

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
SUMMER VILLAGE OF WHITE SANDS  
COUNCIL**

**held on February 24, 2025  
White Sands Municipal Office  
#8 Front Street, White Sands, AB and  
electronically streamed to YouTube.**

**Present:** Lorne Thurston, Mayor  
Dan Zembal, Councillor  
Paul Ashford, Councillor  
Melissa Beebe, CAO  
Erin Weinzierl, Administrative Assistant

**Absent:**

**Public: (0)**

**1. Call to Order:**

Mayor Thurston calls the Council Meeting to order at 9:07 AM

**2. Nature of Business:**

- 2.1. 2025 Budget Discussions**
- Reserves as of Dec 31/25
    - General Operating - \$515,760
    - Public Lands - \$152,750
  - Our current infrastructures are buildings and playgrounds
  - Use of Special Tax from the MGA
  - Council would like to see a max of 4% of an increase
  - Reserves – previous 3 years building or shrinker
    - Create a target reserve
  - Dust Control:
    - Not going to do the whole village
    - Primary challenges?
      - Main Road/TWP Rd 40-2 not do it, just a good grading before the speed bumps.
      - Get an estimate from the water station Buffalo Road to the end (First Street) and Jennifer Road to Mackenzie Road.
        - Will decide once #s come back for cost estimates.
        - LGFF grant?
        - Make decision later
  - Hall and Rec Items:
    - \$29,000 in total but does not reflect labour. \$72.25/property
    - Priorities from the Hall Society:
      - Party Tent
      - Retaining Wall
        - Expanding area in front of the hall? Different grading?
        - A whole vision on 8 Front Street
        - Drainage must be looked at by the engineers
      - Smaller Gravel
      - Message Board
      - Not approve items currently and have the MRPAC (Committee) to ask questions about the 8 Front Street as well in their TOR.
  - Council budget items:
    - Dumpsters with lids
      - Would cover with a tarp when bin(s) full. Help keep the birds out of bins.
      - Minimal cost

- Test the above in 2025
- Boat Launch Road Pathway
  - Put to Committee
- Trash Pump 6-8" pump and hose
  - Storm Water Plan shows all water would drain to the lake
  - Admin/Mayor to look at costs
- No need of File Cage
  - Coming into office
- Candidate forum
  - Discussion not to have in budget, could be taken from hall rent
- Boat Motor
  - No water in the lake
  - New motor is about \$5000.
  - Grants?
  - Can placing of buoys be contracted out?
    - Put out at 4'
  - Deferred to 2026
  - Admins to review other options to place buoys for 2026
- Donation to ASVA
  - Policy for promotions and donations
- Landfill requisition
  - Additional \$6/parcel
- Cardboard
  - Could be \$0 with EPR but not happen until 2026.
  - Follow up with COS to see if SVWS could fit under theirs
- Prelim study to have water to lots
  - Maybe look at SVRS prelim study
- Erskine Cemetery
  - Donations policy down the road
- Basketball board
  - \$1000 with installation
  - Admin to check if can be covered by grants
  - Playgrounds need to be inspected.
  - Capital grant? CCBF?
- Emerging Trends
  - Council training due to election training requirements bump to \$2000.

**Motion 25:02:24:01** Moved by Mayor Thurston to call a brief recess at 11:13 AM.

MOTION CARRIED

**Motion 25:02:24:02** Moved by Mayor Thurston to call a brief recess at 11:23 AM.

MOTION CARRIED

**Motion 25:02:24:03** Moved by Councillor Zembal to move the retaining wall, party tent, and smaller gravel to the MRPAC committee to review under the community survey on current and future recreational needs and uses in relation to the Terms of Reference and provide recommendations to be incorporated with plans and budgets in the future.

MOTION CARRIED

**Motion 25:02:24:04** Moved by Councillor Zembal to not approve the digital billboard.

MOTION CARRIED

**Motion 25:02:24:05** Moved by Councillor Zembal to move the rest of the items to be reviewed under Administration with no set fund allocated to any of the items in the 2025 Operational Budget.

MOTION CARRIED

**11. Adjournment**

**Motion 25:02:24:06** Moved by Mayor Thurston to adjourn the meeting at 1:12 PM.


MOTION CARRIED

*Next Regular Council Meeting will be March 12, 2025. Public Welcome.*



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**Mayor**



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**Chief Administrative Officer**