Policy CS 211 Financial Support for Community Groups.

Carried

**BUSINESS**

**Advance Poll 2021 Municipal Election**

Res. 254-21      MOVED by Councillor Engel to approve the 2021 Municipal Election Advance Poll to be held on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 and Thursday, October 7, 2021 from 12 noon to 8 p.m. the Town of Didsbury Council Chambers located at 1606 14 Street.

Carried

**Elector Assistance at Home Vote 2021 Municipal Election**

Res. 255-21      MOVED by Councillor Engel to approve the 2021 Municipal Election Elector Assistance at Home Vote to be held on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 and Thursday, October 7, 2021 by appointment only, with the deadline to book appointments on Tuesday, October 5, 2021.

Carried

**Institutional Poll 2021 Municipal Election**

Res. 256-21      MOVED by Councillor Moore to approve the 2021 Municipal Election Institutional Poll to be held on Monday, October 18, 2021 at the following locations and times:  
Didsbury Hospital from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Aspen Ridge Lodge from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and  
Bethany Care Facility from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Carried

**Form of Ballot 2021 Municipal Election**

Res. 257-21      MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to approve to include the following questions on the ballot for the 2021 Municipal Election:

Do you support an increase to municipal taxes for the Town of Didsbury to proceed with Train Whistle Cessation?  YES or  NO (please mark one)

Do you support an increase to municipal taxes for the Town of Didsbury to increase improvements to roads?  YES or  NO (please mark one)

Carried

  
Initials

**Mountain View Summer Games Legacy Fund Disbursement**

Res. 258-21      MOVED by Councillor Moore to refer the Mountain View Summer Games Legacy Fund Disbursement to the Strategic Planning Committee for review and to provide a recommendation to Council.

**Carried**

**CPR Railway Ties within Municipal Boundaries**

Res. 259-21      MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to approve the Mayor forwarding a letter on behalf of Council to Canadian Pacific Railway outlining the expectation that the piles of railway ties along the tracks within municipal boundaries be removed from within our boundaries in as expeditious manner as possible.

**Carried**

**REPORTS**

**COVID-19 Update**

Res. 260-21      MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to accept the COVID-19 update for May 25, 2021 as information.

**Carried**

**CAO Report**

Res. 261-21      MOVED by Councillor Engel to accept the Chief Administrative Officer's Report for May 25, 2021 as information.

**Carried**

**Council Reports**

Res. 262-21      MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to accept the Council Reports for May 25, 2021 as information.

**Carried**

**CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**

- Support for RCMP Letter from Town of Raymond
- Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes - March 24, 2021
- Policy & Governance Committee Meeting Notes – April 21 & May 5, 2021
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes – April 20, & May 6, 2021
- Performance Evaluation Committee Meeting Notes – April 15, 2021
- Didsbury Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting Notes – April 19, 2021

Res. 263-21      MOVED by Councillor Poggemiller to accept the correspondence and information items presented as information.

**Carried**

**COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

- Council approved the Tax Rate Bylaw, with only slight increases to residential and non-residential tax rates. With the overall taxable assessment being down by \$15,641,000 and the net cost of policing having increased by \$331,566 since 2018, taxpayers will not see an appreciable difference in their tax bill from last year.
- Council approved a new policy for a Community Grant Program. This program will provide financial support and assistance to community organizations/groups/clubs and/or festival/event organizers with a demonstrated need to enhance a project, program, or service in our community. The focus of the grant support for 2021 will be to assist groups in recovering from the pandemic and the loss of fundraising initiatives.



Initials

- Council approved having two questions on the 2021 Municipal Election Ballot; do you support an increase to municipal taxes for the Town of Didsbury to 1) proceed with Train Whistle Cessation and 2) to increase improvements to town roads. Council wants the community to help set the direction on these issues.
- Council requested Mayor Hunter send a letter to Canadian Pacific Railway requesting the removal and cleanup of the railway ties along the tracks.
- Council approved a new Utility Charges Bylaw which includes changes to the water service fee structure that now will include a fixed infrastructure fee, a water consumption rate, and a water distribution rate. Also approved in the bylaw was a reduction to solid waste services fees that reflects a reduced fee in solid waste collection, as well as the opportunity to access additional green, blue, or black bins at a revised and reduced cost.
- The 2021 Municipal Election Advance Poll dates were set for Wednesday, October 6 and Thursday, October 7 to run from noon to 8 p.m. at the Town of Didsbury Council Chambers 1606 – 14 Street.

QUESTION PERIOD – No questions

CLOSED MEETING

Res. 264-21      MOVED by Councillor Engel to go into closed meeting in accordance with Division 2 Sections 16, 23, 24 and 25 of the *FOIP Act* at 8:06 p.m.

The following staff attended the closed meeting session with Council:

- E. Gorner, Chief Administrative Officer
- A. Riley, Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer
- C. Fox, Director of Engineering & Infrastructure
- L. Smith, Manager of Legislative Services/Recording Officer

RECONVENE

- Res. 265-21      MOVED by Councillor Baswick to come out of closed meeting at 9:57 p.m. **Carried**
- Res. 266-21      MOVED by Councillor Engel for Administration to bring back information into the costs and options associated with the proposal presented. **Carried**
- Res. 267-21      MOVED by Councillor Baswick for Administration to bring back information of grants for capital Funding. **Carried**
- Res. 268-21      MOVED by Councillor Poggemiller to approve the Committee Plans in principle and that they formally be presented at the June 8, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. **Carried**
- Res. 269-21      MOVED by Councillor Baswick for Mayor Hunter to write a letter on behalf of Council expressing their displeasure with the current undeveloped and incomplete state of Heritage Crossing. **Carried**

  
Initials

ADJOURNMENT

Res. 270-21      MOVED by Councillor Moore to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of May 25, 2021 at 10:00  
p.m.

**Carried**



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Mayor – Rhonda Hunter



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Chief Administrative Officer – Ethan Gorner

