

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers, 240 Main St. Milk River, Alberta

Monday, April 13, 2026

Council Members Present Mayor Larry Liebelt
Deputy Mayor Shayne Johnson
Councillor Don Cody
Councillor Dave Degenstein
Councillor Dorothy Fraser

Administration CAO – Ethan Gorner

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Res. 2026-050

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To adopt the agenda for the April 13, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, as presented.

Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Res. 2026-051

MOVED by Councillor Cody

That the minutes for March 9, 2026, Regular Council Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

4. DELEGATIONS – *Ryan Vogt, Municipal Assessor*

Res. 2026-052

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To thank Mr. Vogt for his presentation and to accept it as information.

Carried.

5. DIRECT CONTROL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION (VIC Building)

Res. 2026-053

MOVED by Councillor Fraser

To thank Pastor Dangerfield for the presentation and application and accept it as information.

Carried.

6. POLICIES & BYLAWS – None

7. BUSINESS

a) LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Res. 2026-054

MOVED by Councillor Fraser

To appoint Scott Harvey and Rita Lodermeier to the Milk River Municipal Library Board for a term expiring April 10, 2029, and to express appreciation to Lesley Oslanski for her service.

Carried.

b) MITAC GRANT – STUDENT INTERN

Res. 2026-055

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To approve the MITAC application for a Business Strategy Intern and commit \$5,000 towards the program.

Carried.

c) FARM LEASE

Res. 2026-056

MOVED by Councillor Cody

To approve the farm lease bid of \$101 / acre and direct administration to enter a lease agreement with Brady Thielen.

Carried.

d) PEACE OFFICER PRIORITIES

Res. 2026-057

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Johnson

To set the 2026 peace officer priorities as:

- 1) *Unsightly premises (non-complaint initiated)*
- 2) *Public Safety (School zone traffic enforcement; dog enforcement)*
- 3) *Officer Visibility in the Community (Patrol Presence)*

Carried.

e) BACKROADS ALBERTA PRODUCTION

Res. 2026-058

MOVED by Councillor Cody

To approve participation in the Backroads Alberta Production and commit \$12,000, spread over the next two years, with this approval effective March 26, 2026.

Carried.

f) BUDGET MEETING

Res. 2026-059

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Johnson

To set an additional Council meeting for Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 6pm.

Carried.

g) TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION

Res. 2026-060

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To set the transfer station hours, effective April 17, 2026, as:

- Tuesday & Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm, Saturday 8:00am – 4:00pm

Carried.

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h) BACK LANE GRAVEL

Res. 2026-061

MOVED by Councillor Cody

To approve the gravel enhancement in the laneway behind the empty lot as outlined and explore fence options.

Carried.

i) HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION LAND TRANSFER

Res. 2026-062

MOVED by Councillor Fraser

To approve the transfer of the old school land to the town and the accompanying agreement and direct administration to complete the transfer with Horizon School Division.

Carried.

j) BALL DIAMOND BATHROOMS

Res. 2026-063

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Johnson

To approve turning on the water to the ball diamond bathroom & kitchen, and that the date for this be April 1 going forward, weather dependent, and that administration implement cold-mitigation measures to protect against frozen pipes.

Carried.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) County of Warner Letter of Appreciation – Support for Emergency Services
- b) Heartland Training & Support Hub – Appreciation for Support
- c) Minister Dan Williams (Municipal Affairs) – Overview of Bill 28
- d) Minister Dan Williams (Municipal Affairs) – Assessment Model Review Update

Res 2026-064

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To accept the correspondence items as information.

Carried.

5. REPORTS

a) CAO REPORT

Res. 2026-065

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

That the CAO Report be accepted as information.

Carried.

Res. 2026-066

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Johnson

To explore turf in the restoration of the kiddy pool site.

Carried.



Res. 2026-067

MOVED by Councillor Cody

To approve the opening of the pool as close to the start of June as operationally possible.

Carried.

b) MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

Res 2026-068

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To accept the Mayor & Council Reports as information.

Carried.

10. CLOSED SESSION

Res 2026-069

MOVED by Councillor Cody

To go into **CLOSED** meeting at 9:26p.m. for the following items:

- a) *Organizational Planning – as per Sec 17, 25, 29 of the Access to Information Act (ATIA)*
- b) *Development Application 01-26 – as per Sec 197 (2.1) of the Municipal Gov Act (MGA)*

Carried.

Res 2026-070

MOVED by Councillor Degenstein

To return to **OPEN** meeting at 10:15p.m.

Carried.

Res. 2026-071

MOVED by Councillor Cody

To approve development application 01-26 for a Church at the former VIC Building, on condition of the following:

Payment of Fees

1. *That all outstanding development & permit fees related to this development be paid in full.*

Location on Lot & Nature of Development

2. *The nature of the development complies with and conforms to the nature of the supporting information and materials submitted to the Town and the principles set forth in the application.*
3. *Any removal of the playset hoodoo, dinosaur or any portion thereof, from the outside of the building will require prior approval of Council.*

Alberta Transportation

4. **Prior to commencement of the development**, the applicant/landowner shall obtain all applicable approvals and permits from Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors, including a roadside development permit and Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) Memorandum to support and qualify the application (see attached).
5. **Prior to commencement of the development**, the applicant/landowner shall enter into and comply with a Development Agreement with the Town of Milk River, which shall be registered on title. The agreement may require the applicant to construct, or pay for the construction of, any road improvements that may be necessary as a result of the approval from Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors, and any other improvements to public utilities necessary to serve the development.

Overnight Activities

6. *Overnight accommodation on the subject property, whether indoor or out, requires prior approval of Council. Any authorized accommodation will require that all sanitary disposal be managed through church infrastructure*

Parking

7. *Off-street parking shall be provided upon the subject property in accordance with the attached approved site plan.*

Garbage

8. *Garbage shall be kept in a suitably sized enclosure and garbage collection areas properly screened from public view.*

Lighting

9. *Site lighting shall be located, oriented and shielded so as not to adversely affect adjacent properties or public roadways.*

Signage

10. *Signage is to conform with the submitted designs. Any additional signage or modification to signage requires approval in accordance with the Land Use Bylaw.*

RV Dump Station

11. *The RV dump station will be utilized by users of the RV parking sites and other visitors participating in approved overnight activities. Public use of the dump station shall be at the discretion of the church.*

Future Expansion

12. *This development permit does not include approval of the proposed future expansion to the church building or any additional phases of development. A separate development permit approval is required for the proposed expansion to the church building and any additional phases of development.*

Drainage

13. *Drainage is required to be managed and shall not adversely affect neighbouring properties. If drainage becomes a problem then an alternate drainage solution is required to be implemented by the owner, to the satisfaction of the town.*

Town services

14. *The development is required to connect to municipal infrastructure for sewer and water. Any variation to this requires approval from Council.*

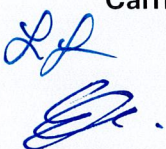
Safety Code and other provincial permits

15. *All relevant Safety Codes permits (e.g. building, electrical, gas, and plumbing) must be obtained from the Safety Codes Officer at Park Enterprises (1-800-621-5400 or 403-329-3747) pursuant to the Safety Codes Act, prior to commencement of construction.*
16. *The applicant/landowner is responsible for obtaining any other relevant provincial inspections, permits and approvals prior to commencement.*

Informative:

1. *The applicant is advised to contact Utility Safety Partners, formerly Alberta One Call, (1-800-242-3447) to locate any utility lines prior to commencement.*
2. *The applicant is responsible for determining the location of any easement and/or utility right-of way registered on the property and ensuring that the development does not encroach upon the easement and/or right of way and complies with any associated agreements registered on title.*
3. *The subject property is situated in an area identified in the Alberta Listing of Historic Resources as having "high potential to contain a historic resource" (HRV5). The applicant/landowner is responsible for obtaining any clearances and approvals as may be necessary in accordance with the Historical Resources Act. If a historic resource is discovered during excavation for the development, it must be reported in accordance with the Historical Resources Act.*

Carried.



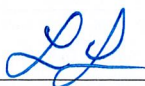
11. ADJOURNMENT

Res 2026-072

MOVED by Councillor Fraser

To adjourn the meeting at 10:28p.m.

Carried.



Mayor – Larry Liebelt



Chief Administrative Officer – Ethan Gorner