

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023, 7:00 P.M.
CARSTAIRS MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

ATTENDEES: Mayor Colby, Councilors Allan, Ball, Fricke, Ratz, Roberts, & Wilcox, Director of Planning & Development Kirk Williscroft, CAO Rick Blair, & Executive Assistant Kayleigh Van Es

ABSENT: Nil

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Colby called the meeting of Tuesday, October 10, 2023, to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADDED ITEMS: **1. Stonebridge pathway access to Mandalay to Business Arising from previous meeting 5.a**

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion 321/23 Motion by Councilor Wilcox to adopt the Regular Council agenda of October 10, 2023, as amended.

CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Motion 322/23 Motion by Councilor Allan to adopt the Regular Council minutes of September 25, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM
PREVIOUS MEETING:**

1. Stonebridge pathway access to Mandalay

Council received a letter from the Villas at Stonebridge Glen Board of Directors expressing concern over the town's proposal to build a path between Stonebridge and Mandalay.

The proposed pathway would run along a town property. Unfortunately, due to developer errors, structures and trees were placed on the property. These buildings and trees would have to be removed. Residents of the Villas have expressed dissatisfaction with the arrangement.

Mayor Colby indicated that, while Council and administration have considered alternative ideas, no single proposal will satisfy everyone. The only suitable area is east of the condos, where the town's property is located. All subdivisions must be linked in some way.

Councilor Wilcox inquired whether the trees could be salvaged. She also stated that no fences would need to be removed.

Councilor Allan confirmed that any development east of the trees will interfere with storm drainage.

Councilor Wilcox clarified that if any flooding would have no effect on the pathway.

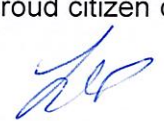
CAO Blair stated that the municipality does not wish to interfere with any existing flood mitigation measures, and that with good maintenance and weed control, no flooding should occur.

Mayor Colby wants residents to understand that this is necessary and that we do not want an argument; sadly, we must address past errors.

Wes Jobe of the Villas would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate on a plan so that they can contribute.

Mayor Colby reiterates that the municipality must consider the best alternative; if we make a mistake, we must repair it; the developer had no authorization to plant trees or build a gazebo; sadly, these things were not caught, and it must be corrected. A lot of work and thought goes into ensuring the proper positioning of a pathway; this is not something done merely for amusement.

Wes Jobe understands this and is a proud citizen of the Villas and of Carstairs.



Irene Stiles of the Villas indicated that she has had flooding in her backyard near where the path would be created, and she wants to ensure that by doing so, her flooding problem will be resolved.

CAO Blair reported that a water reducer was installed in the drainage area without the town's knowledge and was reducing water flow. Now that the reduction has been removed, the issue should be resolved.

To avoid removing the trees and structures, many Villa residents recommended building bridges or culverts, or going around the trees. However, because doing so would disrupt the drainage and be expensive, these solutions are not practical. Naturally, administration will evaluate all choices' costs and offer a strategy to Council.

Wes Jobe thanked the town council for their attention to detail and efforts on this issue.

Motion 323/23

Motion by Councilor Ball to direct administration to investigate all costs and options for installing a pathway from Stonebridge to Mandalay.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

Carstairs Nature Space-Charlie Van Arnam

C. Van Arnam gave a presentation of the future plan for the Carstairs Nature Space. The vision is for an urban forest with mown walkways and a park that does not require substantial upkeep once developed. The Nature Space has made significant progress towards its objective thanks to the remarkable support of town workers, particularly John Ing, Phil Playfair, and Chrissy Jochems, as well as municipal finances, volunteer labour, and private donations.

2023 milestones include the planting of small bushes and trees, such as evergreens, to provide protection and, in time, a windbreak, as well as a variety of fruit trees. Another milestone in 2023 is the completion of "Brent's Place," a public meeting venue. An arboretum, located south-east of the dog park, is proposed as a smaller pod where tree donations can be made. There are designs for an entryway-type structure area that will prevent needless public vehicular access and will house a recognition wall for all donors to the site. More natural playing places will be installed, and the chain-link fence will be replaced to match the fencing in Tiny Lafleur. Finally, a long-term, year-round permanent bathroom facility and a paved walk to "Brent's place" are on the future wish list. The Nature Space is a tremendous asset to the town of Carstairs.

Councilor Fricke applauds the hard effort that has gone into the facility, calling "Brent's Place" a lovely addition.

Councilor Wilcox attended the unveiling of "Brent's Place," which is a stunning addition. Has received positive feedback from a variety of user groups who enjoy the space.

Councilor Ball says the Nature Space is a terrific asset to the community and stands out from other park places in the vicinity. Applauds the volunteers and hours spent on the space.

Councilor Ratz echoes the statements made by fellow councilors.

Councilor Roberts expressed his enthusiasm to work with C. Van Arnam and volunteers on the Nature Space project.

Councilor Allan about the arboretum's timeframe, C. Van Arnam responded that it is depending on donations, but that there are currently a few trees in the site. Councilor Allan expressed his thanks to the Carstairs Nature Space Volunteers.

Mayor Colby also expressed gratitude and voiced excitement about what "Brent's Place" will bring to the park. Carstairs Nature Space will be used for many years to come, and C. Van Arnam and his volunteers and staff deserve credit for making the vision a reality. Thank you on behalf of all of us and the people of Carstairs.

C. Van Arnam expresses gratitude to the Town Council on behalf of the volunteers.



Motion 324/23

Motion by Councilor Roberts to accept the Carstairs Nature Space presentation as information.

CARRIED**BYLAWS & POLICIES:**

Nil

NEW BUSINESS:**1. Franchise Fees 2024**

Council reviewed the franchise fees from Fortis AB & ATCO Gas.

Motion 325/23

Motion by Councilor Roberts to accept the Fortis AB & ATCO Gas Franchise fees for 2024 as presented.

CARRIED**COMMITTEE REPORTS:****1. Legislative & Emergency Services Committee**

- Next meeting to be scheduled November 2023.

2. Strategic Planning & Corporate Affairs Committee

- Next meeting to be scheduled November 2023.

3. Policy & Governance Committee

- Next meeting to be scheduled November 2023.

4. Mountain View Regional Waste Commission

- Next meeting November 27, 2023.

5. Mountain View Regional Water Commission

- Next meeting to be schedule November 2023.

6. Mountain View Seniors' Housing

- Next meeting October 19, 2023.

7. Municipal Area Partnership

- Next meeting October 18, 2023. R. Blair and S. Ball to attend

Motion 326/23

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

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

- September 30, 2023 attended the Annual Scarecrow Trail at Carstairs Nature Space.

Councilor Ball

- Nothing to report at this time.

Councilor Fricke

- September 27 - 29, 2023 attended the Alberta Municipalities Fall Convention in Edmonton. Participated in the Economic Development, Health Care, and Emergency Disaster Preparedness workshops.

- September 30, 2023 attended the Annual Scarecrow Trail at Carstairs Nature Space.

- October 9, 2023 attended the Meeting Place Structure Dedication "Brent's Place" at the Carstairs Nature Space.

Councilor Ratz

- September 27 - 29, 2023 attended the Alberta Municipalities Fall Convention in Edmonton. Participated in workshops including one on NetZero infrastructure, local elections, and code of conduct review.

Councilor Roberts

- September 26 attended pre-conference in Edmonton. Planning 7 finance

- September 27 - 29, 2023 attended the Alberta Municipalities Fall Convention in Edmonton.

- September 30, 2023 attended the Annual Scarecrow Trail at Carstairs Nature Space.

- October 3, 2023 attended Carstairs Nature Space Committee Meeting.

- October 9, 2023 attended the Meeting Place Structure Dedication "Brent's Place" at the Carstairs Nature Space.

Councilor Wilcox

- September 26, 2023 attended Hugh Sutherland School leadership class.

- September 27 - 29, 2023 Attended the Alberta Municipalities Fall Convention in Edmonton. Participated in Extended producer responsibility workshop; lots of unanswered questions regarding the initiative.
- Oct 5, 2023, along with FCSS facilitated the youth scavenger hunt.
- October 9, 2023 attended the Meeting Place Structure Dedication "Brent's Place" at the Carstairs Nature Space.

Mayor Colby

- September 27 - 29, 2023 attended the Alberta Municipalities Fall Convention in Edmonton. Met with R.C.M.P. to discuss regional approach to policing area, and met with Minister Ellis.
- September 30, 2023 Attended the Annual Scarecrow Trail at Carstairs Nature Space.
- October 9, 2023 attended the Meeting Place Structure Dedication "Brent's Place" at the Carstairs Nature Space.

Motion 327/23

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

CARRIED**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Nil

CAO'S REPORT:

- September 27 - 29, 2023 attended the Alberta Municipalities Fall Convention in Edmonton. Met with Minister Ellis regarding tornado emergency response, Municipal Affairs regarding MSI and LGFF funding, and R.C.M.P. regarding regional policing model.
- Various meetings with Stonebridge, engineers, and planners to look at options and scenarios for pedestrian traffic through Stonebridge to Mandalay.
- Reviewing new employee handbook, consulting legal for input.
- Oct 3, 2023 met with the Mayor and Staff Sergeant Browne to follow-up on discussions from Edmonton.
- Oct 4, 2023 met with planning and engineers at the ISL office in Calgary.
- Meeting with Directors for individual budget meetings, will continue the coming weeks to get more information for Council retreat.
- Reviewing quotes from Evolution AV for Audio Visual for the Town Council Chambers and Boardroom.
- Reviewing Stantec water reservoir specifications and design.

Motion 328/23

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

CARRIED**COUNCILOR CONCERNS:****1. Councilor Fricke**

Had an inquiry about the transportation survey. Still awaiting information

Motion 329/23

Motion by Councilor Ratz to accept Councilor Concerns as information.

CARRIED**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**

Nil

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:

Nil

CLOSED MEETING:

CONFIDENTIAL 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 330/23

Motion by Councilor Allan that Council close the meeting to the public to discuss Legal Matters as per Section 27.1 of FOIP at 8:04 p.m.

CARRIED

Motion 331/23

Motion by Councilor Wilcox to come out of the closed meeting session at 8:19 p.m.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion 332/23

Motion by Councilor Allan to adjourn the meeting of October 10, 2023, at 8:20 p.m.

CARRIED



Lance Colby, Mayor



Rick Blair, CAO