

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026, 7:00 P.M.
CARSTAIRS MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

ATTENDEES: Mayor Allan; Councilors Ball, Fricke, Roberts, Selanders, Tolley; Director of Legislative & Corporate Services Shannon Allison; Deputy CAO and Director of Planning & Development Kirk Williscroft; CAO Rick Blair & Executive Assistant Kayleigh Van Es

ABSENT: Councilor Wilcox

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Allan called the meeting of Monday, March 23, 2026, to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADDED ITEMS: **1. 2026 Mill Rate Discussion** to 5.a Business Arising from Previous Minutes

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:
Motion 100/26 Motion by Councilor Ball to adopt the Regular Council Agenda of March 23, 2026, as amended.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:
Motion 101/26 Motion by Councilor Fricke to adopt the Regular Council Meeting minutes of February 23, 2026, as amended.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

1. 2026 Mill Rate Discussion

S. Allison presented Council with options for the 2026 Mill Rate, noting the intent to ensure taxpayers cover only Operating and Capital Budgets, excluding requisitions. A municipal mill rate of 4.7 would still leave the Town with an estimated \$65,000 surplus, resulting in a loaded mill rate of 7.79 compared to 8.42 in the previous year. Many residents would see minimal changes to their tax rates.

Councilor Tolley expressed concern that lowering the mill rate now could require an increase in future years. CAO R. Blair advised that it is difficult to predict mill rates year to year; however, if growth continues and the current budget trajectory is maintained, the Town should be in a good position to avoid increases. He also noted the importance of justifying surpluses to avoid over taxing.

Councilor Fricke inquired whether the proposed mill rate would keep the non-residential mill rate unchanged. S. Allison confirmed that it would remain the same and noted that it is lower than surrounding municipalities.

Councilor Ball commented on the increase in properties and overall growth.

Councilor Selanders inquired about mid-term assessments and supplemental tax assessments.

Motion 102/26 Motion by Councilor Selanders to accept 2026 Mill Rate Discussion as information.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

1. Rosebud Health Foundation- Peggy Good

P. Good presented Council with a letter requesting support for the Rosebud Spring Fling – 30th Birthday Gala. Along with long-time member and treasurer L. Dussault, they outlined several purchases made by the Foundation for the Didsbury District Health Services. It was noted that the hospital serves surrounding communities, including Carstairs, Cremona, and Mountain View County. Council was invited to attend the event on April 25, 2026, and to consider donating. Additional fundraising initiatives are also planned for the summer.

Councilor Fricke thanked them for the presentation and asked about priority funding items. P. Good advised that supply requests are coordinated through hospital management and noted that radiology upgrades are currently a significant budget item and top priority.

P. Good also informed Council that the Foundation has provided support for mental health funding in partnership with public health. Councilor Ball thanked the presenters for their work and asked whether the Foundation provides supplies to first responders.

L. Dussault advised that they are unable to provide supplies to first responders due to the Foundation’s mandate.

Motion 103/26 Motion by Councilor Selanders to accept the Rosebud Health Foundation Delegation as information.

CARRIED

BYLAWS & POLICIES:

1. Bylaw No. 1058 Noise Bylaw-Amended

The Bylaw was reviewed at the last Policies & Priorities Committee meeting, with recommendation for adoption.

Motion 104/26 Motion by Councilor Ball to give first reading of Bylaw No. 1058 Noise Bylaw, as amended.

CARRIED

Motion 105/26 Motion by Councilor Selanders to give second reading of Bylaw No. 1058 Noise Bylaw, as amended.

CARRIED

Motion 106/26 Motion by Councilor Fricke to move to third and final reading of Bylaw No. 1058 Noise Bylaw, as amended.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Motion 107/26 Motion by Councilor Tolley to give third and final reading of Bylaw No. 1058 Noise Bylaw, as amended.

CARRIED

2. Policy No. 11-031-26 Council Technology & Device Policy

The Policy was reviewed at the last Policies & Priorities Committee meeting, with recommendation for adoption.

Councilor Selanders asked for clarification regarding Personal devices.

Motion 108/26 Motion by Councilor Roberts to adopt Policy No. 11-031-26 Council Technology & Device Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Policy No. 72-04-002-26 Carstairs Community Golf Club Membership Policy-Amended

The Policy was reviewed at the last Policies & Priorities Committee meeting, with recommendation for adoption.

Motion 109/26 Motion by Councilor Tolley to adopt Policy No. 72-04-002-26 Carstairs Community Golf Club Membership Policy, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Policy No. 72-04-006-26 E-Bikes, E-Scooters & Personal Golf Cart Use at the Carstairs Community Golf Club Policy

The Policy was reviewed at the last Policies & Priorities Committee meeting, with recommendation for adoption.

Motion 110/26 Motion by Councilor Ball to adopt Policy No. 72-04-006-26 E-Bikes, E-Scooters & Personal Golf Cart Use at the Carstairs Community Golf Club Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Policies & Priorities Committee

- Minutes of the March 17, 2026, meeting were attached. Next meeting April 21, 2026.

2. Mountain View Regional Waste Commission

- Next meeting April 2026.

3. Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission

- Councilor Roberts provided a verbal report on the meeting of March 11, 2026. AGM April 8, 2026.

4. Mountain View Seniors’ Housing

- Councilor Fricke provided a verbal report on the Meeting of March 19, 2026. MVSH received a clean Audit. AGM April 23, 2026, Next Board meeting June 25, 2026.

Motion 111/26 Motion by Councilor Tolley to accept all Committee Reports as information.

CARRIED

COUNCILOR REPORTS:

1. Councilor Ball

- Provided a verbal report.
- March 10, 2026, attended the ICC meeting.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.

2. Councilor Fricke

- Provided a verbal report.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.
- March 19, 2026, attended MVSH Board meeting.

3. Councilor Roberts

- Provided a verbal report.
- March 11, 2026, attended Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission meeting.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.

4. Councilor Selanders

- Provided a verbal report.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.

5. Councilor Tolley

- Provided a verbal report.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.

6. Councilor Wilcox

- Absent

7. Mayor Allan

- Provided a verbal report.
- March 10, 2026, attended the ICC meeting.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.

Motion 112/26

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

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Thank You Note-Kiwanis Music Festival

Council received a Thank You note from the treasurer of the Kiwanis Music Festival Society thanking Council for sponsorship.

Motion 113/26

Motion by Councilor Ball to accept the Thank You note from Kiwanis Music Festival as information.

CARRIED

2. Carstairs Public Library Board-Resignation

Council received formal notice of resignation from Board Member Marjorie Jantzen.

Motion 114/26

Motion by Councilor Selanders to accept the letter of resignation from Marjorie Jantzen as information.

CARRIED

CAO'S REPORT:

- March 3-10, 2026, conducted interviews for the Legislative Services Manager position.
- March 10, 2026, attended the ICC meeting.
- March 11, 2026, met with developers.
- March 11, 2026, meeting with MVRWSC regarding the lateral line construction.
- March 12, 2026, met with Enterprise.
- March 14, 2026, Jail and Bail event was a huge success, thanks to Officer Andrea Young for a fantastic job, raising almost \$15,000 in food and monetary donations for the Mountain View Food Bank.
- March 16, 2026, met with Chris Kennedy regarding space for Judo.
- March 17, 2026, met with Shane O'Neil, Acting Staff Sergeant for Didsbury RCMP, regarding priorities.
- March 17, 2026, attended the Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting.
- March 18, 2026, attended lateral line construction meeting.
- March 18, 2026, met with potential developers.
- March 19, 2026, met with ISL team.
- Ongoing work on Mountain View County and the IDP update.
- Meeting with ATEC regarding Safety Assessment next week.
- Numerous meetings and ongoing correspondence with Assessors until May 11, 2026.
- Over 800 water meters have been installed so far.
- New Bulk water system has shipped and will be operational by spring.

- Will be away at Alberta Municipalities Spring Leadership Caucus from Wednesday, March 25 to Friday, March 27, 2026.

Motion 115/26 Motion by Councilor Tolley to accept CAO's Report as information. **CARRIED**

COUNCILOR COMMENTS: **1. Councilor Selanders**
- Waste program inquiry.
2. Councilor Roberts
- Notification of the 80th anniversary for the Carstairs Legion as well as the AG Society Anniversary in November.

Motion 116/26 Motion by Councilor Ball to accept Councilor Comments as information. **CARRIED**

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:
1. James Fyffe
Expressed concern regarding his tax assessment and the qualifications of the assessor. It was reiterated that the mill rate has not yet been set, so the resulting taxes are unknown at this time. The assessor is a qualified third-party entity and is audited every year by the Province of Alberta. S. Allison will follow up with the assessor to ensure proper follow-up for Mr. Fyffe.

CLOSED MEETING:
Section 1237 of the Municipal Government Act requires that Council and Council Committees conduct their meetings in public unless the matter to be discussed falls under one of the exceptions to disclosure outlined in Division 2 of Part 1 of the Access to Information Act (ATIA), including, but not limited to, matters related to business interests, personal privacy, individual or public safety, confidential evaluations, or law enforcement. (Sections 19 to 34).

1. Section 19-Disclosure Harmful to Business Interest of a Third-Party

Motion 117/26 Motion by Councilor Fricke that Council close the meeting to the public to discuss Disclosure Harmful to Business Interest of a Third-Party, as per Section 19, of the ATIA, at 8:12 p.m. **CARRIED**

Motion 118/26 Motion by Councilor Fricke to come out of the closed meeting session at 9:13 p.m. **CARRIED**

Motion 119/26 Motion by Councilor Roberts to direct administration to continue with the IDP/Annexation process. **CARRIED**

Motion 120/26 Motion by Councilor Tolley to direct administration to send a final letter to Meadowpark Place residents who have not yet signed the encroachment agreements, and to proceed with constructing the fence only on properties where agreements have been signed. **CARRIED**

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:
Motion 121/26 Motion by Councilor Ball to adjourn the meeting of March 23, 2026, at 9:14 p.m. **CARRIED**



Dean Allan, Mayor



Rick Blair, CAO