



**MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF RYCROFT
STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION
DECEMBER 15, 2023
VILLAGE OF RYCROFT COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT:	James Verquin	Mayor
	Roxann Dreger	Deputy Mayor
	Joanne Chelick	Councillor
	Dwayne Kotyk	Councillor
	Brian Markovich	Councillor
	Peter Thomas	Chief Administrative Officer
	Lisa Shaykowski	Finance Clerk
	Tanis Vinck	Administrative Clerk
	Dolan Isaac	Public Works Foreman

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Verquin called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and handed the chair responsibilities over to CAO Thomas.

2. REVIEW OF LAST YEAR'S STRATEGIC PLAN

CAO Thomas reviewed last year's plan and accomplishments.

3. CURRENT STATUS

Council has 2 years left in their governance term. The next election is October 2025. Council reviewed the previous 2 year accomplishments and successes:

1. Paving Southeast Corner of the Village
 2. Unsightly Premises Cleanup/Demolitions
 3. Water Valve Replacement for Control of water main breaks
 4. Drainage Management/Ditch Cleaning
 5. Sewer Main Re-line/Manhole Relining
 6. Hydrant Repair/Maintenance Program
 7. Road Maintenance/Large Patch Repair
 8. New Office Flooring
 9. New Water Treatment Plant Roof
 10. Voyent Alert App
 11. G5 Medical Clinic Stabilization
 12. Dog Parks Establishment
 13. Community Parade
 14. Staff Training and Development
 15. Ball Park Drainage Management /Beautification
 16. Caboose Repainting
 17. New Skate Park
 18. Merry Pioneers Seniors Hall Management
 19. Renewed Water Operator Contract
 20. Renewed Waste Management Contract/Recycling Program
- Council Relations Harmony
 - Community Garden Development
 - Water Weir Repair (2021)
 - Consistent Improvement of our Tax Collection Rate
 - Arena Operation Support
 - Sewer Lift Station Upgrade (2021)

- Sale of Land/Properties/Lots (Ours and Private)
- Maintaining Affordability to live in Rycroft
- Asset Management

4. **COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT: BUSINESS SERVICES IN RYCROFT**

Council reviewed the existing business services currently available in the Village:

- 1 grocery store
- 4 convenience stores (3 gas + hotel)
- 5 gas stations (Shell, Esso, Centex, UFA, Co-op)
- 3 liquor stores (A&B, Hotel, St. Michael's Inn)
- 4 hotels/motels (Hotel, St. Michael's Inn, Leprechaun, Crossroads)
- 3 licensed eating establishments (Hotel, St. Michael's Inn, Smitty's) + Bakery
- 1 Western Supplies Feed and Tack Store
- 1 Equipment Rental Store
- 4 Agriculture Services (Grain Millers, AGI, Nutrien, Schoorlemmer Seeds)
- 2 Oilfield Service Companies (Vertex, Deken)
- Dika Industries Welding Shop
- Peace Country Memorials
- Light House Promotions
- 2 Autobody Service Shops (Crossroads Collision, Furby's Glass)
- Curry's Auto Scrap Yard
- 1 Bank
- 1 Elementary School
- 2 Churches
- Food Bank
- We have issued 47 Business Licenses in 2023

5. **MUNICIPAL SERVICES INVENTORY**

Council evaluated municipal services to identify issues and concerns:

- Arena
- Library
- Hall – Merry Pioneers
- 2 dog parks
- 3 ball diamonds (1 school)
- 3 playgrounds
- 1 skatepark
- 1 school soccer field
- Bulk Water Station
- Community Garden

Council expressed no concerns at this time.

6. **COUNCIL GRANTS LISTING**

Council reviewed this year's contributions. No concerns were raised.

The meeting was recessed for a lunch break at 11:53 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 1:00 p.m.

7. **LEVEL OF SERVICE EVALUATION ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

Council and staff reviewed the level of service of Municipal operations and identified issues and concerns:

- Front Desk
- Public Works
 - Roads – we should have a bigger sander for efficiency
 - Water

- Sewer – the main line through Mr. Woronuk’s field has been repaired
- Drainage
 - CN culverts may need upgrading at the end of 52 street and 48 ave; and also the 2 at the ball diamond.
 - Ensure ditch by Dika industries is maintained and flowing
- Fleet – Upgrade 1988 Ford 3500 to new 5500 or 6500 truck
 - Watch for street sweeper for our new paved roads
- Planning and Development
- Emergency Planning
- Bylaw Officer Services
 - Property
 - Animal
 - Bylaw Officer to send proposal to Council

8. **ANY OTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

There were no other issues at this time.

9. **COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

5 Year Capital Plan:

- Paving Phase 2
 - Ensure Public are accommodated for parking during pavement project
 - Evaluate best solution for easement alley behind 46A avenue. Matting?
- New Truck
- New Budget Item Admin Building Roof - Add
- New Budget Item Library Roof - Add
- New Budget Item Admin Building Access Doors – Add, watch for grant
- New Budget Item Water Main Line Re-line Under 51 street – investigate cost of re-line compared to directional drill. Budget \$200,000.
- Add Street Sweeper to 2025 \$100,000.

Complete Ball Diamond Drainage landscape by adding water line and planting trees in operational budget – add \$15,000. Possible walking path.

The meeting was recessed for a break at 2:06 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 2:16 p.m.

10. **ADVOCACY**

- RCMP
- Medical Clinic
- G5 Water System
- Grande Spirit Foundation Housing
- Saddle Hills County Funding
- Industrial Parks: Crossroads and Northside
- Donations to clubs
- G5 Partnership as a whole

Council reviewed their advocacy partnerships and no changes were suggested to our current strategies and approaches.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Verquin adjourned the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

James Verquin
Mayor

Peter Thomas
Chief Administrative Officer