

A Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Blackfalds was held on January 13, 2026, at 5018 Waghorn Street in Council Chambers, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Laura Svab
Deputy Mayor Brenda Dennis
Councillor Jim Sands
Councillor Shane Hanson
Councillor Ryan Brown
Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte
Councillor Cory Twerdochlib

ATTENDING

Preston Weran, Director of Infrastructure & Planning Services (*Acting CAO*)
Ken Morrison, Director of Emergency Management & Protective Services
Rick Kreklewich, Director of Community Services
Aws Al-Sammarraie, Engineering Services Manager
Renan Bravo, Information Technology Technician
Jessica Robinson, Executive & Legislative Coordinator
Danielle Nealon, Senior Legislative Advisor

REGRETS

Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer

MEDIA

None

OTHERS PRESENT

None

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Svab welcomed everyone to the Regular Council Meeting of January 13, 2026, and called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A Land Acknowledgement was read to recognize that the Town of Blackfalds is on Treaty 6 territory.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDAS

001/26 Councillor Sands moved That Council adopt the Regular Agenda for January 13, 2026, as amended, to add the following items:

1. Delegation 5.1 Introduction of Jessica Robinson, Executive & Legislative Coordinator.
2. Confidential 8.1 Personnel - ATIA Section 29 - Advice from Officials
3. Confidential 8.2 Library Board - ATIA Section 22 - Confidential Evaluations
4. Exemption of Consent Agenda 3.2f) Lacombe Foundation 2026 Requisition added under Business as 6.5.
5. Exemption of Consent Agenda 3.2f) Save the Date CommUnity Power of One – March 19, 2026, added under Business as 6.6.
6. Exemption of Consent Agenda 3.2b) Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 9, 2025, added under Business as 6.7.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES**002/26**

Councillor Hanson moved That Council adopt the Consent Agenda for January 13, 2026, as amended, containing:

- **Declaration of No Interest** (*conflict of duty and interest, pecuniary or other*)
- **Adoption of Minutes**
 - Standing Committee of Council Meeting Minutes – December 15, 2025
- **Council Reports**
None
- **Administrative Reports**
 - Report for Council, Enforcement & Protective Services Monthly Report – December 2025
 - Report for Council, Development & Building Monthly Report – December 2025
- **Boards, Committee and Commission Minutes and/or Reports**
 - Family & Community Support Services Board Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2025
- **Information**
 - Lacombe County Council Highlights – December 11, 2025
 - Servus Credit Union Library Programming Report - December 2025
 - Metrix Group - Audit Planning Report 2025
 - Battle River Watershed Alliance – Quarterly Report – December 2025
- **Correspondence**
 - Letter from Parkland Regional Library System Re Council Congratulations
 - Letter from Mayor Cindy Jefferies - December 2, 2025
 - Letter from Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services - December 9, 2025
 - Letter from Speaker McIver - Letter to Municipalities – December 16, 2025
 - Email from Don Cooper, Manager, Government and Community Affairs (Alberta)
 - Canada Post Corporation Re: Community Mailboxes – Blackfalds – January 6, 2026

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**4. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

5. DELEGATION**5.1 Introduction of Jessica Robinson, Executive & Legislative Coordinator**

Acting CAO Weran introduced Jessica Robinson, the Town's new Executive & Legislative Coordinator.

6. BUSINESS**6.1 Council Motion, Town of Blackfalds Playgrounds**

Mayor Svab relinquished the chair to Deputy Mayor Dennis.

Mayor Svab introduced their Council Motion that was given notice at the December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council for Council's consideration.

003/26

Mayor Svab moved That Council direct Administration to bring forward a report on the age restrictions on all Town of Blackfalds playgrounds, along with any information regarding safety and liability and if there are any companies that sell playground equipment for 0-5 years of age.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Svab resumed the chair.

6.2 Council Motion, Eagle Builders Centre Parking

Councillor Brown introduced their Council Motion that was given notice at the December 9, 2025, Regular meeting of Council for Council's consideration.

004/26 Councillor Brown moved That Council direct Administration to bring forward a report with the parking options presented to Council and the details and the history on why the proposed project was not put forward by Council previously.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 Request for Decision, Bylaw 1347.25 - Schedule "B" 2026 Water and Wastewater Rates

Acting CAO/Director Weran presented Bylaw 1347.25, being a bylaw to amend Schedule "B" of Bylaw 1250.20 and to set the 2026 Water and Wastewater rates.

005/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council give First Reading to Bylaw 1347.25 – Schedule "B" 2026 Water and Wastewater Rates, a Bylaw to amend Schedule "B" of Bylaw 1250.20, as presented.

CARRIED
Opposed: Councillor Hanson

6.4 Request for Decision, McKay Ranch Lift Station Project – Re-tender

Manager Al Sammarraie presented a request to re-tender the McKay Ranch Lift Station Project.

ORIGINAL MOTION

Councillor Hanson moved That Council authorize Administration to re-tender the McKay Ranch Lift Station project in February 2026, with construction to be undertaken in the spring of 2026.

Prior to voting on the foregoing motion, a motion to postpone was introduced.

Councillor Hoyte moved That Council postpone the McKay Ranch Lift Station Project until the January 27, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

Prior to voting on the foregoing motion to postpone, a motion to withdraw was introduced.

006/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council withdraw the motion to postpone the McKay Ranch Lift Station Project until the January 27, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The original motion was back on the floor.

007/26 Councillor Hanson moved That Council authorize Administration to re-tender the McKay Ranch Lift Station project in February 2026, with construction to be undertaken in the spring of 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

008/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council allocate capital funds of \$5,528,275.35 to build the McKay Ranch Lift Station Project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.5 Lacombe Foundation 2026 Requisition

The Lacombe Foundation 2026 Requisition was exempt from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

009/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council direct Administration to write a letter to the Lacombe Foundation requesting they attend a Blackfalds' Council Meeting as a Delegation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.6 Save the Date CommUnity Power of One – March 19, 2026

Save the Date CommUnity Power of One to be held on March 19, 2026, was exempt from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

010/26 Deputy Mayor Dennis moved That Council accept the Save the Date CommUnity Power of One – March 19, 2026 correspondence, as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.7 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 9, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting Minutes for December 9, 2025, were exempt from the Consent Agenda for amendments.

011/26 Councillor Hanson moved That Council adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes for December 9, 2025, as amended, to correct an error in the members present from Deputy Brenda Dennis to Deputy Mayor Brenda Dennis.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. NOTICES OF MOTION**7.1 Capital Project Reporting and Fiscal Framework – Councillor Brown**

Councillor Brown provided a Notice of Motion regarding Capital Project Reporting and Fiscal Framework to be considered by Council at the January 27, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

“That Council direct Administration to arrange a dedicated briefing from the Infrastructure and Planning Department outlining the current bylaws, policies, and internal compliance standards related to the reporting of capital projects. The briefing shall include:

1. An overview of all applicable bylaws, policies, and procedures that govern capital-project management;
2. Current reporting practices, including what milestones, deliverables, or performance indicators are tracked internally;
3. How progress on municipal capital projects is communicated to Council and the public;
4. Identification of any gaps or opportunities to establish consistent KPI or milestone-based reporting for major capital projects; and
5. Recommendations for improving transparency, tracking, and accountability in alignment with the Town’s strategic and financial planning frameworks.

And further That Administration return to Council with this information at the February 24, 2026, Regular Council meeting for discussion and direction.”

7.2 South St. & Hwy 2A Intersection – Councillor Hanson

Councillor Hanson provided a Notice of Motion regarding South Street & Highway 2A Intersection to be considered by Council at the January 27, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

“That Council direct Administration to, as a part of the South Street & 2A intersection 2026 Capital Project approved Tuesday, November 25, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, present Council with a design option which aligns the Eastern portion of South St./Twp. Rd. 394 with Blackfalds Crossing Way.”

RECESS

Mayor Svab called for a five-minute recess at 8:01 p.m.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RETURNED TO ORDER

Mayor Svab called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m.

8. CONFIDENTIAL**8.1 Personnel – ATIA Section 29 – Advice from Officials****8.2 Library Board - ATIA Section 22 – Confidential Evaluations**

012/26 Councillor Sands moved That Council move to a closed session commencing at 8:09 p.m. in accordance with Section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* to discuss item 8.1 Personnel, pursuant to Section 29 of the *Access to Information Act* and item 8.2 Library, pursuant to Section 22 of the *Access to Information Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Closed Session Attendance: *Mayor Laura Svab, Deputy Mayor Brenda Dennis, Councillor Jim Sands, Councillor Shane Hanson, Councillor Ryan Brown, Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte, Councillor Cory Twerdochlib and Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran.*

013/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council move to come out of the closed session at 8:59 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RETURNED TO ORDER

Mayor Svab called the Regular Council Meeting back to order at 9:00 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting Attendance: *Mayor Laura Svab, Deputy Mayor Brenda Dennis, Councillor Jim Sands, Councillor Shane Hanson, Councillor Ryan Brown, Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte, Councillor Cory Twerdochlib and Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran.*

8.1 Personnel – ATIA Section 29 – Advice from Officials

014/26 Councillor Sands moved That Council proceed as discussed in closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Svab adjourned the Regular Council Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

-Original Signed-

Laura Svab, Mayor

-Original Signed-

Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer