MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD THURSDAY JANUARY 15, 2026 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE
5135 – 50 STREET, VILNA AT 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Leroy Kunyk
Deputy Mayor Tammy-Lynn Thompson
Councillor Jennifer Trider
CAO Loni Leslie

VIRTUALLY PRESENT: None
ABSENT:
DELEGATIONS: None
GALLERY: None

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Kunyk called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

1. AGENDA
   a. Additions/Changes
2. DELEGATION:
3. MINUTES
   a. December 11, 2025, Regular Council Meeting
4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES
5. REPORTS
   a. Council
   b. Administration
6. BUSINESS:
   a.
7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES –
   a.
8. FINANCIAL:
   a. Accounts paid to January 12, 2026 $516,504.35
      i. Computer Cheques $474,489.69
      ii. Online Banking $ 8,956.96
      iii. E-Transfers $ 428.31
      iv. Credit Cards $ 1,252.80
      v. Auto Withdrawals $ 10,617.45
      vi. December 2025 Payroll $ 20,759.14
9. CORRESPONDENCE:
   a. Support Letter to Vilna Ag. Society – Accept for Information
10. NEXT MEETINGS:
11. CLOSED SESSION
12. ADJOURNMENT

1. AGENDA

RES: 001-026 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the Agenda for the January 15th, 2026 Regular Council Meeting be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

2. DELEGATION: None

3. MINUTES

RES: 002-026 Moved by Councillor Trider that the minutes of the December 11, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – None

5. REPORTS

- **Mayor Kunyk**
  - Evergreen Regional Waste Commission – December 19, 2025
    - Traffic Surveys
    - Compactor
    - Starlink
    - Waste tonnage has increased since 2024
    - Insurance rates have increased for 2026 by 15%
    - Equipment is aging – looking at replacement
    - Portage Collage – lots of tonnage
    - Purchasing fuel from Co-op
    - Saddle Lake First Nations Reserve has closed its landfill and cleaning up transfer station
    - Sonnavera Report – Inspection of all Evergreen sites
    - Alberta CARE program for electronic waste recycling and regional scrap metal recycling will begin near the end of February

- **Deputy Mayor Thompson**
  - Smoky Lake Seniors Foundation – December 19, 2025
    - Orientation
    - Affordable Housing – doing a new needs assessment

- **Councillor Trider**
  - St. Paul – Smoky Lake Community Futures – December 15, 2025
    - AGM on December 15, where Dale Hendrik remained as Chair and David Kully was appointed Treasurer. The meeting included updates on ongoing regional programs and planning for the coming year.
    - The Regular Meetings will be help on the 3rd Wednesday of each month with the next one being on January 21st 2026
  - Vilna & District Agricultural Society – January 5, 2026
    - The dirt has now been placed in the arena and they are waiting on insurance before opening it to members.
    - A separate riding arena committee has been formed, while the Ag Society is applying for grants for heating and other upgrades
    - They have requested a letter of support from the Village for grant applications.
    - Their AGM will be held on February 2 at 6 p.m.
    - They are also asking their members for ideas on future uses of the Cultural Centre
    - They are negotiating with Simon Wahsatnow to bring another rodeo to Fair Days.
  - Vilna & District Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
    - The Fire Department held a successful Family Fun Skate on January 3 and is planning another one for February 15, weather permitting.
    - The Review newspaper has reached out and will be doing a story on the Family Fun Skate, as well as the Firemen's Ball and the Bickle Truck.
    - On Wednesday Jan 14, will attend the Muni Corr zoom meeting, and the Assessment Webinar.
  - NE Muni-Corr – January 14, 2026
    - Attended meet by ZOOM
  - Capital Region Assessment Services Commission – January 14, 2026
    - Attended Webinar by ZOOM.

- **Administrator's Report**
  - **WATER RESERVOIR**
    - No word yet on our request to increase the Alberta Municipal Water and Wastewater Partnership Water Reservoir grant funding. An advance was requested to assist us with cash flow – it appears that we have made an appropriate case and we should get that and the last progress payment requested soon.
    - Alpha has requested that we store some large parts and the pre-fab building either in or on village property. We are working with them to accommodate.
    - We continue to meet weekly online with the Engineers and Alpha
  - **PUBLIC WORKS**
    - Snow, snow and snow/ice. Equipment breakdowns are an issue with the volume of snow. Snow piles are being moved. Public works has done an amazing job keeping up considering the incredible amount of snow we experienced so far this winter.
  - **PROPERTY TAXES**

Current Taxes (2025) (🡻15,570.64)	$22,686.90
Prior Years Taxes (2024 and earlier) (🡹1633.08)	$65,214.58
Interest (🡻9414.92)	$35,874.93
(🡻23,352.49) Total Taxes Owing	**$123,776.41**

EFT payments	-$0.00
Village owned, no longer assessing levies, can be sold (🡹18,762.23 Tax Recovery)	-$92,205.54
Write-off necessary for Sold at Public Auction property ***PREVIOUSLY EXPENSED***	
Subtotal	**-92,205.54**
Total Taxes Owing (🡻21,367.65)	***$31,570.87***

Efforts to reduce the taxes owing is constant.

  - **ADMINISTRATION**
    - November/December utility billing completed and mailed.
    - Another audit visit anticipated near end January or early February.
    - A lot of incorrect information is being floated around the Village. Please refer inquiries to the office. A note has been made in the most recent newsletter.
    - Emergency Management Council training January 29, 2026 (Council Local Authority Elected Officials Course).

- Still no word yet to set a date for the draft Land Use Bylaw (LUB).
- Work on the new website is in the design stage now (no change).
- Training complete with a pass for Subdivision & Development Appeal Board Clerk
- The pre-audit was held November 26, 2025 in the Village office. All went well, year-end work continues and to close 2025 accounting systems.
- I am registered for the March Water/Wastewater operator's seminar March 10-13/26. This ensures enough Certified Education Units (CEU's) for certification.
- Our public works is back up to full staffing for now. 1 member retired, 1 hired full time from casual.

RES: 003-026 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that the January 2026 Reports be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

8. FINANCIAL:

a. Accounts paid to November 15, 2025 $516,504.35

i.	Computer Cheques	$474,489.69
ii.	Online Banking	$ 8,956.96
iii.	E-Transfers	$ 428.31
iv.	Credit Cards	$ 1,252.80
v.	Auto Withdrawals	$ 10,617.45
vi.	December 2025 Payroll	$ 20,759.14

RES: 004-026 Moved by Councillor Trider that the January 2026 Financial Reports be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Support Letter to Vilna Ag. Society

RES: 005-026 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the support letter provided to the Vilna Agricultural Society is accepted for information and the action of the Mayor in providing the letter is approved.
CARRIED

10. NEXT MEETINGS:

a. Jan. 16, 2026 – Smoky Lake Foundation 9am
b. Jan. 19, 2026 – Joint Municipalities – Vilna – 5pm Senior's Rec Centre
c. Jan. 21, 2026 – Community Futures – St. Paul - 5:30 p.m.
d. Jan. 22, 2026 – C.O.P.'s – Vilna Village Office 7pm
e. Jan. 26, 2026 – Smoky Lake Foundation – Bar V Nook – 9:00 a.m.
f. Jan. 29, 2026 – Emergency Management, Local Officials Training. 10:30am
g. Jan. 30, 2026 – Northeast Alberta HUB – Kitscoty 10am
h. Feb. 2, 2026 - Vilna Ag. Society AGM – 6:00 p.m.
i. Feb. 9, 2026 – ICC 10am
j. Feb.11, 2026 – NE Muni Corr Ltd. –5:30pm
k. Feb 18, 2026 – Hwy 28/63 Water Commission 10am
l. Feb 19, 2026 – Evergreen Regional Waste 10am
m. Feb. 20, 2026 - Smoky Lake Foundation – Bar V Nook – 9:00 a.m.
n. Feb 27, 2026 – NLLS General Meeting 10am
o. March 2, 2026 – Smoky Lake Region Interagency Meeting (FCSS) 10am

RES: 006-026 Moved by Deputy Mayor Thompson that the Meeting Schedule be accepted for information.
CARRIED

11. CLOSED SESSION: None

12. ADJOURNMENT

RES: 007-026 Moved by Mayor Kunyk that the January 15, 2026 Regular Council Meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m.
CARRIED

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Leroy Kunyk, Mayor

S E A L

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Loni Leslie, CAO