



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 10:00 am

Held at the Village of Empress Council Chambers, #6 3rd Ave, Empress

PRESENT: Council: Mayor Dawna Martin
Deputy Mayor Kasmira Robson
Councillor Amber Kennedy

Administration: Jerry Gautreau, CAO
Tamara Ravenwood, Municipal Clerk

Gallery 11

REGRETS: Administration: Carrie Loose, Assistant CAO

DELEGATIONS: RCMP Sargent Brown, Constable Kooner
Empress Friendship Centre (text request)

| | MOTION # | |
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| 1. | CALL TO ORDER | Mayor Dawna Martin called the Council Meeting to order at 10:00 am. |
| 2. | ADOPT AGENDA 078-2026 | MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that the agenda be adopted as amended, with the addition of: New Business items h) and In Camera item 9.a). per ACT Sec.32. CARRIED |
| 3. | ADOPT MINUTES 079-2026 | MOVED by Councillor Amber Kennedy to adopt the minutes of the April 15, 2026 Regular Council Meeting. CARRIED MOVED by Deputy Mayor Kassie Robson to adopt the minutes of the April 29, 2026 Special Council Meeting. CARRIED |
| 4. | DELEGATIONS | Sargent Mike Brown gave a brief presentation to the Council and gallery regarding current RCMP staffing, local trends, and plans to improve pro-active presence in the area. A presentation on fraud prevention was offered for a later date. |



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| | Friendship Centre Letter of Support 080-2026 | MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin to direct Administration to prepare a letter of support for the Empress Friendship Centre to invite the SA Fire Chief Rob Palmer to perform an assessment of occupancy/load in their building. CARRIED |
| 5. | REPORTS 081-2026 | MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that the Committee and Council Reports, as verbally presented, be accepted for information. CARRIED |
| | 082-2026 | MOVED by Councillor Amber Kennedy that the Financial Report be accepted for information. CARRIED |
| | 083-2026 | MOVED by Deputy Mayor Kassie Robson that the Public Works Report be accepted for information. CARRIED |
| | 084-2026 | MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that the CAO Report be accepted for information. CARRIED |
| 7. | OLD BUSINESS 085-2026 | MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that the matter of the purchase of an asphalt seal spray system and materials be lifted from the table. CARRIED |
| | 086-2026 | MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin to direct Administration to determine the nature of a cost-sharing arrangement with Special Areas with respect to the purchase of an asphalt seal spray system and materials, and to table this item until the Regular Council Meeting in October. CARRIED |



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| <p>8.</p> | <p>NEW BUSINESS Cemetery Bylaw 087-2026</p> <p>088-2026</p> <p>Highway Signs 089-2026</p> <p>Strategic Plan Online Survey 090-2026</p> <p>Advertising Bylaw 091-2026</p> <p>Fireworks for July 1 092-2026</p> | <p>MOVED by Deputy Mayor Kassie Robson that the Cemetery Bylaw 2026-02 be given first reading.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that the Cemetery Bylaw 2026-02 and the draft Cemetery Policy be brought back to the Regular Council Meeting in June.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin to direct Administration to submit a formal request to the Government of Alberta, Ministry of Transportation and Economic Corridors, requesting the installation of provincial highway traffic cameras along Highway 41 near the intersection with highway 570 and on the elevations to the north and south of the Sandy Point bridge, and to obtain letters of support from Acadia Valley and Oyen for the request.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that Council accept the survey as information.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Councillor Amber Kennedy that Advertising Bylaw 2026-03 be given first reading and be brought back to the Regular Council Meeting in June.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Deputy Mayor Kassie Robson to approve the verbal request from the Empress Volunteer Fire Department and to spend up to \$1500 on fireworks for the Canada Day Celebration, upon receipt of a written request outlining the details of the event and confirming that weather must permit safe execution of the plan.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> |
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| | <p>Proposal for Demo of the Old Hotel 093-2026</p> <p>MPC Referral 094-2026</p> | <p>MOVED by Councillor Amber Kennedy that Council receive the proposal for information and defer consideration to a later date.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that a meeting of the Municipal Planning Commission be convened on 27 May 2026 at 10:00 am to discuss the complaint regarding goats in the village and provide an opportunity for public input on the matter.</p> <p>Councillor Amber Kennedy recused herself from the vote on this motion.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> |
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| <p>9.</p> | <p>CLOSED SESSION</p> <p>095-2026</p> <p>096-2026</p> | <p>The gallery was dismissed at 11:46 am. The Council moved into closed session, per ACT Sec.32. at 11:56 am. The Council moved out of closed session at 12:40 pm. The Gallery was invited back at 12:42 pm.</p> <p>MOVED by Mayor Dawna Martin that the vote on the imminent motion be recorded.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>MOVED by Councillor Amber Kennedy to direct Administration to provide legal counsel with the entirety of the correspondence between the parties to the action so that they may prepare a recommended course of action for Administration and Council.</p> <p>Mayor Dawna Martin voted in opposition to the motion.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> |



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| 10. | NEXT MEETING | Regular Council Meeting June 17th, 2026 10:00 a.m. |
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| 11. | ADJOURNMENT | Meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m. |

Dawna Martin, Mayor

Jerry Gautreau, CAO

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