MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF RYCROFT
ORGANIZATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2026
VILLAGE OF RYCROFT COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT:	**James Verquin**	**Mayor**
	Roxann Dreger	**Deputy Mayor**
	Brian Markovich	**Councillor**
	Tamara Babcock	**Councillor**
	Elane Blandin	**Councillor**
	Louise Gostick	**Interim Chief Administrative Officer**
	Absent with notice	
	Kevin Keller	**Chief Administrative Officer**

1. CALL TO ORDER

James Verquin called the meeting to order at 6:30

2. APPOINTMENT OF CAO AS CHAIRPERSON

2026-10-23-203 **MOVED** by **James Verquin** that **Interim Chief Administrative Officer Louise Gostick** to be appointed as the Chairman for the Annual Council Organization meeting.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2026-10-23-204 **MOVED** by Elane Blandin that the October 23, 2026, Annual Organizational meeting agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. OFFICIAL OATH OF OFFICE FOR ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Commissioner of Oaths CST Cameron McDonald joined the meeting at 6:32pm

All 5 Council members took their official Oath of Office for Councillor as administered by Commissioner of Oaths CST Cameron McDonald

CARRIED

5. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

5.1 Election of Mayor

Chairman Gostick called for nominations for the position of mayor.

Roxann Dreger nominated **James Verquin** for the position of Mayor

James Verquin accepted the nomination for Mayor

Chairman Gostick called for nominations for the position of the Mayor a second time.

Tamara Babcock nominated **Roxann Dreger** for the position of Mayor

Roxann Dreger declined the nomination for Mayor

Chairman Gostick called for nominations for the position of the Mayor a third time.

Chairman Gostick called a vote for Mayor,

Declared the nominations for the position of the Mayor closed and proclaimed **James Verquin** as the Mayor for the Village of Rycroft.

CARRIED

5.2 Election of Deputy Mayor

Chairman Gostick called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor

James Verquin nominated **Councillor Dreger** for the position of Deputy Mayor

Roxann Dreger accepted the nomination.

Chairman Gostick called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor a second time.

Elane Blandin nominated **Tamara Babcock** for the position of Deputy Mayor

Tamara Babcock accepted the nomination.

Chairman Gostick called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor a third time.

Chairman Gostick called a vote for Mayor, 3 votes for **Roxann Dreger,** 2 votes for **Tamara Babcock**

Chairman Gostick declared the nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor closed and proclaimed **Roxann Dreger,** as the Deputy Mayor for the Village of Rycroft.

CST Cameron McDonald left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Chairman Gostick turned the responsibility of the Chairperson for the meeting over to

CARRIED

5. SIGNING AUTHORITIES AND CONFIRMATION OF BANKING INSTITUTION

2026-10-23-205 **MOVED** by **Mayor Verquin** that Council designate the Village signing authorities where the financial accounts require either one of the Chief Administrative Officer Kevin Keller, or the Assistant Administrator Lousie Gostick and ether one of the Mayor Verquin or Deputy Mayor Dreger withdraw funds, enter orders, withdraw assets, give instructions, sign documents, and make financial decisions regarding the funds in the accounts at the Village of Rycroft designated financial institution, the Alberta Treasury Branch.

CARRIED

6. FINANCIAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT

2026-10-23-206 **MOVED** by **deputy Mayor Dreger** that Council Directs administration to investigate alternative audit providers for the 2026 annual financial audit for the Village.

CARRIED

7. BOARDS AND COMMITTEES' COUNCIL APPPOINTMENTS

Council had a discussion and agreed to the following appointments to the Council Boards and Committees list:

The Central Peace Assessment Review Board will have Mayor Verquin as the Chairperson Public Board members will be appointed on an ad hoc basis from the pool of accredited membership of the G5 municipalities.

The Central Peace Attraction and Retention Committee representatives will be Councillor Blandin as the representative, and Councillor Babcock as the alternate.

The Central Peace FCSS representatives will be Councillor Babcock as the representative, and Councillor Blandin as the alternate.

The Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission will be Councillor Markovich and Deputy Dreger as the representatives.

The Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition will be Roxann Dreger until such time as a new Councillor is appointed to the role.

The Central Peace Medical Corporation will be Deputy Dreger as the representative, and Mayor Verquin the alternate.

The Central Peace Regional Emergency Management Committee will be Councillor Babcock as the representative, and Mayor Verquin as the alternate.

The Central Peace Regional Water System representative will be Councillor Markovich, the alternate Councillor Blandin

The G5 General Meeting Board Members will be all of Council.

The Grande Spirit Foundation member will be Councillor Dreger and alternate Councillor Blandin

The Mighty Peace Tourism Association will be Councillor Babcock as the representative,

The Northern Alberta Elected Leaders representatives will be Councillor Dreger as the representative.

The Peace Library System member will be Councillor Babcock as the representative,

The Rycroft Arena Board representative will be Mayor Verquin as the representative, and Councillor Markovich as the alternate.

The Rycroft Library Board representative will be Councillor Blandin as the representative

2026-10-23-207 **MOVED** by **Mayor Verquin** that Council accept the Council Boards and Committees appointments as discussed.

CARRIED

8. PUBLIC COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Agricultural Appeal Committee will consist of Keegan Milkovich, Shane Milkovich, and Thelma Dreger, Also, other Public Board members may be appointed on an ad hoc basis from the pool of accredited membership of the G5 municipalities.

The Rycroft Arena Board will have DJ Barbarich, Neil Magill, Garret Hjelsing The Council representative is Mayor Verquin.

The Central Peace Assessment Review Board will have Karen Egge as the Chairperson, Public Board members will be appointed on an ad hoc basis from the pool of accredited membership of the G5 municipalities, including our trained representatives, Anne Silvius.

The Central Peace FCSS Board will have Jackie Knells, Anne-Marie Silvius The Council representative is Councillor Babcock

The Rycroft Library Board will have, Steve Everitt, Connie Everitt, Janet Sinkwich and Jean Fields, Don Wright, Jacob Rozenberg the Council representative is Councillor Blandin

*The Merry Pioneers will be Brenda Day, Marie Kotyk, and Elane Blandin

12. DATE, TIME, AND PLACE FOR REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

2026-10-23-208 **MOVED** by **Mayor Verquin** that excepting where special circumstances warrant a change, that Council approve that regular Council meeting schedule remain as the first Wednesday and Third Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm in the Village Council Chambers located at 4703 51 street, Rycroft, Alberta.

CARRIED

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Verquin adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Mayor James Verquin **Interim CAO Louise Gostick**