

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
Tuesday, June 11, 2024 2:00 pm
Council Chambers

Present: Reeve Dave Cox, Deputy Reeve John MacGarva, and Councillors Tony Bruder, Rick Lemire and Jim Welsch.

Staff: CAO Roland Milligan, Public Works Manager Patrick Gauvreau, Financial Manager Brendan Schlossberger, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, Development Officer Laura McKinnon and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Dave Cox called the meeting to order, the time being 2:00 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor John MacGarva

Moved that the agenda for the June 11, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Delegation

Castle Mountain Resort (CMR)

Dean Parkinson, General Manager with CMR, attended the meeting to update the Council on the resort's focus. CMR has attracted over 100,000 Skier Visits on average over the last five years, even with a challenging season and visitation down 20-25%. Increased efforts to attract more skiers would bring in additional revenue for hotels and restaurants in the area. Summer weddings at Castle remain important with room for growth and sports tourism events.

The current focus is improving customer experience, more terrain, and early season training. In December 2023, Castle agreed to purchase the Angel High-Speed Quad Chairlift from Sunshine. The new lift is expected to improve visitor and generate \$2.7M annually in additional direct revenue.

CMR is one of the largest employers in the region, with 320 seasonal employees (90 FTEs) and \$4.0M spent on payroll. Total number of full-time staff employed by CMR has increased from 23 in 2019 to 35 in 2022-2023. The new lift will result in 38 additional jobs (6 F/T & 32 seasonal).

Increased interest in recreational property in the Castle Mountain area, combined with a lack of property for sale, makes the area more attractive for property developers. With the potential for further property development at CMR, the tax base will likely grow, allowing CMR to remain financially sustainable for future generations.

Dean Parkinson left the meeting at this time, the time being 2:30 pm.

Allied Arts Council

Stacey McRae, Outgoing Executive Director; Kelly Baker, Vice President; Kassandra Chancey, incoming Executive Director for Allied Arts Council of Pincher Creek, attended the meeting this time to introduce the new Executive Director.

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Members of Allied Arts Council left the meeting at this time, the time being 2:31 pm.

3. Closed Session

Councillor Jim Welsch

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 2:31 pm.

- a) Brownlee Law LLP – FOIP Sec. 24.1
- b) Public Works Call Log – FOIP Sec. 24.1

Councillor John MacGarva

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 4:16 pm.

Carried

4. Round Table

- Grizzly bear concerns—Todd Loewen, Minister of Forestry and Parks, has requested ranchers and agricultural organizations speak up regarding grizzly bear concerns. Council will consider drafting a resolution for RMA and a letter to neighboring Municipalities along the eastern slopes.
- Alberta Southwest AGM was well attended and enjoyed.
- Boat inspection along the highway has found invasive species on boats that are not in our area yet. Inspection stations are opening and checking in BC and Western Alberta.
- Concerns on operator and training.
- Federation of Canadian Municipality convention.

5. Adjournment

Councillor Tony Bruder

Moved that the Committee Meeting adjourn, the time being 4:42 pm.

Carried



REEVE



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER