

Minutes from the July 23, 2025 special meeting of the Council of the Village of Hawarden held at 7:00 p.m. in the Hawarden Municipal Office. The meeting was attended by Mayor Dale Blenkinsop, Councillors Ray Chrétien, Char Edwards, Lorrie Harrison, Stephen Dingham, and Administrator Kelly Dodd.

Mayor Dale Blenkinsop called the Council Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2025 Operating Budget

126/2025 EDWARDS: That we approve the Budget for the year 2025 as presented. Carried

2025 Mill Rate

127/2025 CHRÉTIEN: That the Mill Rate for the year 2025 be set at 6.5 Mills. Carried.

Education Property Tax Rates

128/2025 That we acknowledge the Education Property Tax Rates for the year 2025 as provided by the Government of Saskatchewan:

Agricultural 1.07 Mills
Residential 1.47 Mills
Commercial/ Industrial 6.37 Mills
Resource 7.49 Mills

Bylaw No. 07-25 – Base Tax Bylaw

129/2025 BLENKINSOP That we read Bylaw No.7-25 for a first time being a bylaw to provide a Base Tax. Carried.

130/2025 EDWARDS: That we read Bylaw No. 7-25 for a second time; base tax bylaw Carried.

131/2025 DINGHAM: That we read Bylaw No. 7-25 be given three readings at this meeting. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

132/2025 HARRISON: That we read Bylaw No. 7-25 for a third and final time hereby adopting a bylaw to provide a Base Tax. Carried.

Bylaw No. 08-25 – Penalties Bylaw

- 133/2025 EDWARDS: That we read Bylaw No.8-25 for a first time being a bylaw to establish tax penalties Carried.
- 134/2025 CHRÉTIEN: That we read Bylaw No. 8-25 for a second time; tax penalty bylaw. Carried.
- 135/2025 HARRISON: That Bylaw No. 8-25 be given three readings at this meeting. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- 136/2025 DINGHAM: That we read Bylaw No. 8-25 for a third and final time hereby adopting a bylaw to establish tax penalties. Carried.

In-Camera Session

- 137/2025 EDWARDS: That we go in-camera at 7:30 p.m. to discuss matters, compliant with Section 16 of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and protection of Privacy Act.

Mayor Dale Blenkinsop, Councillors Ray Chrétien, Char Edwards, Lorrie Harrison, Stephen Dingham, and Administrator Kelly Dodd all attended the in-camera session. Council returned to the regular session at 8:14 p.m. Carried

Herbert St. Maintenance Agreement

- 138/2025 CHRÉTIEN That Councilor Lorrie Harrison be authorized to liaison with legal counsel regarding on-going human resource matters, and that councilor Harrison provide updates as required compliant with Section 16 of The Local Authority Freedom of Information and protection of Privacy Act. Carried.

Raw &Treated Water Quality & Quantity Study

- 139/2025 EDWARDS: That KGS Group be retained to complete a water study as outlined by the Water Security Agency, and that administration authorize on council's behalf. Carried.

Declaration of Eligibility Revenue Share

140/2025 DINGHAM: That the council of the Village of Hawarden confirms the following eligibility requirements to receive the 2024 - 2025 Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant:

The Village of Hawarden has not submitted its 2022 Audited Financial Statement to the Ministry of Government Relations. The Village plans to be compliant August 23, 2025. The Village of Hawarden has submitted its 2022 Public Reporting on Municipal Water Works to the Ministry of Government Relations as required by legislation. The Village of Hawarden is considered In Good Standing with respect to the reporting and remittance of Education Property Taxes. The Village of Hawarden has Adopted a Council Procedures Bylaw; as well as an Employee Code of Conduct; and All members of council have filed and annually updated their Public Disclosure Statements, as required; and That we believe that once the 2022 Financial Statements have been submitted all requirements will have been met and the payment schedule shall resume Sept 1, 2025 ,and that we authorize the Administrator to sign the Declaration of Eligibility, and submit it to the Ministry of Government Relations.
Carried.

Village of Hawarden Compliance Action Plan

141/2025 EDWARDS: That we advise the Ministry of Government Relations; Advisory Services and Municipal Relations, that the following steps either have been completed, or will be completed as outlined:

That a letter was sent to the R.M of Loreburn No. 254 on July 10, 2025 requesting to attend the regular meeting of council September 10, 2025;

That the Water Works Reporting for 2022 & 2023, the SAMA Assessment Return for the year 2024, the EPT Annual reporting for the years 2023 & 2024, and the EPT Monthly up to and including June 30, 2025 will be reported, and remitted to the appropriate agencies by July 30, 2025. All listed items will be confirmed compliant in writing no later than July 31, 2025;

That the 2022 & 2023 Draft Audited Financial statements will be provided to council no later than August 12, 2025;

That the 2022 & 2023 Draft Audited Financials will be reviewed by each council member by August 17, 2025. Each council member will reach out to council as a whole, the Administrator, or the auditor with any questions they may have;

That a special meeting of council to approve the 2022 & 2023 Audited financials will be held on August 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hawarden Municipal

Office. Once the motion has been made to approve the financials as presented, the required documentation will be signed by the Mayor and the Administrator. All documents will be emailed to the auditor August 19, 2025;

That the finalized financials will be emailed to compliance by our Auditor no later than Aug 22, 2025;

That the administrator will confirm with compliance on or before Aug 23 that The Village of Hawarden has been deemed compliant on all accounts. Administration will obtain Confirmation of Revenue share eligibility for fund release to occur on Sept 1, 2025;

That during the week of [Sept 1 – 9] council will complete a thorough review of financials, and consider all other components of the proposed restructuring. They will consider the long-term feasibility of staying as a Village. The 2024 Audited financials will be reviewed and passed by motion of council in September;

That on Sept 10, 2025 members of council, and administration will attend RM council meeting. If council should then wish to proceed forward with voluntary restructuring:

That a meeting would be held Sept 11, 2025 to pass a motion to resubmit the restructuring agreement;

That on September 12, 2025, administration would drive the Restructuring Agreement to Regina, and deliver in person to the Ministry;

That if our request to restructure is then approved, on Dec 31, 2025, all records would be forwarded to the appointed official, as required to complete the Voluntary Restructuring process. Jan 1, 2026 The Village of Hawarden would officially become a Special Service Area of the R.M of Loreburn No. 254.

Carried.

Next Meeting

142/2025 EDWARDS: That the next Regular Meeting of council be held Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Office. A special meeting of council will be held Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Office.

Adjournment

143/2025 CHRÉTIEN: That this meeting be adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Carried.