Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
Village of Duchess
September 21, 2026 – 4:30 pm
Village of Duchess Council Chambers

Councillors present: Mayor Tony Steidel
Deputy Mayor Reid-Mickler
Councillor Tina Preston
Councillor Stephen Dortch
Councillor Shanda Smith

Staff present: Yvonne Cosh CAO, Kent Torkeslon, Public Works

Mayor Steidel called the meeting to order at 4:32pm

Motions

109-26 Councillor Preston motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of the Village of Duchess that was held on August 17, 2026.

Carried Unanimously

110-26 Mayor Steidel motioned to approve the agenda of the September 21, 2026 Regular Council Meeting with the moving 7.a to closed meeting and the addition of 8.l training

Carried Unanimously

Sharon Zacharias arrived at 4:35 pm

Sharon Zacharias left meeting at 5.

Rob Harms from Brooks RCMP and Joe Schmidt from Bassano RCMP arrived at 5 pm

Rob Harms from Brooks RCMP and Joe Schmidt from Bassano RCMP left meeting at 5:50 pm

Tracy Thomas with ORRSC arrived at 5:50 pm

Tracy Thomas with ORRSC left meeting at 6:15 pm

Meeting break 6:45 to 7:03 pm

111-26 Mayor Steidel motioned to go into closed session at 7:04 pm

Carried Unanimously

112-26 Councillor Preston motioned to come out of closed session at 7:33 pm

Carried Unanimously

113-26 Councillor Preston motioned to set reserve for house auction at $151 000 and accept terms and conditions.

Carried Unanimously

114-26 Deputy Mayor Deborah Reid-Mickler motioned for Council to appoint the following individuals to the Village of Duchess Library Board for terms ending on October 18, 2027:

- Lorna Morishita, This being her first term
- Stephen Dortch, this being his second consecutive term
- Charmaine Loewen, this being her fourth consecutive term
- Yvonne Cosh, this being her fifth consecutive term
- Brenda Owen, this being her third consecutive term
- Ben Hofer, this being his first term

Carried Unanimously

115-26 Councillor Smith motioned to approve the Duchess 3-year operating plan, and the 5 year capital as revised.

Carried Unanimously

116-26 Councillor Preston motioned that council agrees with the RCMP hubbing integration with Bassano Detachment as presented

Carried Unanimously

117-26 Councillor Dortch motioned to accept and sign the Member Service Agreement with OORSC.

Carried Unanimously

118-26 Councillor Smith motioned that the Fortis Franchise fee remains the same for 2027.

Carried Unanimously

119-26 Mayor Steidel motioned that the Atco Gas Franchise Fee remains the same for the year 2027.

Carried Unanimously

120-26 DM Reid-Mickler motioned to use @villageofduchess.com emails for all council members effective immediately.

Carried Unanimously

121-26 Councillor Dortch motioned to proclaim September 25 as "9 to 5 Dolly Day" in recognition of Dolly's inspiring message of perseverance, opportunity and inclusion.

Carried Unanimously

122-26 Councillor Smith motioned to approve the 2nd reading of Bylaw 540-26 – Cat Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously

123-26 Councillor Dortch motioned to approve the 3rd and final reading of Bylaw 540-26- Cat Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously

124-26 Mayor Steidel motioned to go ahead with a letter to MLA Danielle Smith re: top three transportation needs and top 3 infrastructure needs within our community.

Carried Unanimously

125-26 Councillor Preston motioned to proceed with the ACP Grant Application to continue with our NREMP program. The county will be the managing partner on the application.

Carried Unanimously

126-26 Councillor Dortch motioned to approve the Duchess Fire Budget.

Carried Unanimously

127-26 Councillor Preston motioned to approve $1000 for advanced directorship training for DM Reid – Mickler.

Carried Unanimously

128-26 Councillor Preston motioned to accept the consent agenda items as presented.

Carried Unanimously

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Mayor Tony Steidel

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CAO Yvonne Cosh

Adjournment 8:30 pm