

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025, 7:00 P.M.
CARSTAIRS MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

ATTENDEES:	Mayor Colby; Councilors Allan, Ball, Fricke, Ratz, Roberts & Wilcox; Director of Legislative & Corporate Services Shannon Allison; Director of Planning & Development Kirk Willisroft; CAO Rick Blair, & Executive Assistant Kayleigh Van Es
ABSENT:	Nil
CALL TO ORDER:	Mayor Colby called the meeting of Monday, May 26, 2025, to order at 7:00 p.m.
ADDED ITEMS:	1. Regional Policing Funding Model and Parkland Regional Library-Return on investment to Correspondence 11.b, and 11.c.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion 170/25	Motion by Councilor Ball to adopt the Regular Council agenda of May 26, 2025, as amended. CARRIED
ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Motion 171/25	Motion by Councilor Allan to adopt the Public Hearing minutes of May 12, 2025, as presented. CARRIED
Motion 172/25	Motion by Councilor Wilcox to adopt the Regular Council Meeting minutes of May 12, 2025, as presented. CARRIED
BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:	Nil
DELEGATIONS:	Nil
BYLAWS & POLICIES:	1. Policy No. 61-001-25 Construction & Infrastructure Standards-Amended K. Willisroft addressed the amended policy that had been reviewed at the previous Policies & Priorities Committee meeting. Motion 173/25 Motion by Councilor Fricke to adopt Policy No. 61-001-25 Construction & Infrastructure Standards, as amended. CARRIED 2. Policy No. 61-002-25 Landscaping Policy K. Willisroft addressed the new policy that had been reviewed at the previous Policies & Priorities Committee meeting. Motion 174/25 Motion by Councilor Roberts to adopt Policy No. 61-002-25 Landscaping Policy as presented. CARRIED
NEW BUSINESS:	1. Quarterly reports RCMP Council reviewed the reports for the period of January 31 to March 31, 2025. Council had no questions. Council expressed interest in inviting Staff Sgt. Browne to a meeting prior to the summer break. Councillor Wilcox inquired whether the Town should issue communication to remind residents not to post about active RCMP incidents on social media. CAO Blair responded that he will coordinate with the appropriate department. Motion 175/25 Motion by Councilor Ratz to accept the Quarterly reports RCMP as information. CARRIED
COMMITTEE REPORTS:	1. Policies & Priorities Committee - Minutes of the meeting on May 15, 2025, were reviewed. 2. Mountain View Regional Waste Commission - Next meeting July 2025. 3. Mountain View Regional Water Commission - Mayor Colby gave a verbal report on the meeting of May 14, 2025. Key points included drought mitigation and the level of concern. The RFP for auditors was awarded. The FOIP bylaw is in draft. The testing report at the plant was clean. Locations of small leaks were identified and are easy to fix. Work is underway on the 2026–2028 budget. A meeting will be scheduled with ministers to seek grant

funding to continue supplying towns with clean water. Planning continues for a secondary line to the reservoirs. Infrastructure modeling is in progress with asset management and ISL. The electrical upgrade is being finalized.

4. Mountain View Seniors' Housing

- Next meeting June 19, 2025. CAO Stacey Shilling and Chairman Dwayne Fulton will attend the June 12, 2025 Policies & Priorities Committee meeting to discuss seniors' housing.

Motion 176/25

Motion by Councilor Wilcox to accept all Committee Reports as information.

CARRIED**COUNCILOR REPORTS:****Councilor Allan**

- May 15, 2025, attended Policies & Priorities Committee meeting.
- May 24, 2025, attended Carstairs AG Society's Aggie Days, where he visited with Premier Danielle Smith and noted that she is easy to talk to and genuinely cares about our town.

Councilor Ball

- May 15, 2025, attended Policies & Priorities Committee meeting.
- May 14, 2025, attended the MVCHA Drama Group's presentation of "Heroes Wanted". Some kids had to memorize over 600 lines; they did a great job.

Councilor Fricke

- May 3, 2025, attended the Elks Garage Sale.
- May 9, 2025, attended the Carstairs Neighborhood tradeshow.
- May 21, 2025, met with CAO Blair and EA Van Es to build a Carstairs Senior Housing Needs Infographic.
- May 24, 2025, attended Carstairs AG Society's Aggie Days.

Councilor Ratz

- May 15, 2025, attended Policies & Priorities Committee meeting.
- May 23, 2025, attended the final Carstairs Heritage Festival meeting before the main event on June 1, 2025.

Councilor Roberts

- May 15, 2025, attended Policies & Priorities Committee meeting.
- May 23, 2025, volunteered at the Carstairs AG Society's Aggie Days.

Councilor Wilcox

- May 14, 2025, attended an Alzheimer's and Dementia presentation, with discussions on rural navigators, which would help bridge gaps for seniors wanting to age in place. Noted that 1 in 5 people suffer from Alzheimer's or Dementia.
- May 15, 2025, attended Emergency Response training session.
- May 15, 2025, Library Manager M. Ginther attended the Parkland Board meeting for Wilcox, where the budget was discussed.
- May 20, 2025, attended an AB 2-1-1 presentation.
- May 22, 2025, attended a "dress rehearsal" for Emergency Response with Town of Carstairs and the Town of Didsbury, commending the Town of Carstairs Emergency Response Plans and crew.

Mayor Colby

- May 14, 2025, attended Mountain View Regional Water Commission meeting.
- May 15, 2025, attended Policies & Priorities Committee meeting.
- May 24, 2025, attended Carstairs AG Society's Aggie Days, where he visited with Premier Danielle Smith.
- May 24, 2025, attended the Town Hall Meeting with Premier Danielle Smith and UCP Candidate Tara Sawyer in the Town of Olds.

Motion 177/25

Motion by Councilor Allan to accept all Councilor Reports as information.

CARRIED**CORRESPONDENCE:****1. Letter from Ric McIver-LGFF Funding**

Council reviewed the correspondence from Ric McIver concerning LGFF funding.

2. Regional Policing Funding Model

Council reviewed the key messages regarding municipal policing costs and the police funding model issued by Alberta municipalities.

3. Parkland Regional Library-Return on Investment

Council reviewed the 2024 Return on Investment for the Parkland Regional Library. Councilor Wilcox highlighted the services provided by the Parkland Regional Library System.

Motion 178/25

Motion by Councilor Ball to accept all correspondence as information.

CARRIED

CAO'S REPORT:

- May 13, 2025, met with developers of 701 10th Ave.
- May 15, 2025, met with Chris Ulmer regarding the Growth Study.
- May 15, 2025, attended Policies & Priorities Committee meeting.
- May 22, 2025, attended on-site meeting at the Carstairs Reservoir. The project is a month ahead of schedule. K. Williscroft suggested a site tour for Council before summer break, which Council agreed.
- May 22, 2025, met with HSS Principal D. Nielsen to discuss capacity issues, safety concerns, and timelines.
- May 24, 2025, attended Carstairs AG Society's Aggie Days, visiting with Premier Danielle Smith, Nathan Cooper, and Mountain View County Council. Noted that Circular Materials was in attendance and provided extensive information about recycling.
- Upcoming meeting planned with Mountain View Regional Water Commission CAO to discuss the water service line to the new reservoir.
- Enterprise fleet in transition, waiting on two 550s to be delivered for completion.
- Discussing dates to set for advanced polls for the 2025 Municipal Election.
- May 28-June 1, 2025, will be away with the Mayor and other Councilors at the FCM Conference in Ottawa.
- Received final draft of the Regional Policing Study; will review and distribute to Council early tomorrow.

Councilor Wilcox asked CAO Blair to elaborate on the discussion with HSS Principal D. Nielsen regarding the safety of children at the bus loop and parent drop-off location. CAO Blair explained that, although it is clear the school board is awaiting a formal letter from ATEC before beginning to devise a mitigation plan, the issue ultimately comes down to funding, and the board is reluctant to front the costs. Staff at HSS agree with the concerns but report to the school board.

Motion 179/25

Motion by Councilor Ratz to accept CAO's Report as information.

CARRIED

COUNCILOR COMMENTS:**1. Councilor Allan**

- Spoke to a resident who works at CP Rail.

2. Councilor Fricke

- Received positive feedback about the number of community events in town; however, expressed dissatisfaction with the media coverage of these events.

3. Councilor Ratz

- Mentioned that he had his new water meter installed last week, describing the process as quick and painless. Asked CAO Blair how many water meters have been installed; CAO Blair responded that about 400 have been installed.

4. Councilor Roberts

- Received regular feedback regarding seniors housing, along with complaints about media coverage

5. Mayor Colby

- Commented on Carstairs AG Society's Aggie Days, commending all the volunteers. Noted that the Town of Carstairs was well represented.
- Also commended the Heritage Festival volunteers, including Councilor Ratz, for organizing the event honoring Sharon Lampitt, which will feature 11 pipe bands making it the biggest Heritage Festival yet.

Motion 180/25

Motion by Councilor Fricke to accept Councilor Comments as information.

CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**1. Eric Vester**

- Asked for a timeline for Mandalay Road extension to 581. CAO Blair stated it is planned for 2026–2027.

2. Pete Johnson

- Raised the request to create a separate off-leash area for small dogs. After receiving feedback from a Facebook post, was advised to bring the matter to Council. Mayor Colby expressed surprise, as he had not previously heard of this concern. Administration will explore the possibilities, though the project would need to be included in next year's budget. P. Johnson mentioned that the Elks or AG Society might be potential funders for the project.

Motion 181/25

Motion by Councilor Roberts to accept Public Question period as information.

CARRIED

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:

Nil

CLOSED MEETING:

Section 107 of the MGA states that Councils and Council Committees must conduct their meetings in public unless the matter to be discussed is within one of the exceptions to disclosure in Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) (s. 16 to 20).

Motion 182/25

Motion by Councilor Allan that Council close the meeting to the public to discuss Third-Party Business Interests as per Section 16 of FOIP at 7:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Motion 183/25

Motion by Councilor Roberts to come out of the closed meeting session at 8:08 p.m.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING:


Monday, June 9, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Provincial Sports Awards Ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:


Motion 184/25

Motion by Councilor Ball to adjourn the meeting of May 26, 2025, at 8:09 p.m.

CARRIED



Lance Colby, Mayor



Rick Blair, CAO