

TOWN OF THORSBY  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
March 24, 2020  
7:00 PM

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Council was called to order by Mayor Raymond at 7:22 p.m.

Present: Mayor: Rod Raymond  
Councillors: Cory Gilbert  
Ken Poffenroth (electronic attendance)  
Ivor Foster  
Deputy Mayor: Nathan Raymond  
CAO: Christine Burke  
Public Works Manager: Wayne Maclean  
Cliff Richard Executive Director, Leduc Beaumont Devon Primary Care Network - electronic attendance  
Michelle Williams Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Network – electronic attendance.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS / DELETIONS / ADOPTION**

2020 -86 Moved by Councillor Raymond to accept the agenda as presented

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the February 25, 2020 minutes to be amended to reflect that Councillor Poffenroth left the meeting before closed session.

Minutes of the March 10,2020 meeting to be amended to clarify motion 2020-79

2020-87 Moved by Councillor Poffenroth to accept the minutes for:  
2020-01-07 Committee of the Whole  
2020-02-18 Committee of the Whole  
2020-02-25 Regular Meeting of Council  
2020-03-03- Committee of the Whole

as presented, and the minutes for:

2020-02-25 Regular Meeting of Council  
2020-03-10 Regular Meeting of Council

as amended

*Carried.*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

None at this time.

**DELEGATION**

Cliff Richard and Michelle Williams of the Primary Care Network, made presentation to Council regarding the progress in securing Ms. Williams as a Nurse Practitioner for the Thorsby/Warburg area and to request funding support for a Medical Office Assistant (MOA) in support of the Nurse Practitioner position.

Mayor Raymond thanked them for attending.

Mr. Richard and Ms. Williams left the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

## BYLAWS

## BUSINESS

### 7.1 Asset Management Program

Mr. Maclean presented the Asset Management Program to Council.

2020-88 Moved by Councillor Foster to accept the Asset Management Program as presented  
*Carried.*

### 7.2 Covid-19 Municipal Response

2020-89 Moved by Councillor Gilbert that:

Whereas the Province of Alberta implemented a Public Health Emergency by CMOH Order 02-2020 in response to the outbreak of Covid 19 in the Province of Alberta on March 17 2020; and

Whereas the restrictions required within CMOH Order 02-2020 limit the ability of both municipal public facilities and private businesses to effectively operate and provide services to the Town of Thorsby; and

Whereas the restrictions within CMOH Order 02-2020, further guidelines established by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, and the likelihood of increased restrictions being implemented by either/or the Province of Alberta or the Government of Canada are required to limit the rate of spread of the Covid 19 virus; and

Whereas these restrictions have a significant adverse affect on the ability of employers to retain staff and on the broader economic outlook; and

Whereas this adverse effect will greatly limit the ability of residents and businesses within the Town of Thorsby to meet their obligations in funding municipal expenditure through either taxation or other fees; and

Whereas there is no clear indication as to a time frame during which these restrictions may continue to be in place;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Thorsby hereby direct administration to:

- A) Immediately cease to authorize any expenditure of money or utilization of existing resources, whether included in the 2020 Interim Budget of the Town of Thorsby or not, other than:
  - 1) Where there is an existing legal requirement obligating the Town of Thorsby to disperse such payment; or
  - 2) Where such expenditures are utilized directly in the remuneration of existing staff currently in the employ of the Town of Thorsby; or
  - 3) Where such expenditures are necessary to maintain the provision of water, sewer and garbage or other essential utilities to the residents and businesses of the Town of Thorsby; or
  - 4) Where such expenditure is reasonably anticipated to result directly in a monetary benefit to the Town of Thorsby greater than the value of the expenditure; or
  - 5) Where failure to make such an expenditure would create, or allow to persist, a hazard or unsafe condition which could reasonably be determined to cause harm or injury to a person or property.
  - 6) When such expenditure is directly authorized by motion of Council.
- B) Immediately undertake to put into place provisions to cease operation of all municipal facilities which are closed to the public in response to the Provincial

Covid 19 Response in such a way as to limit any cost of staffing, utilities, non-essential repairs or other discretionary cost which can be forgone.

- C) Immediately undertake a review of the 2020 Interim Budget of the Town of Thorsby, and present a revised draft for consideration of Council which reflects:
- 1) An elimination of utility franchise costs to residents; and
  - 2) A temporary elimination of monthly utility costs to residents while maintaining garbage collection, and a reasonable minimum allocation of water and sewer services; and
  - 3) A significant reduction in tax revenue to be raised from residents; and
  - 4) Maintaining a viable level of cash flow to operate with an assumed late/non-payment of taxes from any properties where taxes are not paid directly to the Town of Thorsby by a Financial Service Provider holding a mortgage for said property.
  - 5) Recommendations for transfer of reserve funds where practical to offset cost of providing basic utility services to residents; and
  - 6) Reductions in other services and expenditures as required to reflect the reduced revenue that is projected in the draft budget.

*Carried*

#### COUNCIL / COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### C.A.O. / ACTION TRACKER & ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

2020 March Public Works Manager Report

2020 March C.A.O. Report

2020-90 Moved by Councillor Gilbert to accept Administration reports for information  
*Carried*

#### CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Bill C-221 – Shannon Stubbs – Shadow Minister for Natural Resources

2020-90 Moved by Councillor Gilbert to accept for information.  
*Carried*

#### FINANCIAL

None at this time.

#### CLOSED SESSION

None at this time

#### MOTION TO ADJOURN



Rod Raymond, Mayor



Christine Burke, C.A.O.

April 14, 2020  
Date Adopted