

Town of Ponoka Council Highlights

These Council highlights are intended to provide a brief overview of the most significant decisions made during the Council meeting. To access more information about the items listed below and to view the full Council meeting agendas, minutes and meeting schedules, please visit Ponoka.ca/p/council-minutes-and-agendas

Organizational Meeting of Council:

2.0 **Swearing in of Mayor**

RCMP Sergeant Tyler Epp swore in Mayor Kevin Ferguson. Kevin Ferguson will serve as Mayor for his third term on Town Council.

3.0 **Swearing in of Councillors**

RCMP Sergeant Tyler Epp swore in Councillors Cal David, Carla Lloyd, Clayton Nelson, Katherine Steblyk and Teri Underhill.

5.1 <u>2025-2026 Council Standing Committee Appointments</u>

Council approved the 2025-2026 Council Standing Committee Appointments as presented. The appointments outline the committees, boards and other bodies where Council will have representation in the upcoming year.

5.2 <u>2025-2026 Council Meeting Schedule</u>

Council approved dates for the next two regular Council meetings and the next Priorities and Initiatives meeting in November. As one Councillor was not present at this meeting, approval of additional meeting dates will be deferred to the next Council meeting in November, as per requirements of the Alberta Municipal Government Act (MGA). The next two regular Council meetings will be held on Monday, November 10 and Tuesday, November 25 at 6 p.m. The next Priorities and initiatives Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18 at 6 p.m.

5.3 2025-2029 Deputy Mayor Schedule

Council approved the Deputy Mayor Schedule for 2025-2029 as presented.

Regular Meeting of Council:

7.1 Notice of Motion - Tree Lighting

Council approved the Notice of Motion directing Town Administration to consider the lighting of the tree in front of the Ponoka Drop-In Centre this year as part of the Town's Christmas Tree Lighting Program.



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7.2 Parkland Regional Library 2026 Proposed Budget

Council approved the Parkland Regional Library Board 2026 Proposed Budget as presented. The proposed budget includes an \$0.18 increase to the municipal per capita rate, bringing it to \$9.99 per capita. The Parkland Regional Library System is governed by a board appointed by 64 member municipalities across Central Alberta. The Parkland Regional Library System provides support and services to 49 public libraries across central Alberta, including the Ponoka Jubilee Library. To learn more, please visit Prl.ab.ca/about-us

10.1 Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Letter

Council accepted as information a letter from the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. In the letter, Minister Sean Fraser discusses Bill C-14 and proposed changes to the bail and sentencing framework in the Criminal Code.

The Minister's letter is in response to a letter that Mayor Ferguson sent to Minister Fraser earlier this year addressing the Town of Ponoka's concerns with Bill C-75's leniency on bail restrictions, which leads to the release of those awaiting trial with minimal conditions, especially those who are accused of recurrent or violent offences.

12.1 Notice of Motion – Reduce Speed Limits in the Town of Ponoka

Councillor Teri Underhill submitted a Notice of Motion directing Administration to look into reducing the speed limit to 40 kms/hour in the Town of Ponoka with the exception of playground and school zones.

12.2 Notice of Motion – Traffic Calming Measures on 48 Avenue

Councillor Teri Underhill submitted a Notice of Motion directing Administration to consider traffic safety and calming measures along 48 Avenue near Ponoka Elementary School in collaboration with school officials.

12.3 Notice of Motion – Play Space in Central Park

Councillor Clayton Nelson submitted a Notice of Motion directing Administration to explore ideas for an interactive play space for Central Park that maintains the aesthetic feel of the park.

- Next Regular Council Meeting: Monday, November 10 at 6 p.m.
- The public is welcome to attend all Council meetings. Meetings are held in Town Council Chambers on the third floor of the Ponoka Civic Centre (5604 50 Street).