Town of Lumsden
Meeting Minutes
Regular Council Meeting August 11, 2026 - 6:30 PM

Call to Order

The Lumsden Town Council convened their Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office, and via electronic means (Zoom), on Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

Present:
Mayor: Verne Barber
Councillors: Trevor Haubrich, Wes Holobetz, Tiffany Schaefer, Ryan Schindelka, Adam Tropin
Chief Administrative Officer: Monica M. Merkosky
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer: Krystal Strong (Attended via Zoom)
Senior Planner: Saedi Soubolsky (Attended via Zoom from 6:30 - 8:32 pm)
Office Services Clerk - Planning: Lesia Matheson (Attended via Zoom from 6:30 - 8:30 pm)
Public Works Superintendent: Jeff Carey (Attended from 6:30 - 6:44 pm)

Absent:
Councillor: Anne Gibbons
Director of Finance: Ryan Haresign

Invited Guest:
Michael Walker, Associated Engineering (Attended from 7:04 - 7:52 pm)

"We are honoured to acknowledge that we are gathered today on Treaty 4 territory, the traditional lands of the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and on the homeland of the Métis. The Town of Lumsden recognizes the harms of the past and is committed to working together in the spirit of cooperation and reconciliation."

Resolution No. 2026-261 **Additions to Agenda**
Moved by: Councillor Holobetz
Seconded by: Councillor Schaefer

"That we agree to add the following items to the agenda:
- 18.3 Duck Derby Events
- 20.2 Permanent, Full-Time Office Services Clerk - Communications." **CARRIED**

Resolution No. 2026-262 **Approval of Agenda**
Moved by: Councillor Haubrich
Seconded by: Councillor Holobetz

"That we approve the agenda as amended." **CARRIED**

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Councillor Ryan Schindelka declared a conflict of interest with regard to item 7.2 on tonight's agenda. Item 7.2 is the list of payroll accounts, which includes a payment to his son, Matthew Schindelka, who is an employee of the Museum.

Resolution No. **Public Works Reports**

2026-263 **Moved by:** Councillor Schindelka

Seconded by: Councillor Tropin

"That the Utilities and Public Works report be accepted as presented." **CARRIED**

Public Works Superintendent, Jeff Carey, left for the remainder of the meeting at 6:44 pm.

Financial Reports

Resolution No. **Bank Reconciliations - July 31, 2026**

2026-264 **Moved by:** Councillor Haubrich

Seconded by: Councillor Holobetz

"That we accept the Bank Reconciliations for the period ending July 31, 2026, as presented." **CARRIED**

Account for Approval

Resolution No. **List of Accounts**

2026-265 **Moved by:** Councillor Haubrich

Seconded by: Councillor Holobetz

"That the list of accounts payable attached as Schedule "A" is approved for payment." **CARRIED**

Conflict of Interest

Councillor Ryan Schindelka declared a conflict of interest with respect to the List of Payroll Accounts which includes a payment to his son, Matthew Schindelka, who is employed at the Museum. Councillor Schindelka abstained from discussion and voting on the matter and left the Council Chambers at 6:50 pm.

Resolution No. **List of Accounts - Payroll**

2026-266 **Moved by:** Councillor Schaefer

Seconded by: Councillor Tropin

"That the list of payroll accounts attached as Schedule "B" is approved for payment." **CARRIED**

Conflict of Interest - Returned to Meeting

At the conclusion of discussion and voting on the matter, Councillor Schindelka returned to the council chambers at 6:51 pm.

Delegations

Resolution No. **Closed Session - Strategic Planning**

2026-267 **Moved by:** Councillor Haubrich

Seconded by: Councillor Schaefer

"That we move into Closed Session at 7:04 pm for the purpose of discussing strategic planning as allowed pursuant to Section 120 of *The Municipalities Act*, with staff, Ralph Haryett, Lee Heebner and Michael Walker to be included in the session." **CARRIED**

7:04 - 7:38 pm - Ralph Haryett and MPE Representative Lee Heebner

Michael Walker of Associated Engineering left for the remainder of the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Rise from Closed Session

At 7:54 pm, Council left the Closed Session and returned to the open meeting.

Planning and Development Applications and Reports

Resolution No. Council Update - Planning and Development
2026-268 **Moved by:** Councillor Schaefer
Seconded by: Councillor Schindelka

"That the Planning and Development report be accepted as presented by Senior Planner Saedi Soubolsky."

CARRIED

OSC-Planning, Lesia Matheson left for the remainder of the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. July 14, 2026 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes
2026-269 **Moved by:** Councillor Haubrich
Seconded by: Councillor Tropin

"That the minutes of the July 14, 2026 - Regular Meeting be approved, as circulated."

CARRIED

Resolution No. July 21, 2026 - Joint Administration Committee Meeting
2026-270 **Moved by:** Councillor Tropin
Seconded by: Councillor Schindelka

"That the minutes of the July 21, 2026, Joint Administration Committee Meeting be approved, as circulated."

CARRIED

Senior Planner, Saedi Soubolsky left for the remainder of the meeting at 8:32 pm.

Committee Reports

Resolution No. July 21, 2026 - Joint Administration Committee Meeting
2026-271 **Moved by:** Councillor Schindelka
Seconded by: Councillor Haubrich

"That the Joint Administration Committee Report be accepted as presented verbally by Councillor Schindelka."

CARRIED

Resolution No. Fire Hall
2026-272 **Moved by:** Councillor Haubrich
Seconded by: Councillor Holobetz

"That we agree with the recommendation of the Joint Administration Committee that Altered Dimensions Drafting & Design be retained to prepare all architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, energy, and civil engineering plans necessary for the tendering of a 50' × 60' pre-engineered building project for the Lumsden & District Fire Department, to be located adjacent to the existing fire hall, at a cost of $32,650, plus applicable taxes."

CARRIED

Resolution No. Service Awards
2026-273 **Moved by:** Councillor Tropin
Seconded by: Councillor Haubrich

"That we agree with the recommendation of the Joint Administration Committee that the following members of the Lumsden & District Volunteer Fire Department be nominated for the Canadian Volunteer Fire Services Association (CVFSA) awards in recognition of their dedicated service to our communities:
CVFSA Volunteer Fire Fighter Service Awards (10–29 Years of Service):

- Terrance Renkas, Deputy Chief – 23 years of service;
- Luke Sitter, Deputy Chief – 18 years of service;
- Kyle McKinnon, Firefighter – 17 years of service;
- Ryan Norton, Captain – 14 years of service;
- Andrew Steadman, Lieutenant – 14 years of service;
- Jason Cherney, Lieutenant – 12 years of service;
- Chris Whitteron, Firefighter – 10 years of service;
- Logan Burkholder, Firefighter – 10 years of service; and
- Brady Aulie, Firefighter – 10 years of service.

CVFSA Municipal Long Service Award (30+ Years of Service):

- Jeff Carey, Fire Chief – 35 years of service."

CARRIED

Resolution No. Communications
2026-274 **Moved by:** Councillor Schindelka
Seconded by: Councillor Schaefer

"That the following communications and reports have been reviewed and the Chief Administrative Officer is authorized to file the same accordingly:
a. Minister of Highways - Response to 734 Grid/Highway 11 Safety Concerns
b. Thiele - Appreciation for naturalized river dike areas
c. Stettner - Appreciation for naturalized river dike areas
d. Lumsden Garden Society - Project Updates
e. Miscellaneous." **CARRIED**

New Business

Resolution No. VoyentAlert! Renewal
2026-275 **Moved by:** Councillor Schindelka
Seconded by: Councillor Tropin

"That we agree to renew our annual contract with VoyentAlert! at a cost of $2,100 plus tax." **CARRIED**

Resolution No. Duck Derby Events
2026-276 **Moved by:** Councillor Haubrich
Seconded by: Councillor Schaefer

"That we approve the following requests of the Lumsden Duck Derby Committee:

1. The issuance of an SLGA Special Occasion Permit to the Lumsden Duck Derby Committee for a function known as the "Lumsden Duck Derby Cabaret" from 6:00 pm to 11:59 pm on Saturday, September 5, 2026, at RiverPark;
2. The issuance of an SLGA Special Occasion Permit to the Lumsden Duck Derby Committee for a function known as the "Lumsden Duck Derby Beer Gardens" from 7:00 pm to 11:59 pm on Saturday, September 5, 2026, and from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm on Monday, September 7, 2026, at RiverPark;
3. Use of the RiverPark Cubs Ball Diamond from September 4, 2026, to September 7, 2026, for the set up and take down of the cabaret event tent and the vendor market; and
4. The issuance of an ATV Permit authorizing the use of ATV's (Drivers must hold a valid Driver's License and all riders must wear helmets) throughout Town during the Lumsden Duck Derby on Monday, September 7, 2026;
5. The closure of a portion of 3rd Avenue in front of the Centennial Hall during the Pancake Breakfast to be held on Monday, September 7, 2026, ensuring that access and egress to Lumsden Supermarket is not compromised;
6. The use of the basement of the Centennial Hall on September 7, 2026, from 6:00 am to 11:00 am for the Pancake Breakfast (free of charge as per Bylaw 2023-15);
7. The use of the RiverPark Meeting Room on September 7, 2026, from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm (free of charge as per Bylaw 2023-15); and
8. The issuance of a Parade Permit to the Lumsden Duck Derby Committee to use James Street North and 5th Avenue, for a parade to be held on September 7, 2026, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm."

CARRIED

Resolution No. Closed Session
2026-277 **Moved by:** Councillor Schaefer
Seconded by: Councillor Holobetz

"That we move into Closed Session at 9:00 pm for the purpose of discussing employee-related matters as allowed pursuant to Section 120 of *The Municipalities Act* (LAFOIP S. 6(1)(b)), with staff to be included in the session." **CARRIED**

Rise from Closed Session

At 9:34 pm, Council left the Closed Session and returned to the open meeting.

Resolution No. Corporate Services Coordinator
2026-278 **Moved by:** Councillor Schindelka
Seconded by: Councillor Holobetz

"That we accept the recommendation of Knibbs HR Consulting, as outlined in the Joint Administration Organizational Review, and authorize Administration commence the process of creating a Corporate Services Coordinator position under the joint administration umbrella." **CARRIED**

Resolution No. Permanent, Full-Time Office Services Clerk - Communications

2026-279 **Moved by:** Councillor Tropin

Seconded by: Councillor Schaefer

"That we acknowledge the Chief Administrative Officer's hiring of Morgan Darbellay, to fill a vacancy, as a full-time Office Services Clerk - Communications, effective August 16, 2026, with a probationary period of 13 weeks; and that we approve a wage at Step 8 of the 2026 Joint Administration Wage Grid, being $29.37."

CARRIED

Resolution No. Adjournment

2026-280 **Moved by:** Councillor Schindelka

"That we adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm." **CARRIED**

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer