

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Reeve	Tom S. Hougham
Division 1	Leonard Larre
Division 2	Carri Zeller via electronic means
Division 3	Doug Trotsuk
Division 4	Ronald Gory
Division 5	Gay Noeth
Division 6	Evan Priest

STAFF PRESENT:

Aaron Neilly, Acting Chief Administrative Officer (A/CAO)  
Crystal Schaan, Deputy CAO  
Dan Fedirko, Public Works @ 10:05 a.m.

CALLED TO ORDER:

9:00 a.m. The Regular Meeting was called to order by Reeve Hougham.

1-1 SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 AGENDA ADDITIONS:

2025-09-10-001 NOETH: That the following be added to the September 10, 2025 Agenda.

- 13-10 Hamlet of Frenchman Butte Grant
- 13-11 501 Utility Authority Truck Dump Gas Monitors and Signage

Carried

1-1 SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 AGENDA:

2025-09-10-002 LARRE: That the September 10, 2025 Agenda be used as a guideline.

Carried

2-1 AUGUST 27, 2025 MINUTES:

2025-09-10-003 LARRE: That the August 27, 2025 minutes be approved as presented.

Carried

4-1 AUGUST 2025 BANK RECONCILIATION:

2025-09-10-004 TROTZUK: That the August 2025 month end Bank Reconciliation be acknowledged and balances as follows:

Chequing Account Operating	\$ 11,166,192.55
St. Walburg Health Account	\$ 2,391.04
Turtleford Health Account	\$ 8,287.45
Online Banking Account	\$ 16,940.87
Term Deposits (5.2% Expiring 31-Dec-25)	\$ 624,895.84
<b>Total Cash in Bank as of August 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$ 11,818,707.75</b>
Petty Cash	\$ 200.00
<b>Total Cash and Short-Term Investments</b>	<b>\$ 11,818,907.75</b>

Carried

4-2 AUGUST 2025 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - DETAILED:

2025-09-10-005 PRIEST: That the August 31, 2025 month end Statement of Financial Activities is acknowledged – Detailed, which is attached to and forms part of these minutes as Appendix A.

Carried


5-1 PAYROLL- PP2025-19:

2025-09-10-006 PRIEST: That the payroll accounts for the pay period **August 24, 2025 – September 6, 2025 Authorization #471, direct deposit dated September 12, 2025, totaling \$58,530.71** be approved.

Further, that a schedule of these payments be annexed to and form part of these minutes as **Appendix B Salaries and Wages August 24, 2025 – September 6, 2025.**

Carried

  
Reeve

  
AA

12-4 TOWN OF TURTLEFORD & RM OF MERVIN FIRE ASSOCIATION:

2025-09-10-007 TROTZUK: That the Council of the RM of Frenchman Butte No. 501 authorize payment to the Town of Turtleford & RM of Mervin Fire Association in the amount of \$11,820.35 plus applicable taxes, which is in excess of the \$6,500.00 annual amount established in Fire Services Agreement Bylaw 2021-09.

Carried

6-1 BEXSON CONSTRUCTION HOLDBACK RELEASE:

2025-09-10-008 PRIEST: That Council authorizes the release of the construction holdback for the RM of Frenchman Butte New Office Building in the amount of \$115,898.19 plus applicable tax. This represents the net holdback of \$209,924.07, less \$94,025.88, to be retained for the roofing deficiency, as recommended by BAR Engineering in its letter dated September 8, 2025. Further, that the A/CAO be authorized to issue payment accordingly, with the remaining \$94,025.88 withheld until satisfactory completion of the roofing work and issuance of the applicable certificate.

Carried

5-2 ACCOUNTS – SEPTEMBER 10, 2025:

2025-09-10-009 GORY: That the following payments dated September 10, 2025 be approved.

• Cheques 33536 to 33584	Totaling	\$1,852,839.19
• Other Payments	Totaling	\$74,058.89
	Total AP	\$1,926,898.08

Carried

5-3 COUNCIL REMUNERATION:

2025-09-10-010 NOETH: That the electronic payment of August 2025 Council Remuneration for the following amounts less deductions on September 26, 2025 be approved:

• Reeve Hougham	\$1,148.40
• Councillor Larre	\$775.50
• Councillor Zeller	\$1,029.10
• Councillor Trotzuk	\$1,301.00
• Councillor Gory	\$887.00
• Councillor Noeth	\$713.20
• Councillor Priest	\$550.90

Carried

10:05 a.m. Dan Fedirko entered Council Chambers to discuss Public Works.

10:37 a.m. Dan Fedirko left Council Chambers.

RECESS MEETING:

2025-09-10-011 PRIEST: That this meeting recess.

10:38 a.m.

Carried

RECONVENED MEETING:

10:50 a.m. The Regular Meeting of Council was reconvened by Reeve Hougham.

10:51 a.m. Aaron Neilly presented the A/CAO report.

13-6 GRAVEL CRUSHING TENDER 2025E AWARD:

2025-09-10-012 LARRE: That Council award the Gravel Crushing – 2025E Tender to Dmytryshyn & Sons Ltd. and further authorize the Reeve and A/CAO to sign the Gravel Crushing Agreement on behalf of the Municipality.

Carried

  
Reeve

  
AA

13-1 TERM DEPOSITS SEPTEMBER 2025:

2025-09-10-013 NOETH: That Council directs A/CAO to invest \$3,500,000 of municipal funds into term deposits with staggered terms ranging as follows;

- \$500,000- 1 year term deposit (non-redeemable, 3.30%);
- \$1,000,000- 2 year term deposit (non-redeemable, 3.40%);
- \$500,000- 3 year term deposit (non-redeemable, 3.30%);
- \$500,000- 4 year term deposit (non-redeemable, 3.30%);
- \$1,000,000- 5 year term deposit (non-redeemable, 3.45%).

Carried

13-3 SUBMIT RESOLUTIONS TO SARM MIDTERM CONVENTION:

2025-09-10-014 GORY: That Council approve the submission of the following resolutions to the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) for consideration at the 2025 Midterm Convention, and further authorize administration to invite neighbouring Rural Municipalities to co-sponsor these resolutions prior to submission:

- "Fair Compensation for Crop Damage from Wildlife" – requesting the Provincial Government and Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation explore and implement a crop replacement option, in addition to monetary compensation, for producers suffering verified crop damage from wildlife.
- "Compensation for Wildlife Damage to Pastures" – requesting the Provincial Government and Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation expand the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program to include all types of pastures, including native grassland, seeded forage, and hay land used for grazing, when verified wildlife damage occurs, and recommending that compensation be calculated on a per animal basis equivalent to the cost producers would incur to rent alternative grazing pasture.

Carried

6-1 FLOWER ARRANGEMENT PURCHASE FOR J. PARENTEAU:

2025-09-10-015 NOETH: That Council authorize the purchase of flowers, on behalf of the RM of Frenchman Butte No. 501, in memory of the late mother of Jonathan Parenteau, to a maximum of \$70.

Carried

12-8 DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY EXTENSION:

2025-09-10-016 ZELLER: Whereas on July 30, 2025, the Council of the Rural Municipality of Frenchman Butte No. 501 declared a local emergency in accordance with Section 20 of *The Emergency Planning Act*, citing severe drought conditions that were negatively impacting agricultural producers and rural sustainability in the region; and Whereas while recent rainfall has eased active drought conditions, the residual effects including reduced crop yields, forage shortages, feed and water insecurity for livestock, and ongoing economic hardship for producers continue to significantly affect the community; and Whereas Council believes that the declaration has not yet fully served its intended purpose of bringing continued public awareness to the seriousness of the situation, encouraging higher levels of government to recognize the severity of local impacts, and strengthening the case for assistance for producers and residents; Therefore be it resolved that pursuant to Section 20(2) of *The Emergency Planning Act*, Chapter E-8.1 of the Statutes of Saskatchewan, the Council of the Rural Municipality of Frenchman Butte No. 501 declares that a local emergency still exists, from this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025 to the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.

Carried

13-4 ROAD CLOSURE CANCELLATION:

2025-09-10-017 LARRE: That the R.M. of Frenchman Butte No. 501 Council acknowledges the cancellation of the following road closure issued August 14, 2025:

- Township Road 520 from Range Road 3242 and Range Road 3235.

Carried

13-9 ROAD CLOSURE RANGE ROAD 3254:

2025-09-10-018 PRIEST: That Council acknowledges the following road closure issued September 8, 2025:

- Range Road 3254 from the Hamlet of Frenchman Butte to Grid 797.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 2218 000:

2025-09-10-019 LARRE: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Sub-section 293(1) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$1,396.96; School Tax \$1,228.74 for a total of \$2,625.70 in regards to Roll # 2218 000; SE 02-54-25-W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 2198 000:

2025-09-10-020 PRIEST: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$282.73; School Tax \$248.68 for a total of \$531.41 in regards to Roll # 2198 000; PT NE 34-54-24-W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 10401 000:

2025-09-10-021 PRIEST: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$204.91; School Tax \$180.24 for a total of \$385.15 in regards to Roll # 10401 000; Block B Plan 102404933 PT NE-1-55-22W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 828 500:

2025-09-10-022 TROTZUK: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$1,239.69; School Tax \$1,090.41 for a total of \$2,330.10 in regards to Roll # 828 500; PT NW 14-52-24-W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 1110 000:

2025-09-10-023 NOETH: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$579.25; School Tax \$509.50 for a total of \$1,088.75 in regards to Roll # 1110 000; PT NE 32-53-22-W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 2013 000:

2025-09-10-024 LARRE: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$1,451.33; School Tax \$1,276.56 for a total of \$2,727.89 in regards to Roll # 2013 000; SE 25-54-23-W3.

Carried

11:57 a.m.

Councillor Priest left Council Chambers.

  
Reeve

  
AA

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 2252 000:

2025-09-10-025 NOETH: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$1,180.47; School Tax \$1,038.31 for a total of \$2,218.78 in regards to Roll # 2252 000; SE 10-54-25-W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 1394 000:

2025-09-10-026 TROTZUK: That Council; pursuant to Sub-Section 274(2)(a) and Section 293(2) of *The Municipalities Act* and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$227.20; School Tax \$199.84 for a total of \$427.04 in regards to Roll # 1394 000; SW 28-53-24-W3.

Carried

13-2 TAX ABATEMENT, ROLL # 319 000:

2025-09-10-027 LARRE: That Council; pursuant to *The Municipalities Act* Sub-Section 274(2)(a) as this property is deemed to be exempt from taxation and the Municipality's Policy #100-17; approve the tax abatement of Municipal Tax \$389.92; School Tax \$342.97 for a total of \$732.89 in regards to Roll # 319 000; SE 28-51-23-W3.

Carried

12:01 p.m. Councillor Priest entered Council Chambers.

RECESS MEETING:

2025-09-10-028 LARRE: That this meeting recess.

12:02 p.m.

Carried

RECONVENED MEETING:

1:00 p.m. The Regular Meeting of Council was reconvened by Reeve Hougham.

1:38 p.m. Councillor Trotzuk left Council Chambers due to conflict of interest on the next agenda item.

12-6 WEST YELLOWHEAD WASTE RESOURCE:

2025-09-10-029 LARRE: That Council commit in principle to an investment of up to \$750,000.00 toward the West Yellowhead Waste Resource Authority Inc. (WYWRA), with the understanding that:

1. The final amount required from the RM of Frenchman Butte will be determined after WYWRA confirms the investment breakdown among member municipalities;
2. The RM's contribution will be proportional to the total required investment, and will only reach the full \$750,000.00 if necessary;
3. No payment shall be issued until Council receives a formal request from WYWRA confirming the required amount and authorizes payment by resolution following public notice.

Carried

1:42 p.m. Councillor Trotzuk entered Council Chambers.


13-5 PHOTO CONTEST:

2025-09-10-030 PRIEST: That Council approve the creation of a community photo contest to be featured on the RM's new website, with the following details:

- Submission Deadline: October 15, 2025;
- Prizes: \$50 gift card awarded to the winning entries (max 5 winners);
- Purpose: To encourage community engagement and showcase local scenery, activities, and life within the RM;
- Email to: rm501@sasktel.net;
- Limit of 3 entries per person.

Carried

  
Reeve

  
AA

6-1 STAFF/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

2025-09-10-031 ZELLER: That the written and verbal reports by Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Aaron Neilly, and Public Works Foreman, Dan Fedirko be acknowledged.

Carried

13-7 HAMLET TAX ALLOCATION:

2025-09-10-032 TROTZUK: That Council allocates 75% of the Organized Hamlet of Frenchman Butte's levy to their Hamlet Account for 2025, in accordance with section 69 (1) (b) of the Municipalities Act, 2005.

Carried

13-10 HAMLET OF FRENCHMAN BUTTE GRANT:

2025-09-10-033 GORY: That Council provide a 2025 Operating Grant of 25% of the Organized Hamlet Levy to their Hamlet Account for 2025.

Carried

13-8 HAMLET MONTHLY WATER REPORT:

2025-09-10-034 TROTZUK: That the presentation of the Hamlet of Frenchman Butte Water Treatment Plant Monthly Report for August 2025 be acknowledged and instructs Administration to place a copy of the report on file for future reference.

Carried

1:58 p.m. Council Forum discussion.

RECESS MEETING:

2025-09-10-035 TROTZUK: That this meeting recess for a Public Meeting.

3:41 p.m.

Carried

RECONVENED MEETING:

3:49 p.m. The Regular Meeting of Council was reconvened by Reeve Hougham.

6-1 SPONSORSHIP OF RM OF LOON LAKE RESOLUTION – CHINA'S CANOLA DUTY:

2025-09-10-036 ZELLER: That the RM of Frenchman Butte No. 501 Council agree to sponsor the resolution put forward by the RM of Loon Lake No. 561 regarding urgent concerns with China's additional 75.8% duty on Canadian canola. Further, that a letter be sent to Premier Scott Moe, the Government of Saskatchewan, and SARM advising of our sponsorship and support, and urging immediate advocacy and financial relief measures for Saskatchewan producers impacted by this trade dispute.

Carried

3:55 p.m. Discussion regarding the proposed Zoning Bylaw.

14-1 CORRESPONDENCE – SEPTEMBER 10, 2025:

2025-09-10-037 PRIEST: That the September 10, 2025 correspondence as information to be filed as presented to Council, outlined in Appendix C be accepted.

Carried

15-1 ADJOURNMENT:

2025-09-10-038 LARRE: That this Regular Meeting of Council at 4:52 p.m. be adjourned.

Carried

  
Reeve

  
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

  
Reeve

  
AA