

A Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Blackfalds was held on September 21, 2026, at 5018 Waghorn Street in Council Chambers, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Laura Svab (*virtual*)
Deputy Mayor Jim Sands (*Chair*)
Councillor Shane Hanson
Councillor Ryan Brown
Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte
Councillor Cory Twerdoclib
Councillor Brenda Dennis

ATTENDING

Preston Weran, Director of Infrastructure & Planning Services (*Acting CAO*)
Rick Kreklewich, Director of Community Services
Ken Morrison, Director of Emergency Management & Protective Services
Jolene Tejkl, Planning & Development Manager
Peter McGee, Economic Development Officer
Renan Bravo, Information Technology Technician
Danielle Nealon, Senior Legislative Advisor

REGRETS

Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer

OTHERS PRESENT

Jordan Thompson, CAO NRDRWSC
Dylan Sigurdson, Brownlee LLP (*virtual*)
Richard Jones, Brownlee LLP (*virtual*)

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Sands welcomed everyone to the Regular Council Meeting of September 21, 2026, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and indicated that Mayor Svab was attending virtually.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDAS

Council reviewed the Agendas for September 21, 2026, and amended the agendas, as follows:

- Consent Agenda item g) Letter from the Friends of the Blindman River Funding Request – September 1, 2026, was added under the Regular Agenda as Business item 6.11
- Consent Agenda item g) Email from Dr. Allen Lycka Re: Blackfalds Knows Resilience – September 24, 2026, was added under the Regular Agenda as Business item 6.12.

317/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council adopt the Regular Agenda for September 21, 2026, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

318/26 Councillor Hanson moved That Council adopt the Consent Agenda for September 21, 2026, as amended, containing:

- a) Declaration of No Interest** (*conflict of duty and interest, pecuniary or other*)
- b) Adoption of Minutes**
 - o Regular Council Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2026
- c) Council Reports**
None
- d) Administrative Reports**
 - o Report for Council, CAO Report – September 2026
 - o Report for Council, Enforcement & Protective Services Monthly Report – August 2026
 - o Report for Council, Development & Building Monthly Report – August 2026
 - o Report for Council, Report for Council, BOLT KPI Monthly Report – August 2026
- e) Boards, Committee and Commission Minutes and/or Reports**
None
- f) Information**
 - o Lt. Governor of Alberta's March 2026 - August 2026 Update
- g) Correspondence**
None

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. PUBLIC HEARING

None

5. DELEGATION

None

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Request for Decision, North Red Deer River Water Services Commission Bylaw 1 Replacement

Director/Acting CAO Weran and special guests, NRDRWSC CAO Jordan Thompson and their legal counsel, Dylan Sigurdson and Richard Jones of Brownlee LLP, presented an overview of the replacement of Bylaw 1.

319/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council receive the Council Briefing Note respecting the North Red Deer River Water Services Commission's replacement of Bylaw 1 with the Governance, Operations and Terms of Service Bylaws as information and direct Administration to communicate to the Commission its endorsement of the proposed Bylaws and Membership Agreement as substantively presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 Request for Decision, Bylaw 1361.26 - Increasing the Authority of the Development Officer

Manager Tejkl brought forward Bylaw 1361.26 - Increasing the Authority of the Development Officer for Council Consideration of First Reading and to set the Public Hearing date.

320/26 Councillor Twerdoclib moved That Council give First Reading to Bylaw 1361.26 – Increasing the Authority of the Development Officer, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

321/26 Councillor Brown moved That a Public Hearing date be set for October 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 Request for Decision, Lacombe Lake Management Plan RFP Award

Manager Tejkl presented the Lacombe Lake Management Plan RFP Award for Council's consideration and endorsement.

- 322/26** Councillor Twerdoclib moved That Council accept the Lacombe Lake Management Plan information and endorse the Steering Committee's recommendation to hire Urban Systems as the consultant to complete the Lacombe Lake Management Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4 Request for Decision, Subdivision File No. S-07-26, 239 Eastpointe Drive

Manager Tejkl presented Subdivision File No. S-07-26, 239 Eastpointe Drive for Council's consideration.

- 323/26** Councillor Hoyte moved That Council, being the designated Subdivision Authority for the Town of Blackfalds, is satisfied that the proposed subdivision meets the relevant considerations, and moves to approve the subdivision of 239 Eastpointe Drive (Lot 16 Block 12 Plan 262 1073) into five (5) lots, subject to the following conditions:

1. That pursuant to Section 84 of the *Land Titles Act*, the Subdivision is registered by Plan of Survey.
2. That pursuant to Section 654(1)(d) of the *Municipal Government Act*, all outstanding property taxes are to be paid, or some other arrangement satisfactory to the Town of Blackfalds for payment thereof be made.

CARRIED
Opposed: Councillor Hanson

6.5 Request for Decision, Economic Development Strategy Contract Award

EDO McGee presented the Economic Development Single Purpose Task Force recommendation and award the 2026 5-year Economic Development Strategy RFP.

- 324/26** Councillor Hanson moved That Council endorse the Economic Development Single Purpose Task Force recommendation and award the 2026 5-year Economic Development Strategy RFP contract to Deloitte LLP.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.6 Request for Decision, Ball Diamond Construction

Manager Starnes brought forward a request for the construction of a fifth ball diamond at Sterling Industries Sports Park.

Mayor Svab moved That Council approve an additional \$120,000 for the construction of a U18 sized baseball diamond at Sterling Industries Sports Park, with funding to be drawn from the General Capital Reserve and proceed with construction immediately.

Before voting on the foregoing motion, a motion to defer was introduced

- 325/26** Councillor Hanson moved That Council defer construction of the fifth ball diamond and reconsider the project during the 2027 budget deliberations.

DEFEATED
***In Favour: Councillor Hanson,
Councillor Hoyte and Councillor Dennis***

The main motion was returned to the floor

- 326/26** Mayor Svab moved That Council approve an additional \$120,000 for the construction of a U18 sized baseball diamond at Sterling Industries Sports Park, with funding to be drawn from the General Capital Reserve and proceed with construction immediately.

CARRIED

*Opposed: Councillor Hanson,
Councillor Hoyte and Councillor Dennis*

6.7 Request for Decision, Community Initiatives Grant – Blackfalds Homeschool Sports Co-op

Director Kreklewich brought forward the Recreation, Culture and Parks (RCP) Board's recommendation regarding the Blackfalds Homeschool Sports Co-op's Community Initiative Grant Application.

- 327/26** Councillor Dennis moved That Council endorse the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board's recommendation and grant funding of \$1,040 to the Blackfalds Homeschool Sports Co-op from the Community Initiatives Grant.

CARRIED

Opposed: Councillor Twerdoclib

6.8 Request for Decision, Economic Development Strategy Selection Single Purpose Task Force – Per Diem Approvals

Acting CAO/ Director Weran will bring forward a request from the Council members appointed to the Economic Development Strategy Selection Single Purpose Task Force.

- 328/26** Councillor Brown moved That Council approve three (3) half-day per diems for August 29, 2026, September 3, 2026, and September 10, 2026, for Mayor Svab, Councillor Sands, and Councillor Twerdoclib for their participation in the evaluation process, shortlisting of proponents, and recommendation of a preferred proponent for awarding the 2026 Economic Development Strategy.

CARRIED

*Opposed: Mayor Svab and
Councillor Hanson*

6.9 Request for Decision, Organizational Meeting Time Change and Setting of a Regular Meeting Request

Senior Legislative Advisor Nealon recommended moving the 2026 Organizational Meeting start time to 5:00 p.m. and setting a Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

- 329/26** Councillor Hanson moved That Council approve changing the start time of the 2026 Organizational Meeting to 5:00 p.m. and schedule a Regular Council Meeting for 6:00 p.m., and post notice of the change accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.10 Request for Decision, Council Motion, Request for Information on Data Centers

Councillor Twerdoclib moved the motion that was given notice at the September 8, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

- 330/26** Councillor Twerdoclib moved That Council direct Administration to conduct research on AI Data Centers, their effects on the municipality and environment, potential changes required to the Land Use Bylaw, the MDP and any other master plans of the Town, in order to protect the interests of Blackfalds and its residents and That the information be brought back to a future Standing Committee of Council Meeting for discussion.

CARRIED

*Opposed: Deputy Mayor Sands,
Councillor Brown and Councillor Dennis*

MEETING TIME EXTENSION

- 331/26** Councillor Hanson moved That Council approve extending the Regular Meeting for September 21, 2026, beyond the three-hour limit until 9:30 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.11 Letter from the Friends of the Blindman River Funding Request - September 1, 2026

Council exempted this item from the Consent Agenda for further consideration.

- 332/26** Mayor Svab moved That the Friends of the Blindman River Funding Request be postponed to the 2027 budget deliberations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.12 Email from Dr. Allen Lycka Re: Blackfalds Knows Resilience - September 24, 2026

Council exempted this item from the Consent Agenda for further consideration.

- 333/26** Councillor Hanson moved That Council recognize and proclaim September 24, 2026, as National Resilience Day in the Town of Blackfalds.

DEFEATED
*In Favour: Mayor Svab,
Deputy Mayor Sands and Councillor Hanson*

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

None

RECESS

Deputy Mayor Sands called for a 5-minute recess at 8:55 p.m.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RETURNED TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Sands called the Regular Council Meeting back to order at 9:01 p.m.

8. CONFIDENTIAL

8.1 Committee Discussion – ATIA Section 29 – Advice from Officials

- 334/26** Councillor Dennis moved That Council move to a closed session commencing at 9:01 p.m. in accordance with Section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* to discuss item 8.1 Committee Discussion, pursuant to Section 29 of the *Access to Information Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Closed Session Attendance: Mayor Laura Svab (virtual), Deputy Mayor Jim Sands, Councillor Shane Hanson, Councillor Ryan Brown, Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte, Councillor Cory Twerdoclib, Councillor Brenda Dennis, Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran, and Legislative Advisor Danielle Nealon.

- 335/26** Councillor Dennis moved That Council move to come out of the closed session at 9:28 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RETURNED TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Sands called the Regular Council Meeting back to order at 9:29 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting Attendance: *Mayor Laura Svab (virtual), Deputy Mayor Jim Sands, Councillor Shane Hanson, Councillor Ryan Brown, Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte, Councillor Cory Twerdoclib, Councillor Brenda Dennis, Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran, and Legislative Advisor Danielle Nealon.*

8.1 Committee Discussion – ATIA Section 29 – Advice from Officials

336/26 Councillor Hanson moved That Council refer the Committee Discussion back to Administration for more information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Sands adjourned the Regular Council Meeting at 9:30 p.m.

-Original Signed-

Laura Svab, Mayor

-Original Signed-

Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer