

MINUTES

A Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Blackfalds was held on February 24, 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 Twerdoclib

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
Danielle Nealon, Senior Legislative Advisor

REGRETS

Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer

MEDIA

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Edie Harris - Optimist Club of Blackfalds
Brad Vander Heyden – Stantec Consulting

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Svab welcomed everyone to the Regular Council Meeting of February 24, 2026, and called the meeting to order at 6:00 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

Administration requested that the Invitation to the Lacombe & Area ReconciliACTION Coalition meeting be added under the Consent Agenda under 3.2g) Correspondence.

Mayor Svab declared a conflict of interest for Consent Agenda item 3.2d) Report for Council, Volunteer Recognition Awards 2026 Plans and requested it be added under Business as 6.6 on the Regular Agenda.

Councillor Sands declared a conflict of interest for Business item 6.3 Request for Decision, Bylaw 1350.26 - Natural Gas Franchise Fee Bylaw.

049/26

Councillor Deputy Mayor moved That Council adopt the Regular Agenda for February 24, 2026, as amended to add the following item:

1. Exemption of Consent Agenda 3.2d) Report for Council, Volunteer Recognition Awards 2026 Plans, added under Business as 6.6.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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050/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council adopt the Consent Agenda for February 24, 2026, as amended, containing:

- **Declaration of No Interest** (*conflict of duty and interest, pecuniary or other*)
- **Adoption of Minutes**
 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2026
 - Standing Committee of Council Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2026
- **Council Reports**
 - Mayor Laura Svab
 - Deputy Mayor Brenda Dennis
 - Councillor Jim Sands
 - Councillor Shane Hanson
 - Councillor Ryan Brown
 - Councillor Aaron J. Hoyte
 - Councillor Cory Twerdoelib
- **Administrative Reports**
 - Report for Council, CAO Report – February 2026
 - Report for Council, BOLT KPI Monthly Report – December 2025 and January 2026
 - Report for Council, Whistle Cessation Safety Improvements at South Street
- **Boards, Committee and Commission Minutes and/or Reports**
 - Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2025
- **Information**
 - CAO Notice - Water Conservation Notice ENDS - January 21, 2026
 - City of Lacombe Council Highlights – February 9, 2026
 - Lacombe County Council Highlights – February 12, 2026
- **Correspondence**
 - Letter from Trevor Daroux, Deputy Commissioner, Commanding Officer, Alberta RCMP Re: RCMP Update – February 4, 2026
 - Letter from S/Sgt. Andrew Allan, RCMP Detachment Commander Re: Quarterly Report – February 10, 2026
 - Email from Maryanne King, Advisor, Government Relations Re: National Police Federation | Contract Policing Commitment – February 18, 2026
 - Invitation to the Lacombe & Area ReconciliACTION Coalition meeting

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. PUBLIC HEARING

None

5. DELEGATION**5.1 Toddler Park Proposal**

Edie Harris, representing the Optimist Club of Blackfalds, brought forward a proposal regarding a new toddler park in the Town.

6. BUSINESS**6.1 Request for Decision, Optimist Club of Blackfalds Playground Project**

Director Kreklewich brought forward a request regarding the Optimist Club of Blackfalds proposal for a toddler park in the Town.

051/26 Councillor Twerdoelib moved That Council provide a letter of support to the Optimist Club of Blackfalds for their application to Kal's RePlay Fund, identifying Prairie Ridge Park – East of the existing playground as the proposed site for the toddler playground, and with location pending community engagement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES**6.2 Request for Decision, Bylaw 1349.26 - Taxi Business Bylaw Amendment**

Acting CAO/Director Weran, brought forward Bylaw 1349.26 being a Bylaw to amend the Taxi Business Bylaw for Council's consideration of First, Second and Third Reading.

052/26 Councillor Sands moved That Council give First Reading to Bylaw 1349.26 - Taxi Business Bylaw Amendment, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

053/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council give Second Reading to Bylaw 1349.26 - Taxi Business Bylaw Amendment, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

054/26 Deputy Mayor Dennis moved That Council give unanimous consent to move to and consider Third Reading of Bylaw 1349.26 - Taxi Business Bylaw Amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

055/26 Councillor Hanson moved That Council give Third Reading to Bylaw 1349.26 - Taxi Business Bylaw Amendment, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 Request for Decision, Bylaw 1350.26 - Natural Gas Franchise Fee Bylaw

Councillor Sands declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Acting CAO/Director Weran presented Bylaw 1350.26 for Council's consideration of First Reading.

056/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council supports the ongoing relationship with ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. to deliver natural gas to customers within the Town of Blackfalds.

CARRIED

Recused: Councillor Sands

057/26 Councillor Hanson moved That Council give First reading to Bylaw 1350.26 – Natural Gas Franchise Fee Bylaw, as presented.

CARRIED

Recused: Councillor Sands

Councillor Sands returned to the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

6.4 Request for Decision, CAEP Economic Development Training Opportunities – March 2026

Acting CAO/Director Weran requested Council direction regarding the CAEP Economic Development Training.

058/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council receive the CAEP Economic Development Training Opportunities – March 2026 report for information and direct Administration to register Mayor Svab and Councillor Twerdoclib for March 30, and two members of Administration for March 24, to attend the CAEP Economic Development courses being held.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.5 Request for Decision, Capital Project Reporting and Fiscal Framework Council Motion Response

Acting CAO/Director Weran provided an overview of the Capital Project Reporting and Fiscal Framework in response to Council Resolution 017/26.

059/26 Councillor Brown moved That Council accept the Capital Project Reporting and Fiscal Framework Council Motion Response report as information in accordance with Council resolution 017/26.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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6.6 Report for Council, Volunteer Recognition Awards 2026 Plans

Mayor Svab declared a conflict of interest and relinquished the chair to Deputy Mayor Dennis.

060/26 Councillor Twerdoclib moved That Council direct that the Deputy Mayor will conduct the evaluation for the High School Volunteer Recognition Award.

CARRIED
Abstained: Mayor Svab

Mayor Svab resumed the chair.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

**7.1 Pedestrian Crossing Standardization and Roadway Signage Policy–
Councillor Hanson**

Councillor Hanson provided a Notice of Motion regarding Pedestrian Crossing Standardization and Roadway Signage Policy to be considered by Council at the March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council.

“That Council direct Administration to begin the process of developing a pedestrian crosswalk standardization and roadway signage policy for the Town of Blackfalds, with a goal of having this complete by June 30, 2027.”

RECESS

Mayor Svab called for a five-minute recess at 7:44 p.m.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RETURNED TO ORDER

Mayor Svab called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

8. CONFIDENTIAL

**8.1 South Street & Highway 2A Intersection, ATIA Section 29 - Advice from
Officials**

061/26 Councillor Hoyte moved That Council move to a closed session commencing at 7:51 p.m. in accordance with Section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* to discuss item 8.1 South Street & Highway 2A Intersection, pursuant to Section 29 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 Twerdoclib and Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran, Manager Aws Al-Sammarraie, Legislative Advisor Danielle Nealon and Brad Vander Heyden (Stantec).*

062/26 Deputy Mayor Dennis moved That Council move to come out of the closed session at 9:04 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING RETURNED TO ORDER

Mayor Svab called the Regular Council Meeting back to order at 9:04 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 Twerdoclib and Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran, Manager Aws Al-Sammarraie, Legislative Advisor Danielle Nealon and Brad Vander Heyden (Stantec).*

MINUTES

- 063/26** Councillor Brown moved That Council move to a closed session commencing at 9:05 p.m. in accordance with Section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* to discuss item 8.1 South Street & Highway 2A Intersection, pursuant to Section 29 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 Twerdoclib and Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran, Manager Aws Al-Sammarraie, Legislative Advisor Danielle Nealon and Brad Vander Heyden (Stantec).*

- 064/26** Councillor Hoyte moved That Council move to come out of the closed session at 9:13 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 Twerdoclib and Acting CAO/Director Preston Weran, Manager Aws Al-Sammarraie, Legislative Advisor Danielle Nealon and Brad Vander Heyden (Stantec).*

8.1 South Street & Highway 2A Intersection, ATIA Section 29 - Advice from Officials

- 065/26** Councillor Hanson moved That Council refer the South Street and Highway 2A Intersection to Administration for more information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Svab adjourned the Regular Council Meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Laura Svab, Mayor

Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer