

Meeting Summary: Arm of Springfield Committee of the Whole Meeting, March 11, 2025

Attendees: Mayor Patrick Terrain, CEO Colin Draper, Deputy Mayor Glent Fuel, Councilors Ward 2 (Gazinsky), Ward 3 (Mark Miller), Ward 4 (Melinda Warren).

Agenda and Minutes:

The meeting began with housekeeping rules and introductions. An addition to the agenda regarding King Charles III medal recipients was approved. The approval of the February 11, 2025, committee of the whole minutes sparked a significant discussion.

Dr. Daniel Page, a community member and previous delegation presenter, expressed concerns that the minutes inaccurately reflected his comments. Councilor Miller agreed, emphasizing the importance of accurate minutes as legal records. Councilor Gazinsky supported this, noting that even the headlines of Dr. Page's presentation were misrepresented.

The CAO (Colin Draper) stated that while minutes are not legal documents under the Municipal Act and other municipalities have less detailed minutes, the RM of Springfield goes above and beyond by providing audio/video recordings. He argued that the current system works adequately, despite not satisfying Dr. Page. A vote was taken, and the minutes were approved with Councilors Miller and Gazinsky opposed.

King Charles III Medals:

Mayor Terrain announced that King Charles III coronation medals were presented, listing recipients

including himself and other community members. Councilor Miller acknowledged the awards but raised concerns about the lack of recognition for numerous other community volunteers who contribute significantly but lack similar political connections.

Unsightly Bylaw:

A revised unsightly bylaw draft was presented, with Constable Zillman (absent) as the main author. Councilor Fuel questioned the decision to keep the bylaw combined with vehicle and dumping bylaws, and it was confirmed that separate bylaws might be developed later. Councilor Miller raised concerns about the interpretation of "regular outdoor burning" within the bylaw and whether the term covers activities like smudging, affecting the horse-owning community. The CAO clarified that more specific burning bylaws exist and could be referenced, and also that the burning of garbage is generally not permitted.

June District Resolutions:

A reminder was given that the deadline for submitting resolutions to the June district meetings is June 1st.

In-Camera Session:

The meeting transitioned into an in-camera session.

Conclusion and Action Points:

The meeting concluded with the approval of the minutes. The CAO will review the wording of "regular

outdoor burning" in the unsightly bylaw. Council members are reminded to consider resolutions for the June district meetings. The issue of the accuracy of meeting minutes and the need for more accurate representation of delegations is raised as an ongoing concern.