

Village of Empress
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Village of Empress was held in the Village Office in Empress on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Mayor Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Councillors Martin and Burgess, ICAO Peers and Assistant Administrator Carrie Loose were present at the meeting The Mayor then asked council to review the agenda for the November 16, 2022 meeting

2. Adoption of Agenda

C182-11-16-2022 Councillor Martin

That the agenda for November 16, 2022 be accepted by Council as presented/amended.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

C183-11-16-2022 Councillor Johnston

That the Council of the Village of Empress accept the Sept 30th, 2022 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

C184-11-16-2022 Councillor Burgess

That the Council of the Village of Empress accept the October 19th, 2022 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

C185-11-16-2022 Councillor Martin

That the Council of the Village of Empress Accept the October 19th, 2022 MPC Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

C186-11-16-2022 Councillor Johnston

That the Council of the Village of Empress Accept the October 19th, 2022 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED

4. Registered Presentations

- None

5. Administration and Committee Reports

5.1 Committee Reports

Big Country Waste Management – report by Mayor Johnston

- Recent fire at the landfill may mean higher fees in the future
- Working with AB Environment on fire restoration
- New sign for our transfer station is coming

RCMP Town Hall Meeting on 10 November – report by Gary Peers

- Well received, with approx. 30 people in attendance.
- Good information and dialogue on public safety and awareness of activities.

5.2 - Public Works Report;

- All Park, RV facilities have water shut off and drained
- Assisted Gerry with water system repairs and shut off a few curb stops for administration
- Swept airport runway after Bobcat repaired
- All equipment/mowers repaired and put away
- Installed Blade on truck for snow plowing, could get to work. Mike P tried, took up to Skappak Farm Supply today after garbage pickup completed.
- Checking out Xmas lights for installation by ATCO on the 22nd
- SA's meeting with Don Hensel & I tomorrow re: possible grader for winter.

5.3 CAO Report by Gary Peers

- I was away for 10 days
- IT upgrades, progressing slowly, keeping it moving, SA's IT staff here next week the 23rd
- Finally have most administrative processes cleaned up and moving ahead
- Have been working on grant funding, grant funds available, new proposed project applications.
- Have dealt with on-going barking dog complaint, tough because only one person was sending a written complaint..... rest was word of mouth or my self witnessing the issue.
- Just an FYI in case. I will be gone to my daughters for Xmas from Dec15 to January 11th. If required I will work remotely as needed.

5.4 Financial Report; as at Oct 31, 2022 as provided, still expect over budget in utilities and most likely salaries due to current circumstances. Total budget is still and may remain in the black for year end.

Mayor Johnston accepted all reports for information purposes.

6. Old Business

Art Instalment update

- Councillor Burgess has not heard back from the representative of the Blackfoot Nation.
- Mayor Johnston will reach out to him and ask for an answer before the next meeting.

7. New Business

C187-11-16-2022 Councillor Johnston

That the Council of the Village of Empress authorize ICAO Peers to purchase the 4ftx8ft sign as drawn up by Fox Canada, Medicine Hat for a price of not more than \$550.00 plus GST.

CARRIED

C188-11-16-2022 Councillor Martin

That the Council of the Village of Empress authorize ICAO Peers to proceed with the project to install backup power systems for the Municipal Offices and the Internet Backup at the old shop for an estimated cost of \$20,000, subject to the approval of the project by Municipal Affairs through the MSI Grants funding program.

CARRIED

C189-11-16-2022 Councillor Martin

That the Council of the Village of Empress authorize ICAO Peers to proceed with the project to Install the SCADA System and Chlorine Analyzer, part of the Water Treatment System for an estimated cost of \$75,000, subject to the approval of the project by Municipal Affairs through the MSI Grants funding program.

CARRIED

C190-11-16-2022 Councillor Johnston

That the Council of The Village of Empress approve the 1st Reading of Bylaw 2022-11; to allow for the Borrowing of monies by use of an ATB Financial Credit Card to pay for various operational costs.

CARRIED

C191-11-16-2022 Councillor Martin

That the Council of The Village of Empress approve the 2nd Reading of Bylaw 2022-11; to allow for the Borrowing of monies by use of an ATB Financial Credit Card to pay for various operational costs.

CARRIED

C192-11-16-2022 Councillor Burgess

That the Council of The Village of Empress unanimously approve the 3rd and Final Reading of Bylaw 2022-11 at this meeting, to allow for the Borrowing of monies by use of an ATB Financial Credit Card to pay for various operational costs.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C193-11-16-2022 Councillor Johnston

That the Council of The Village of Empress approve the 3rd and Final Reading of Bylaw 2022-11, to allow for the Borrowing of monies by use of an ATB Financial Credit Card to pay for various operational costs.at this meeting. **CARRIED**

8. Correspondence to Mayor or Council as a Whole

None

9. Move to in-Camera Session

C194-11-16-2022 Mayor Johnston

That the Council of the Village of Empress enter a closed session, (Economic and other interests as per *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, Part 1, Division 2, Section 27 and Employee Matters as per *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act I, Part 1, Division 2, Section 17*) at 8:18 pm . **CARRIED**

Mayor Johnston called the regular meeting back to order at 9:20 pm.

8. Next Meeting Dates

C198-11-16-2022 Councillor Burgess

That the next Regular Council Meeting of the Village of Empress, will be on the Wednesday, December 14th, 2022 @ 6:30pm in Council Chambers in the Village of Empress Offices.

CARRIED

10. Adjournment

Mayor Johnston declared the Regular Council Meeting of the Village of Empress adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Arlen Johnston

Mayor Johnston

Gary E Peers

ICAO Peers