



THE TOWN OF  
**L U M S D E N**

**Town of Lumsden**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Group I Committee Meeting October 28, 2021 - 4:00 PM**

**Call To Order**

The Group I Committee of the Lumsden Town Council convened their meeting via electronic means (Zoom) on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 4:01 p.m., with Chairperson Byron Tumbach presiding.

**Present:**

Chairperson: Byron Tumbach  
Mayor: Bryan Matheson  
Councillors: Jim Rawlings (left at 5:02 p.m.), Jenelle Brennan  
Non-Committee Member: Councillor Rhonda Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer: Monica M. Merkosky  
Community Coordinator: Chris Exner  
Director of Finance: Ryan Haresign

**Absent:**

Superintendent: Jeff Carey

**Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by:** Councillor Brennan  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Rawlings

"That we adopt the agenda as presented."

**CARRIED**

**Financial Reports**

**Moved by:** Councillor Rawlings  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Brennan

"That we approve the financial reports as presented."

**CARRIED**

**Previous Meeting Minutes for Review**

**September 23, 2021 - Group I Committee Meeting**

**Moved by:** Mayor Matheson  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Brennan

"That the minutes of the September 23, 2021 - Group I Committee Meeting be approved, as circulated." **CARRIED**

**Councillor Rawlings left the meeting at 5:02 p.m.**

**Reports of Committees**

**Community Coordinator Report**

**Moved by:** Councillor Brennan  
**Seconded by:** Mayor Matheson

● **Campground**

- Campground is still open in October, dependant upon the weather. Water to the sites is turned off and winterized. Laundry building is also closed. Campers do have power to sites and full use of the washroom facilities.
- Campground has been busy since April. Most weekends are full, mid-weeks on average 60% capacity.
- Campground demographics in 2021 has changed from recent years. Less mine/hwy work crews, resulting in less long-term campers. Growing number of short-term campers 3/to 4 night stays.
- A few out of the normal disturbances in the campground, handled by the nearby RCMP.
- Health Inspection, exceptional reviews for the campground waterworks, outbuildings and cleanliness of the washroom building.
- Following all health restrictions/recommendations, ensuring a COVID safe facility and area.
- Picnic table cement pads were completed in late September. Good feedback so far, cleanness of the cement pad, no tripping hazards. Also reduced maintenance needed in the sites by public works.
- I have received numerous compliments about the professional conduct of our Campground Host. He takes pride in serving the campers in RiverPark, a big reason we have so many returning campers.

*Byron Tumbach*  
**BmT**



- **RiverPark Centre**

- Washrooms have been very busy during the summer months with the campground, ball season, spray pad and a few special events.
- Canteen was painted, some small repairs and prepped for future use.
- Canteen currently has commercial food prep area with double sinks, gas fryers, flat grill and oven. To complete the canteen, need to add; upright cooler, chest freezer, snow drink machine, popcorn machine etc..
- Canteen was rented out during the Duck Derby, contractor was impressed with the facility.
- Had a few interested contractors for the summer, COVID was the drawback for securing a tenant for summer. Will promote the availability of the canteen over the winter months.
- Numerous issues with the washrooms during the summer, up from previous years.
- Basic signage is drafted, to be finalized.

- **Summer Swim Program**

- Planning for two sessions of Red Cross Swim classes in 2022; July 4 to 15 and August 1 to 12. All dependant upon the availability of private pools and swim instructors.
- The annual swim program attracts up to 300 participants each summer.
- Registration will open June 1, 2022.

- **Trails**



- Upgraded the trail from James Street North bridge along the top of the dyke to RiverPark including a path down into the park. Increased the quality of the trail, the section had a big test during the Duck Derby and again at the ScareCrow Festival, lots of foot traffic. The trail held up, some vegetation is growing, will manage with either soil conditioner or sprayed treatment.
- Oxbow loop is very busy each day, trail was conditioned twice, once in the spring and again in mid-summer. The loop entries to the oxbow are prepped for upcoming winter use. 2021 was the first full season for the west oxbow loop, there are some slumping areas, some aggregate will be added in the spring 2022. Planning shoreline clean-up early November with LES.
- A few new carvings along the trail. A carver from northern Sk is a regular camper at RiverPark. Visits family in the area and stays at the campground. He does carvings on bark and dead trees along the trail.
- TransCanada Trail is rebranding their logo, the new stickers will be added to the existing signage in 2022.
- Pedestrian Bridge Project on the Sawhet trail section just west of Lumsden is in progress. The trail leading up to the bridge and the trail from the bridge site to connection of the existing trail has been cleared of debris and will be ready for signage in spring 2022. Engineers are currently finalizing details for the bridge and abutment. The plans are to be approved by WSA. On final approval the abutment will be built and then the bridge will be fabricated over winter. The section of trail is currently closed. If all goes as planned the new section of trail will open in June 2022.

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- **Special Events**

- Duck Derby was a huge success in 2021, a sellout and a busy day which has a large economic effect on local business. Also shows the wonderful volunteers in Lumsden. Even during the pandemic, Lumsden was so supportive of Hockeyville and Duck Derby. The Town uses some of the Sask Lottery funding to provide the children's fun zone during the Duck Derby.
- Received funding from Saskatchewan Arts Board for a mural project at the museum. Local artist Barbara Goretzky will lead the project. The work has began with the preliminary mural prep being completed in the Arts Space at the Centennial Hall.
- 2021 Lumsden ScareCrow Festival was a large event, everything coming together including the weather. More than 90 registered displays. Awards given to 3 residents for "top 3 finishing" and names on the Festival Trophy for the top business display, shared by CC Stables and TM'Z Vet Clinic. A very busy day with activity at the Vet Clinic and Museum in the morning, downtown on James Street during the day, Lion's Park early evening and the movie and Fireworks in RiverPark at night.
- Winter season event is being discussed, dependant upon the pandemic restrictions.
- SPRA Parks Month is June 2022. Discussion of some ideas for Lumsden.



- **Centennial Hall**

- As with 2020, the pandemic has had a huge impact on weekend bookings. The hall has numerous bookings for 2021, many are getting cancelled and/or postponed until next year. Starting to get bookings for 2023 as well.
- Limited weekly community programming is occurring following all guidelines.
- The serving kitchen counter is being replaced with a stainless steel one piece wrap, upgrading the current counter that needed replacing. The old electrical to the counter will also be upgraded.
- The parking area outside of the basement doors is now paved. Noticeable improvement of the water run off during the last rainfall. Parking lines will be painted in the spring. Less dirt/sand be tracked inside the building.
- All main floor globe bulbs have been changed to LED, noticeable reduction in power consumption.
- Regular health nurse in the main floor kitchen is working out well. Health district has also booked the hall for vaccinations. Basement has been booked for vaccinations by the Pharmacy.
- Recently purchased an AED for the hall entrance. The AED is in an alarmed cabinet and has been registered with the PAD program. The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 234 Lumsden will be covering the cost of the AED. A plaque has been ordered to recognize their generous donation to the Hall. Recognition picture will be posted on social media.



- **Library**

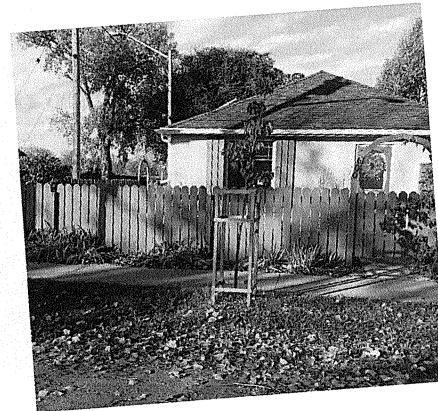
- Despite the pandemic, library continues to be active, lots of curbside pick-up. Southeast Regional Library has provided helpful information during the pandemic and is working closely with the health district.
- Completed a few projects on the building in 2021. The back deck structure was strengthened and rotten deck boards replaced. The furnace room now has a tile floor and is cleaned up. The adjoining utility area is getting built in shelves, the plumbing that was in disrepair is being replaced.



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- **Trees**

- Good News... several trees planted in Lumsden in 2021. Lion's Club had a tree initiative and gave out several trees to Lumsden residents. There is a possibility that the Lion's will repeat the project in 2022. A local resident also partnered with the Town and planted 4 deciduous trees, 3 of the trees are in Cenetaph Park and 1 tree on James Street North. The new trees were adopted by nearby residents and are looking after the watering and care while the trees establish the first couple of years. The Town also had some trees planted by the Town sign.
- Contracted extensive tree pruning and one large removal in 2021. Most work was the result of a few wind storms and the regular pruning of the aged Cottonwoods. I expect continued tree pruning in 2022.
- Spring planting is planned for April/May, trees coming from a tree farm in the RM of Lumsden.



- **Dog Park**

- First year with the new dog park and the response has been great. The park is busy. Lots of positive feedback by people using the dog park. Dog park committee has been great with promotion, supervision and planning future development.
- Great financial support from the Lion's and two businesses; the Wiid Boutique and Klempp Plumbing and Heating. The funding will be used for the park signage, cement pads and benches.
- Two cement pads have been completed, benches will be installed at a later date. Current plan is to have 4 benches in the big dog area and 2 benches in the small dog area. We have marked out a future 400 metre natural walking path inside the dog park.
- Have had a discussion with the Heritage Home, planning to extend their sidewalk to the fence of the dog park, so residents can be wheeled out and sit with family and watch the dogs in the park, the project would involve aprox 10 m of sidewalk and 2 benches.
- First year challenge was eliminating the thistles, a normal challenge during very dry conditions. Also had high gopher populations in the spring. Important to address these issues again in early May.
- A dog park committee member is currently creating laser cut metal dog silhouettes for installation on the fencing.



- **Ball Diamonds**

- Several small fencing repairs were completed on each of the 5 ball diamonds including a section of the backstop on 7<sup>th</sup> east and some dugout repair on Jets diamond.
- The new irrigation system was put to full use this past summer. The system uses water from the east oxbow. The outfields of all 3 RiverPark diamonds were in great condition all season. We will get one more spray canon to make the operation more efficient and use less operator time.
- Cement pads will be added under the bleachers at RiverPark in Spring 2022
- Future improvements will include infield irrigation bibs and diamond LED lighting. Infield irrigation will allow for spraying down the infield shale, spraying before, sometimes during and after games. Keeps the dust down and allows for simple maintenance.

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*M. [unclear]*

- **Pickleball**

- A committee has formed interested in developing a 6 court pickleball outdoor facility in Lumsden, committee includes: Coral Asmundson, Peggy Lawford, Nikki Kish, Jon Hromek, Heather Winter, Luke Sitter, Tracy Aulie, Janice Schmitz, Cheryl Bernt and Dee Cherepuschak. They also have a list of more than 150 names supporting their efforts.
- Gathering quotes for the complete project. Looking at possible locations in Lumsden for the outdoor facility.



- **Parks**

- Several projects completed at each playground in 2021; Lion’s Park border replacement, 7<sup>th</sup> Ave swing upgrade, spring riders in RiverPark, Spring riders and sport court border at Elgin, Spring riders and safety surface border at Broad Street.

- **Social Media**

- Town FB accounts have the most following, then twitter and the website. Our Facebook following saw more than 14000 views during the Hockeyville and Duck Derby events. Huge jump to 39000 during the ScareCrow Festival.
- Social media updates completed on Saskatchewan Tourism site, some locations added to google and apple maps.
- The Town walking tour pamphlet and the TransCanada Trail brochure are currently being updated.

- **Benches and Picnic Tables**

- Sponsored benches and picnics tables in Lion’s Park are available. \$1000 for a bench or a picnic table. Both products have heavy wall metal frames with cedar planking. A bronze plaque is attached to acknowledge the sponsorship.
- Anyone interested in sponsoring a bench or table can contact the office and talk to the Community Coordinator. Bench or table placement can be requested, location discussed and finalized after meeting on-site and “locates” are completed.

"That we accept the Community Coordinator's Report as presented."

**CARRIED**

**Unfinished Business**

**QVN - Land Use Agreement**

**Moved by:** Mayor Matheson

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brennan

"That we recommend to Council that the Town cover the cost of installing single-phase power to Qu'Appelle Valley Nordic (QVN) at a cost of \$18,144.91 plus GST; and that this project be funded by withholding QVN's \$5,000 annual grant until the cost is recouped."

**CARRIED**

**Review Development Levy Bylaw**

**Moved by:** Councillor Brennan

**Seconded by:** Mayor Matheson

"That we recommend to Council that Administration update the Town of Lumsden's Development Levy Fees and present their findings at a future meeting."

**CARRIED**

**Cemetery Bylaw**

**Moved by:** Mayor Matheson

**Seconded by:** Councillor Brennan

"That we task Administration to prepare a Cemetery Bylaw amendment that establishes fees through to December 31, 2023."

**CARRIED**

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**New Business**

**Asset Management Software**

**Moved by:** Councillor Brennan

**Seconded by:** Mayor Matheson

"That we recommend to Council the purchase of asset management software (PubWorks 3150) to be included in the 2022 budget."

**CARRIED**

**Adjournment**

**Moved by:** Mayor Matheson

"That we adjourn at 6:17 p.m."

**CARRIED**

  
Chairperson

  
Chief Administrative Officer