

**MINUTES OF THE POLICIES & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026, 1:00 P.M.
CARSTAIRS MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Allan, Councilors Ball, Fricke, Selanders, Roberts & Wilcox; Director of Emergency Services Rob McKay; Director of Planning & Development Kirk Williscroft; CAO Rick Blair; & Executive Assistant Kayleigh Van Es

ABSENT: Councilor Tolley

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Allan called the Policies & Priorities Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 17, 2026, to order at 1:02 p.m.

ADDED ITEMS: Nil

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion by Councilor Wilcox to adopt the Policies & Priorities Committee meeting agenda of February 17, 2026, as presented.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Motion by Councilor Roberts to adopt the Policies & Priorities minutes of January 20, 2026, as presented.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS: **1. FCSS Funding Applications-Lori King**
L. King summarized the 2026 FCSS grant applications: 15 submissions totaling \$47,631.76 in requests, with \$35,611.76 recommended for funding.

Councilor Ball questioned the Mountain View Quilters' request for \$3,200.00, suggesting that if the group qualifies for funding, other similar organizations should also be encouraged to apply. L. King advised that the application falls within FCSS guidelines and noted she was not aware of any other similar clubs.

Councilor Selanders inquired why funding for the Seniors Yoga program was not recommended. L. King advised that the request is pending the outcome of the New Horizons grant application and noted that similar programs are already offered within the community. She further indicated that, should the grant be approved, the requested amount may change.

Councilor Fricke inquired whether there were any new additions to the funding applications. L. King advised that while some existing programs had changes to their applications, no new organizations applied this year.

Councilor Ball requested clarification regarding the YES Program.

Motion by Councilor Selanders to accept FCSS Funding applications as information.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: **1. Bylaw 1062 Traffic Bylaw (E-bike addition)**
R. McKay spoke to the proposed amendments to Bylaw 1062, including the addition of provisions related to e-bikes.

Councilor Ball suggested minor grammatical revisions.

Councilor Fricke inquired whether Council would consider a pilot project for golf carts, similar to the program implemented in Innisfail. She also sought clarification regarding restrictions on mobility aids, noting that enforcement would be at the officer's discretion.

Councilor Selanders proposed amendments to certain definitions within the bylaw. Councilor Roberts identified a correction.

Motion by Councilor Wilcox to accept Bylaw 1062 Traffic Bylaw as information and forward to the next Council meeting for ratification.

CARRIED

2. Social Media Policy

The Committee reviewed the proposed amendments to the Social Media Policy as discussed at the previous meeting.

Councilor Fricke inquired whether a process is already in place for obtaining photo permissions. Administration confirmed that a process is currently in place.

Motion by Councilor Ball to accept the Social Media Policy as information and forward to the next Council meeting for ratification.

CARRIED

3. Swearing in Ceremony Policy

The Committee reviewed the proposed amendments to the Swearing-In Ceremony Policy as discussed at the previous meeting.

Councilor Selanders expressed the opinion that the Policy does not provide value. Councilor Fricke sought clarification regarding the absence of a time constraint within the Policy.

Councilor Roberts noted that the Policy provides clarification to the Procedure Bylaw.

Motion by Councilor Fricke to accept the Swearing in Ceremony Policy as information and forward to the next Council meeting for ratification.

CARRIED

BYLAW & POLICIES:

1. Appeal Handling Policy

The Committee reviewed the proposed Appeal Handling Policy. R. Blair outlined the background and rationale for the development of the Policy.

Motion by Councilor Wilcox to accept the Appeal Handling Policy as information and forward to the next Council meeting for ratification.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Nil

REPORTS:

1. Development Reports

The Committee reviewed the Development Reports. To date, 20 permits have been issued, including 9 new home builds and 5 compliance certificates.

- a. Permit listing
- b. Compliance listing

Councilor Fricke sought clarification regarding permit fees.

Motion by Councilor Ball to accept all Development Reports as information.

CARRIED

2. City-Wide Monthly Reports

The Committee reviewed the following City-Wide Monthly reports.

- a. Fire Reports
- b. Bylaw Reports

The Committee discussed the new layout of the report and the files included in reporting, as well as the current Dog Control Bylaw and its implementation.

Motion by Councilor Wilcox to accept City Wide Monthly Reports as information.
CARRIED

3. Emergency Services

The Committee reviewed the following Emergency Services reports.

- a. Carstairs Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) Report
- b. Emergency Services Report

The Committee discussed Safety Code processes and a current issue at the Carstairs Curling Club.

Councilor Roberts excused himself due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Councilor Ball to accept Emergency Services Reports as information.
CARRIED

4. Quarterly Listings

The Committee reviewed the following Quarterly Listing.

- a. Business License Listing

Councilor Selanders requested clarification on the distinction between home-based businesses and residential businesses. Administration will review the bylaw definitions and provide clarification.

Motion by Councilor Roberts to accept the Business License Quarterly Listings as information.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: Nil

GENERAL DISCUSSION: **1. Councilor Fricke**
Reported that Stacey Stilling, CAO of Mountain View Seniors' Housing (MVSH), commended J. Lockert at the Carstairs Community Golf Club. She noted that the club will host this year's MVSH Golf Tournament and highlighted the course for its size, excellent condition, and strong management.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 17, 2026

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Wilcox to adjourn the Policies & Priorities Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 2:07 p.m.

CARRIED

Dean Allan, Mayor

Rick Blair, CAO