

**MINUTES
COUNTY OF NORTHERN LIGHTS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNTY CHAMBERS
ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.
COUNTY BUILDING, MANNING, ALBERTA**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88217443583?pwd=ciFYrZE32xmi1taubFIEvZJCWc50nv.1>

PRESENT:

Gary These	Ward One	Weberville/Stewart
Kayln Schug	Ward Two	Warrensville/Lac Cardinal
Brenda Yasinski	Ward Three	Dixonville/Chinook Valley
Brent Reese	Ward Four	Deadwood/Sunny Valley
Gloria Dechant	Ward Five	North Star/Breaking Point
Terry Ungarian	Ward Six	Hotchkiss/Hawk Hills
Linda Halabisky	Ward Seven	Keg River/Carcajou

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gerhard Stickling – Chief Administrative Officer
Charles Schwab – Director of Public Works
Teresa Tupper – Executive Assistant/ Recorder
Dan Archer – Mile Zero Banner Post Reporter

01.0 Call to Order

01.1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Reeve Ungarian called the Tuesday, January 13, 2026, council meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

02.0 Adoption of the Agenda

001/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Halabisky to acknowledge receipt of the Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Council Meeting agenda and adopt it with the following additions:**
06.1.1- J Rural Crime Watch Sponsorship Request and Provincial Symposium
06.1.1- K Growing the North Registration Change
06.1.1- L Tri-Council Christmas Supper Discussion
Info Package: 08.60 - f) NPARA Peace Ag Update
Info Package: 08.70 - g) Dixonville Happenings – January 2026
CARRIED

03.0 Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Regular or Special Meeting(s)

A. Tuesday, December 09, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes

002/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Tuesday, December 09, 2025, Council Meeting minutes and adopt them as presented.**
CARRIED

06.0 Municipal/CAO & Departmental Reports/Business

06.1 Government Services

06.1.1 Council/Legislative

A. Grimshaw Regional Healthcare Attraction & Retention Committee Funding

003/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Grimshaw Regional Healthcare Attraction & Retention Committee Funding Report and authorize the annual funding to GRHARC at the rate of \$10,268 per year for the medical clinic rent subsidy and \$2,464 for the medical bursary program for a term of three years (2026-2028).**
CARRIED

B. District 4 Zone Meeting Topics and Resolutions

004/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the District 4 Zone Meeting Topics and Resolutions Report and direct Administration to draft a Resolution regarding the proposed Alberta electoral boundary changes for submission by the end of January for the February zone meeting.**
CARRIED

C. RMA Member Visit Scheduling

005/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Halabisky to acknowledge receipt of the RMA Member Visit Report and table it to the January 27, 2026, council meeting.**
CARRIED

D. Dixonville Charter School Society (DCSS)

006/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the Dixonville Charter School Society (DCSS) Report and direct administration to draft a letter of support to the Minister of Education on behalf of the DCSS.
CARRIED**

E. 2026 SMR Nuclear Canada Summit

007/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the 2026 SMR Conference and register Councillor These and the CAO to attend the conference on March 3 & 4, 2026 at the Calgary Westin Airport Hotel.
CARRIED**

F. Meeting Request with Minister Williams – RMA Spring Convention

008/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Meeting Request with Minister Williams and accept it for information.
CARRIED**

G. Interprovincial Committee Invitation

009/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the Interprovincial Committee Invitation and reply that the County of Northern Lights would like to be an addition to committee and will send Councilor Reese, Reeve Ungarian and the County's CAO to the Wednesday, March 25, 2026, meeting as the County representatives and confirm Councilor These as the alternate; and accept the Terms of Reference.
CARRIED**

*Recessed the meeting at 9:46 a.m.
Reconvened the meeting at 10:02 a.m.*

H. Manning & District FCSS Strategic Planning Session Invitation

010/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Halabisky to acknowledge receipt of the Manning & District FCSS Strategic Planning Session Invitation and register Councilor Dechant and Reese to attend the session on Friday, January 30, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Manning Fire Hall.
CARRIED**

I. RhPAP – Knowledge Now: Connected Communities FREE Webinar

011/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the RhPAP webinar and authorize registration for Councilor Schug, Dechant, Ungarian, Halabisky and Yasinski.
CARRIED**

J. Northern Sunrise Rural Crime Watch Request for Sponsorship

012/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the Northern Sunrise Rural Crime Watch Request for Sponsorship and fund as a co-sponsor at \$600 for the Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch Annual General Meeting on March 21, 2026, coming from council grants; and register Councilor Schug to attend the conference and AGM.
CARRIED**

K. Growing the North Registration Change

013/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to exchange registration from Councilor Yasinski to Deputy Reeve Schug for the Growing the North Conference.
CARRIED**

L. Tri-Council Christmas Supper Discussion

014/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor These to direct administration to consult with the other CAO's and see if we can't establish a "Christmas in Spring/Summer" event instead.
CARRIED**

06.1.2 Administration

06.1.3 Assessment

06.1.4 Taxation

06.1.5 Finance
A. November 2025 Bank Reconciliation

015/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the November 2025 Bank Reconciliation and accept it for information.**
CARRIED

06.1.6 Equipment/Supplies

06.1.7 Buildings/Properties

06.1.8 Personnel/Human Resources

06.2 Protective Services

06.2.1 Policing

06.2.3 Fire protection

A. Dixonville Fire Services Meeting

016/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the Dixonville Fire Services Report and schedule a Fire Services public meeting at the Dixonville firehall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2026.**
CARRIED

06.2.4 Emergency Measures & Disaster Services

06.2.5 Ambulance/First Aid

06.2.6 By-law Enforcement

06.3 Transportation/Drainage/Public Works

06.3.1 Public Works

A. Director of Public Works Report

017/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Director of Public Works Report and accept it for information.**
CARRIED

06.3.2 Roads

A. Snowplow Report

018/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Halabisky to acknowledge receipt of the Snowplow Report and accept it for information; and suspend new applications for the driveway snow - plow program until June 30, 2026.**
CARRIED

*Recessed the meeting at 11:02 a.m.
Reconvened the meeting at 11:06 a.m.*

04.0 Delegations

A. Public Hearing for Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment No. 25-61-504 at 11:07 a.m.

Chair Terry Ungarian declared the Public Hearing for Land Use Amendment Bylaw No. 25-61-504 open at 11:07 a.m.

Chair Ungarian welcomed all participants,

Chair Ungarian asked that the nature of the proposed bylaw be read into the record.
Pearl Luken, Planning & Development Clerk read the following into the record:

In accordance with County Policy, Land Use Amendment Bylaw No. 25-61-504 was given First Reading at the Tuesday, December 09, 2025, council meeting.

Today's Public Hearing is to allow for any public to make comments regarding the amendment.

Chair Ungarian requested confirmation that notification requirements (newspaper ads, announcements, time frames, etc.) had been met.

The Bylaw was posted in the Mile Zero Banner Post on December 10 & 17, 2025 and on the County's website.

Chair Ungarian dispensed with stating the Rules of Conduct that would be followed during the hearing.

Chair Ungarian called for the PRESENTATION

Pearl read out the complete amendment Bylaw for council and the public.

Highlights:

- the Land Use Amendment Bylaw is to provide for the regulations to develop sea-cans within the County of Northern Lights.
- the Bylaw provides:
 - a definition,
 - indicates when a development permit is required and when not, and
 - it outlines when sea-cans are a 'permitted' and a 'discretionary' use.

Chair Ungarian called for any WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS in support of the proposed amendment.

To date, no written submissions in support were received.

Chair Ungarian called for any WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS opposed to the proposed amendment.

To date, no objections have been received or expressed.

Chair Ungarian called for any VERBAL SUBMISSIONS in support of the proposed amendment.

No verbal submissions of support for the amendment were expressed.

Chair Ungarian called for any VERBAL SUBMISSIONS opposed to the proposed amendment.

One verbal submission opposed to the amendment was expressed.

Phil Fusikos, Deadwood resident

Pointed out areas of the bylaw he did not agree with or had concerns of:

- the development authority making a decision without a set of written guidelines to follow
- #2, #3
- #140.2
- one per hamlet, not one per lot
- wording is not clear, interpretation not clear
- #7 & #8

Pearl responded to the questions and concerns of the resident and the justification of why the bylaw is written as it is.

Wording addresses situations that have minor variances required so that the permit can go through. It allows the applicant to voice their need of the development to the Development Authority without a straight-out no.

There are processes in place that keep bias out of the equation.

Framework was required as applicants are interested in exploring more development with sea can use. Bylaw amendment is before council because the County received calls and inquiries for further development using sea cans.

Sea-cans are similar to regulations of a shed.

Historical situations are grandfathered in.

Technically, a corner lot has 2 front yards. Meaning if there is a road adjacent to land is considered a front yard.

Chair Ungarian calls for a RECOMMENDATION.

Pearl responded:

It is recommended that the proposed Land Use Amendment Bylaw No. 25-61-504 to provide regulations for the development of sea-cans on property within the County be APPROVED with a change in: (140.3 and 140.4)

Chair Ungarian asked if there were any questions from Council.

Chair Ungarian adjourned the Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 25-61-504 at 11: 30 a.m.

B. Public Hearing for Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment No. 25-61-505 at 11:30 a.m.

Chair Terry Ungarian declared the Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 25-61-505 open at 11:00 a.m.

Chair Ungarian welcomed all participants,

Chair Ungarian asked that the nature of the proposed bylaw be read into the record.

Pearl Luken, Planning & Development Clerk read the following into the record:

In accordance with County Policy, Land Use Bylaw Amendment No. 25-61-505 was given First Reading at the Tuesday, December 09, 2025, council meeting.

Today's Public Hearing is to allow for any public to make comment.

Chair Ungarian requested confirmation that notification requirements (newspaper ads, announcements, time frames, etc.) had been met.

The Bylaw was posted in the Mile Zero Banner Post on December 17th & 24th 2025, on the County's website.

Chair Ungarian dispensed with stating the Rules of Conduct that would be followed during the hearing.

Chair Ungarian called for the **PRESENTATION**

Pearl read out the proposed bylaw to council and the public.

Highlights:

- *The Land Use Amendment Bylaw No. 25-61-505 is to amend the definition of 'Hamlet Chickens' to include ALL Hamlets in the County rather than just Dixonville. It will allow all Hamlet residents to apply for an **annual** discretionary permit to obtain, keep, and care for chickens on their property.*
- *The maximum allotted number of chickens will still be 10 as per the pilot project and no roosters will be allowed.*

Chair Ungarian called for any **WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS** in support of the proposed amendment. To date, no written submissions in support were received.

Chair Ungarian called for any **WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS** opposed to the proposed amendment. To date, no objections have been received or expressed.

Chair Ungarian called for any **VERBAL SUBMISSIONS** in support of the proposed amendment. No verbal submissions of support for the amendment were expressed. However, the Planning & Development Clerk received one phone with questions for clarification, no for or against was noted.

Chair Ungarian called for any **VERBAL SUBMISSIONS** opposed to the proposed amendment. Phil Fazikos, resident of Deadwood stated a verbal submission opposed to the amendment

- *stated cruel and unusual punishment for a chicken to live in a coop without being allowed to go outside.*
- *no criteria/ format for complaints*

Pearl replied that the County took on a pilot project in Dixonville. The County had concerns/ infractions happen during the pilot project and were considered in the writing of the bylaw amendment. Pearl suggested a definition and statement referencing enclosed portable structure be allowed for chickens.

Chair Ungarian calls for a **RECOMMENDATION**.
Pearl responded:

It is recommended that the proposed Land Use Amendment Bylaw No. 25-61-505 to obtain, keep, and care for chickens within all Hamlets of the County be APPROVED subject to case 7.c)3) (fenced enclosure, chickens must be 'contained').

Chair Ungarian asked if there were any questions from Council.

Chair Ungarian adjourned the Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 25-61-505 at 11: 45 a.m.

05.0 Policies/ Bylaws

A. Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment No. 25-61-504 (after P.H)

019/13/01/26 **MOVED BY** Councilor Dechant to have administration make changes that were suggested during the public hearing and bring back to council for second and third reading.
CARRIED

B. Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment No. 25-61-505 (after P.H.)

020/13/01/26 **MOVED BY** Councilor Halabisky to have administration make changes that were suggested during the public hearing and bring back to council for second and third reading.
CARRIED

06.3.1

B. Range Road 224 Reclassification – Request for Decision

021/13/01/26 **MOVED BY** Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Reclassification Report and reclassify Range Road 224 between Township Roads 904 & 905 as a Collector Road and re-evaluate TWP RD 860 east of RR 215 and bring a report back for Council.
CARRIED

*Recessed the meeting at 12:05 p.m.
Reconvened the meeting at 12:59 p.m.*

- 06.3.3 Airport
- 06.3.7 Drainage Ditches
- 06.4 Utilities/Public Works
 - 06.4.1 Water
 - 06.4.2 Sewage
 - 06.4.3 Solid Waste
- 06.6 Environmental Development
 - 06.6.1 Development [Planning/Zoning/Subdivisions]
 - A. *Planning 101 Workshop*
- 022/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the Planning 101 Workshop Invitation and accept it for information.**
CARRIED
 - B. *Signs – Development Permits & Road Use Agreements*
- 023/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Signage Report and authorize administration to install signage regarding the need for Development Permits and Road Use Agreements on roads utilized for industrial purposes.**
CARRIED
 - C. *Administrative Planning & Development Update*
- 024/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Administrative Planning & Development Update and accept it for information.**
CARRIED
 - 06.6.3 Agriculture Services
 - A. *ASB Multi-Municipality Orientation Session*
- 025/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the ASB multi-municipality orientation session invitation and reply that the County of Northern Lights ASB Board is interested in attending the orientation session and all seven members will be in attendance, and that February 12, 2026, (AM) is the preferred date.**
CARRIED
 - 06.6.2 Community Services / Economic Development
 - A. *Peace River Chamber of Commerce Annual Davis Awards Invitation & Sponsorship Request*
- 026/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the Peace River Chamber of Commerce Annual Davis Awards Invitation & Sponsorship Request and authorize a \$1000 Award sponsorship for their Annual Davis Awards event on February 7, 2026; with funds coming out of the economic development budget and purchase a ticket for Reeve Ungarian to attend.**
CARRIED
 - B. *Women in the North Sponsorship Request*
- 027/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Women in the North Sponsorship Request and provide a \$1000-tiered Bronze sponsorship for the 18th annual conference in Grimshaw on Wednesday, April 22, 2026.**
CARRIED
 - 06.6.5 Natural Resources
 - 06.6.6 Housing / Seniors
 - 06.6.9 Tourism
- 07.0 **Ward and/or Committee Reports**
 - A. *December Ward Reports*
- 028/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Halabisky to acknowledge receipt of the Councilor's December Ward Reports and accept them for information.**
CARRIED
- 08.0 **Info Items**
 - A. *January 13, 2026, Info Package*

029/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the January 13, 2026, Info Package and accept it for information.**
CARRIED

09.0 Open Mic

Decisions on Delegations

Recessed meeting at 1:33 p.m.
Dan Archer, Report and Teresa Tupper, Executive Assistant, exited the meeting at 1:33 p.m.
Reconvened the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

10.0 In Camera Items

- A. Director of Public Works – Personnel – under ATIA section 20*
- B. Municipal Services Agreement – under ATIA section 28*

030/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to have the Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Council Meeting go in camera to discuss public works items under ATIA section 20 and municipal services under ATIA section 28 at 1:40 p.m.**
CARRIED

Charles Schwab, Director of Public Works, exited the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

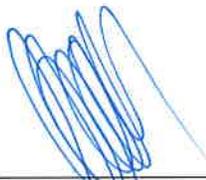
031/13/01/26 **MOVED BY Councillor These to have the Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Council meeting come out of camera at 3:01 p.m.**
CARRIED

11.0 Adjournment

Reeve Ungarian adjourned the Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Council Meeting at 3:01 p.m.



Chief Elected Official
Terry Ungarian



Chief Administrative Officer
Gerhard Stickling