



**Kneehill County  
Regular Meeting of Council  
Minutes**

**March 24, 2026, 8:30 a.m.  
1600 2nd Street NE  
Three Hills, AB T0M 2A0**

Council Present: Jerry Wittstock, Councillor  
Laura Lee Machell-Cunningham, Councillor  
Merle Anderson, Councillor  
Darcy Penner, Councillor  
Lowell Olson, Councillor  
Richard Hoppins, Deputy Reeve  
Lonnie McCook, Reeve

Staff Present: Theresa Cochran, Interim Chief Administrative Officer  
Marika Von Mirbach, Manager of Financial Planning  
Barb Hazelton, Manager of Planning and Development  
Deanna Keiver, Planning and Development Officer  
Mike Conkin, Infrastructure Superintendent  
Carolyn Van der Kuil, Legislative Services Manager  
Kandas Hope, Executive Assistant

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**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Reeve McCook called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1.1 Agenda

1.1.1 Additions to the Agenda

**Additions under Council & Committee Reports**

9.1 Division 5 Update

1.1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

**Resolution: 72/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wittstock

That Council approve the agenda as amended.

**CARRIED**

\_\_\_\_\_Initials

**2. Approval of Minutes**

2.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2026

**Resolution: 73/26**

**Moved by:** Deputy Reeve Hoppins

That Council approves the adoption of the minutes of the March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting of Council, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Infrastructure- Roads/Bridges/Water/Wastewater/Environment**

4.1 2026 Dust Suppression Rates

**Resolution: 74/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

That Council approve the 2026 dust suppression rates of \$10.00 per meter for full calcium chloride application and \$51.53 per meter for Spec Crude application.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 75/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Cunningham

That Council direct Administration to bring back to a future Council meeting comparable dust control rates from other municipalities.

**CARRIED**

**5. Legislative Services**

5.1 Bylaw 1926, Master Rates Third Reading

**Resolution: 76/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Cunningham

That Council provide third and final reading to Bylaw 1926, that being a bylaw to establish rates, fees and charges for various operations, products, permits and services.

**CARRIED**

**6. Community Services**

**6.1 Planning**

**6.1.1 First Reading and Public Hearing Date – Area Structure Plan Amendment (Bylaw 1927) and Direct Control District 9 (Bylaw 1928) and Direct Control District 10 (Bylaw 1929)**

**Resolution: 77/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

That Council give first reading to Bylaw 1927, for the purpose of amending the Area Structure Plan, formerly known as Saddle Up Estates.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 78/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Cunningham

That Council give first reading of Bylaw 1928, for the purpose of creating Direct Control District 9 within SW 5-33-26 W4, formerly zoned Recreation, encompassing approximately 48.66 +/- acres.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 79/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

That Council give first reading of Bylaw 1929, for the purpose of creating Direct Control District 10 within SW 5-33-26 W4, formerly zoned Recreation, encompassing approximately 19.44 +/- acres.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 80/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Cunningham

That Council move to schedule the Public Hearing for Bylaws 1927, 1928, and 1929, as per Sections 216.4, 606, and 692 of the Municipal Government Act, to be held on May 12, 2026, at 10:00 am.

**CARRIED**

**3. Appointments**

3.1 Presentation: RCMP Community Priorities

The Chair called for a recess at 9:17 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 9:29 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

Sgt. Jamie Day, Olds RCMP; Cpl Matt Nyman, Three Hills RCMP; Sgt. Ian Patey, Airdrie Rural RCMP; and Sgt. Chris Lafleur, Drumheller RCMP were present at today's meeting and provided Council their Community Priorities Plan.

3.2 Delegation: Marigold Library

The Chair called for a recess at 10:32 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 10:43 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

Lynne Price appeared before Council to provide an overview on Marigold Library.

**6. Community Services**

6.3 Protective Services

6.3.1 Annual Appointment of Fire Guardians

Deputy Reeve Hoppins excused himself from the discussion due to pecuniary interest.

Deputy Reeve Hoppins left the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

**Resolution: 81/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

That Council appoint the following as Fire Guardians for the issuance of Fire Permits to March 31, 2027:

- Three Hills Fire Department: Chris Evans, Murray Fenton
- Acme Fire Department:
- Carbon Fire Department: Jody Kranzler, Jordan Reed, Jeremy Kranzler, Austin Larsen, Riddel Wiebe
- Linden Fire Department: Carson Reimer, Kenton Klassen
- Torrington Fire Department: Doug Fretz, Jason Michielsen, Derek Benedict
- Trochu Fire Department: Richard Hoppins, Alan Adam, Chris Armstrong
- Kneehill County Administrative: CAO, Manager of Protective Services, Rural Fire Chief, Community Peace Officers.

**CARRIED**

Deputy Reeve Hoppins returned to the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

6.3.2 Appointment of Director and Deputy Directors of Emergency Management

**Resolution: 82/26**

**Moved by:** Deputy Reeve Hoppins

That Council appoints Debra Neitz as Director of Emergency Management, and Dan Marsellus and Mike Conkin as Deputy Directors of Emergency Management for Kneehill County.

**CARRIED**

**7. Corporate Services**

7.1 Municipal Tax Rate Scenarios and Bylaw Development

**Resolution: 83/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

That Council direct Administration to prepare the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw based on Scenario 1.

**CARRIED**

**8. Disposition of Delegation & Public Hearing Business**

8.1 RCMP Statistics and Community Priorities, Protective Services Report

The Chair called for a recess at 11:33 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 11:41 a.m. with all previously mentioned members present.

**Resolution: 84/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Cunningham

That Council direct Administration to bring back the RCMP Community Priorities Plan to the April 21, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

**CARRIED**

8.2 Delegation: Marigold Library

Council acknowledged receipt of the Marigold Library presentation for information.

**9. Council and Committee Reports**

Council acknowledged receipt of the following Council & Committee Reports:

- Division 5 Update

**10. Council Follow-Up Action List**

Council acknowledged receipt of the Council Follow-Up List.

**11. Closed Session**

**Resolution: 85/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Cunningham

That this meeting goes into closed session at 11:49 a.m. for the following reasons:

- Third Party Business (ATIA-Section 19)
- Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy (ATIA-Section 20)

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 86/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Penner

That Council return to open meeting at 12:39 p.m.

**CARRIED**

12:40 p.m. - meeting recessed to allow return of public.

12:41 p.m. - meeting resumed.

**12. Motions from Closed Session**

**Resolution: 87/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Olson

That Council direct Administration to proceed with the direction regarding 11.2 Third Party Business (ATIA-Section 19), as provided in Closed Session.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 88/26**

**Moved by:** Councillor Anderson

That Council direct Administration to cancel the taxes in the amount of \$12,371.50 for Roll No. 33230623000, pursuant to Section 347 of the Municipal Government Act, on the basis that the taxes resulted from incorrect assessment data.

**CARRIED**

**13. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

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Lonnie McCook, Reeve

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Theresa Cochran, Interim CAO