

**AGENDA**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF LONGVIEW**  
**Backyard Hen Program Discussion**  
**In the Province of Alberta, held on Monday January 26, 2026**  
**In Longview Village Office Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

**2.0 AGENDA**

**3.0 BUSINESS**

**3.1 Council discussion of January 20, 2026, Regular Council meeting –  
Backyard Hen Program delegation comments.**

**4.0 ADJOURNMENT**

# Hen Bylaw Delegation

Good evening council, tonight I bring forth this delegation on the hen portion of the bylaw that was passed June of 2025. During the May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 regular council meeting council was asked if the village has received any complaints formal or otherwise about hens to which both council and administration admitted there are no complaints yet despite this fact prior council passed a hen bylaw. With this in mind council has the knowledge that new bylaws are not mandatory to create unless there has been an ongoing issues or series of complaints that need to be addressed. For those who don't recall what started the path of a hen bylaw was a resident simply asked "Is there any bylaws about hens?" So how did a simple question turn into "We NEED a bylaw." While yes Longview may be considered a urban municipality because it is by definition a village, town or city does not mean we need to follow other urban areas such as DiamondValley or Calgary seeing as they are at a much larger capacity. Longview is surrounded by the rural municipality which consists of large agricultural and farming communities which most of our residents come from or have a background in. During the Oct 2025 elections it was stated on signs "Our community, Our Priority" so how is enacting a bylaw that wasn't warranted making this community a "Priority"?

Here are some key points that should be considered with this hen bylaw:

- A majority of residents in Longview are either senior citizens or small families. The hens that are owned by these residents are not pets they are a means for food such as eggs for protein.
- Hens are cheaper to take care of than to go to the grocery store for most families such as myself who live on a fixed/limited income and with increase to gas, electric and prior council increasing property tax we cant afford other more expensive proteins such as steak, pork, etc.
- In 2025 FCSS funding provided \$900 to the seniors group for Longview meals on wheels which the Longview tax payers paid a portion of that funding. So again more money coming out of our pockets that could be used else where for fixed/limited income families. This is akin to robbing peter to pay paul and increasing taxation on the poor.

Now if there are 8 families that own hens here are some questions to consider:

- For DiamondValley to enforce the hen bylaw and inspections of coops the cost comes out of the monthly fee we pay for policing. So what's more important to residents policing or inspection of well established coops and complaints?

- What happens if/when we go over the monthly contracted fee and how much will it cost tax payers?
- We are allotted 20 hrs of policing service a week what happens if we go over the allotted hrs? Are we charged an additional fee?

The application portion of the hen bylaw:

- Why isn't administration approving applications as per the bylaw?

In the email I provided the CAO stated Council must approve. The administrative personnel are the CAO Roy and Clerk June. It also states under the Backyard hen program section 14.3 must be approved by the village and by definition "The Village" is administration which is CAO rather than by a vote from the entire council.

It was also stated by prior council that existing hen owners who have more than 6 hens will be allowed to live out their natural lives yet there is no provision in the bylaw speaking to this. The bylaw does however speak to exotic pets being prohibited however the prior council stated owners would not be subjected to compliance. Therefore why cant hen owners prior to the bylaw signed into effect June of 2025 be grandfathered in and not subject to compliance? The application for the Backyard hens program doesn't apply to current hen owners seeing our coops are already built and established, it doesn't have provisions for existing coop set ups.

Its clear that the hen bylaw was put in place simply because prior council had the authority to create one for the sake of creating one knowing there have been no complaints only that a prior/current counselor stated on record " Its best to have a bylaw just in case" and that is not making your community a "Priority". My request is for this council to "shelf" the hen bylaw until there is a time a formal complaint is made and is proven a legit complaint. This way there is a bylaw ready on the "shelf" for the "Just encase" as stated by a former/ current council member. Lets really put our community first and do whats best for the residents in our quaint Village.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Ashley Grady

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Knowledge Assessed (CBCC-KA) certification or other such certification as the CAO may approve.

- (h) **Bite or Biting** means an application of force by an Animal by means of its mouth and teeth upon a Person, other Animal or Wildlife which results in pain or injury of any nature being inflicted upon that Person or other Animal.
- (i) **Bylaw Violation Tag** means a ticket or similar document issued by the Village pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*.
- (j) **CAO** means the Chief Administrative Officer of The Village of Longview or the employee of The Village of Longview who has been delegated the authority to exercise the powers, duties, and functions of the Chief Administrative Officer under this Bylaw.
- (k) **Cause Death** means any act by an Animal which results in the death of a Person or other Animal.
- (l) **Communicable Disease** means any disease or illness that may be transferred from an Animal to another Animal or to a human through direct or indirect contact.
- (m) **Controlled Confinement** means the confinement of a Dog in a pen, cage or building or securely tethered in such a manner that ensures the Dog is not harmed, and in a manner that will not allow the Dog to Bite, harm or harass any Person or Animal.
- (n) **Coop** means a structure comprised of a Henhouse and a Run.
- (o) **Council** means the duly elected Council of the Village of Longview.
- (p) **Damage to Property** means damage to property other than the Owner's Property and includes defecating on property other than property that belongs to the Owner.
- (q) **Dog** means a member of the canine family.
- (r) **Dog Breeder** means any Person, firm or corporation which is engaged in the operation of breeding and raising dogs for the purpose of selling, trading, bartering, giving away or otherwise transferring same.
- (s) **Domestic Pet** means any Animal that has been tamed and made fit for a human environment, excluding Wildlife.
- (t) **Exotic Pet** means an Animal that is of foreign origin or character; not native; introduced from abroad but not fully naturalized. Exotic Pets are restricted by federal and provincial regulations, including the Alberta Wildlife Act, Public Health Act, Agricultural Pests Act and the Wild Animal and Plant Trade Regulations.
- (u) **Feral Animal** means any Animal that has reverted from the domestic state to a condition that resembles a wild Animal.
- (v) **Health Authority** means the regional health authority established by the Minister of Health to provide health services to the Village.
- (w) **Heat** means a recurring period of sexual receptivity in many female mammals, including Dogs.
- (x) **Hen** for the purpose of this bylaw shall mean a female chicken.
- (y) **Henhouse** means a structure that houses Hens at night and includes a secure place for Hens to lay eggs and eat.



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and for the purpose of this bylaw an Animal may have more than one (1) Owner.

- (ll) **Owner's Property** means any property in which the Owner of an Animal has legal or equitable interest, or over which the owner of an Animal has been given the control or use of by the legal or equitable owner of the property, and which property shall include, without limiting the generality of the foregoing: land, buildings and vehicles.
- (mm) **Permitted Leash** means a physical leash adequate to control the Animal to which it is attached and where said leash shall not exceed two (2) meters in length.
- (nn) **Person** means an individual or a business entity including a firm, partnership, association, corporation or society.
- (oo) **Play Surface** means any park space intended for play, including:
  - (i) a playground: an outdoor area upon which apparatus such as swings, slides, and other children's play equipment are placed;
  - (ii) an outdoor skate rink;
  - (iii) a skate or bike park: an outdoor area which is designed and intended specifically for the use of skateboards, in-line skates, bicycles, scooters, or other similar devices;
  - (iv) a spray park: an outdoor water park or splash pad; or
  - (v) any similar outdoor play spaces.
- (pp) **Premises** means the lands, buildings, and other structures located within the property lines of any property situated in whole or in part within the Village, and includes any land or buildings owned or leased by the Village.
- (qq) **Properly Restrained** means the Animal is:
  - (i) being carried by a Person capable of restraining the size and strength of the particular Animal;
  - (ii) being confined in a Kennel or like container, properly latched or locked; or
  - (iii) being restrained by a Person capable of restraining the size and strength of the particular Animal by the means of a Permitted Leash attached to a collar or harness attached to the Animal.
- (rr) **Provincial Court and Court** means the Alberta Court of Justice and includes a judge or Justice thereof, where the context so requires.
- (ss) **Private Property** means land within the Village other than property constituting a Public Space.
- (tt) **Public Space** means any Village-owned property or asset, including green spaces, playgrounds, Sport Fields, roads and sidewalks.
- (uu) **Pullet** means a female chicken less than 1 year old.
- (vv) **Rear Yard** means the space from the furthest rear wall of the residence to the rear property line.
- (ww) **Rooster** means a domestic male chicken.
- (xx) **Run** means a securely enclosed area, attached to a Henhouse, permitting chickens to range freely within that space.
- (yy) **Run at Large or Running at Large** means:



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- (i) An Animal or Animals which are not under the control of a Person responsible by means of a Permitted Leash and is or are actually upon property other than the property in respect of which the Owner of the Animal or Animals has the right of occupation, or upon any highway, thoroughfare, street, road, trail, avenue, parkway, lane, alley, square, bridge, causeway, trestle way, sidewalk (including the boulevard portion of the sidewalk), Park or other Public Space which has not been designated as an Off-Leash Area; or
  - (ii) an Animal or Animals which are under the control of a Person responsible by means of a Permitted Leash and which cause damage to Persons, property or other Animals.
- (zz) **Service Dog** has the same definition as set out in the *Service Dog Act*, S.A. 2007 c.S-7.5 and includes a Dog that is in training to become a Service Dog but does not include Dogs that are no longer actively being used as a Service Dog.
- (aaa) **Severe Injury** means any injury to a Person or Animal that requires medical attention such as wounds requiring sutures, or other wound repair and closing, or surgery, disfiguring or scarring lacerations, broken bones, severe sprains, or any other similar serious injury, and any other injury as determined to be severe by a Court, board, or Village upon hearing the evidence.
- (bbb) **Sport Field** means an outdoor area which is set apart and used for general fitness or the playing of sporting activities, including:
- (i) running tracks;
  - (ii) sport courts such as but not limited to basketball, tennis, or pickleball courts;
  - (iii) fitness parks where outdoor fitness equipment has been installed for public use; and
  - (iv) formal and informal sporting field surfaces intended for competitive and recreational sporting activities and use such as but not limited to soccer flats, football fields, and baseball diamonds.
- (ccc) **Summons** means a legal document compelling a person to appear in court at a specified date and time to answer to an alleged offence.
- (ddd) **Trespasser** means any Person who is on the Owner's Property without the Owner's consent.
- (eee) **Under Control** means a Dog that returns to its owner immediately when called or when commanded to do so, and that does not interfere with any other Person or Animal.
- (fff) **Village** means the municipality of the Village of Longview in the Province of Alberta, or where the context so requires, its municipal boundaries.
- (ggg) **Vicious Dog** means any Dog, whatever its age or breed, whether on public or private property:
- (i) that has been declared to be a Vicious Dog pursuant to the provisions of this Bylaw;
  - (ii) that has been declared to be a Vicious Dog pursuant to the provisions of a Bylaw of another municipality; or
  - (iii) which in the opinion of a Judge or Justice of the Provincial Court, presents an unacceptable threat of serious harm to other domestic Animals or humans; and includes any Dog that has been previously declared to be a Vicious Dog by the



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- (d) unlock, unlatch or otherwise open the vehicle used in controlling or transporting the said Dog to allow or attempt to allow any Dog to escape therefrom.

**12.0 IMPOUNDMENT OF DOGS**

- 12.1 No unauthorized Person shall remove or attempt to remove from an Animal Shelter any Dog impounded therein.
- 12.2 No unauthorized Person shall break open or assist in any manner, either directly or indirectly, in breaking open any Animal Shelter established or utilized by the Village under the provisions of this bylaw.
- 12.3 The Village may require the purchase of a valid Dog licence prior to the release of a Dog.

**13.0 ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATIONS**

- 13.1 The Village will determine the hours of operation for the municipal Animal Shelter, in order to facilitate the claiming of Dogs. These hours will attempt to accommodate the public or authorized agencies but may vary depending on operational demands and the availability of the Animal Control Officer or their designate.
- 13.2 The Owner will be responsible for any impoundment fees including those that may accrue on Sundays and/or Statutory holidays. In addition, the Village reserves the right to double any impound fees for those Owners, whose Dog or Dogs had been impounded on more than one occasion, within a calendar year.
- 13.3 When an Owner is to claim a Dog from the shelter, all applicable fees as set out in the *Fees and Fines Bylaw 474-25* as amended from time to time, must be paid at the Village Office prior to claiming the Animal.
- 13.4 The Animal Control Officer or their designate will make a reasonable attempt to contact the Owner of an impounded Dog. However, should the Dog remain unclaimed at the conclusion of a seventy-two (72) hour period and the Dog has been released to the SPCA or any other Animal welfare or adoption organization, the Village is no longer responsible for that Dog or that organization's actions regarding that Dog.

**14.0 BACKYARD HENS PROGRAM – OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

- 14.1 An applicant in the Backyard Hen Program must be 18 years of age or older.
- 14.2 A Person must not keep Hens unless registered in the Backyard Hen Program.
- 14.3 An application, including the first annual licensing fee, must first be submitted and approved by the Village.
- 14.4 An applicant must read and adhere to Schedule "D" - Backyard Hens Program, Requirements and Best Practices attached to this bylaw.

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14.5 Backyard Hen licensing fees are annually renewable and must be paid by January 31 of each year, unless otherwise authorized by the CAO.

14.6 Participant Compliance in Backyard Hens Program:

- (a) If a complaint is registered with the Village or an Animal Control Officer may attend the residence of a participant at their own discretion; an appointment will not be required.
- (b) Participants must not exceed the keeping of six (6) Hens.
- (c) Participants must keep the Coop in good repair and in a sanitary condition.
- (d) Proper care and feeding practices must be followed to ensure the well-being of the Hens.
- (e) The slaughter of or attempt to euthanize Hens within Village limits is prohibited.
- (f) Hens must not be permitted to Run at Large.

14.7 A Person must not keep a Rooster in the Village of Longview.

**15.0 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

15.1 An Owner of a Dog which is suffering from a Communicable Disease shall:

- (a) not permit the Dog to be in any Public Space;
- (b) not keep the Dog in contact with or in proximity to any other Animal free of such disease;
- (c) keep the Dog locked or tied up; and
- (d) immediately report the matter to the veterinarian inspector of the appropriate health of Animal branch of the local office of the Federal and/or Provincial Department of Agriculture, and the Animal Control Officer or their designate of the Village.

**16.0 MISCELLANEOUS**

16.1 This bylaw shall not apply to Animals kept inside any veterinary clinic for the purpose of receiving medical attention or being securely transported within a Motor Vehicle to or from a veterinary clinic.

16.2 An Animal Owner or licence applicant is responsible for and is not excused from ascertaining and complying with the requirements of any federal, provincial or other municipal legislation, including the Village 's *Land Use Bylaw*. Where the keeping of the Animals would not comply with any federal, provincial or other municipal legislation, the Animal Control Officer may refuse to issue or may revoke a licence.

16.3 No Person shall place any Wildlife Attractant, bait, feed, lure or take any actions that may attract Feral Animals or Wildlife, whether on private or public property.

16.4 No Owner shall abandon an Animal.

16.5 No Owner shall fail to claim an Animal at a veterinary clinic, a licenced Animal care organization or Animal Shelter.

16.6 No Owner, tenant or occupant of a property, whether public or private, shall permit or allow any deceased Animal or Wildlife to be visible to the public or allow it to decompose and become a

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| <b>Obstruction</b>           |   |                  |                   |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------|
| 11.1(a)                      | Interfere with or obstruct an Animal Control Officer                                  | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| 11.1(b)                      | Harbour a Dog to avoid capture or otherwise assist a Dog in escaping capture          | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| 11.1(c)                      | Provide false Owner information to an Animal Control Officer                          | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| 11.1(d)                      | Unlock or free Dog from authorized vehicle  | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| <b>Impoundment of Dogs</b>   |   |                  |                   |
| 12.1                         | Unauthorized Person attempt to remove Dog from Animal Shelter                         | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| 12.2                         | Unauthorized Person break into Animal Shelter   | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| <b>Backyard Hen Program:</b> |   |                  |                   |
| 14.2                         | Keeping hens while not permitted  | \$500 +<br>Costs | \$1000 +<br>Costs |
| 14.6(b)                      | Exceed maximum number of hens permitted   | \$150            | \$300             |
| 14.6(c)                      | Fail to maintain coop in a sanitary condition   | \$150            | \$300             |
| 14.6(d)                      | Fail to provide proper care and feeding   | \$150            | \$300             |
| 14.6(e)                      | Slaughtering hens within Village limits   | \$150            | \$300             |
| 14.6(f)                      | Allowing hens to escape or Run at Large   | \$150            | \$300             |
| 14.7                         | Keeping one or more Roosters  | \$150            | \$300             |
| <b>Communicable Diseases</b> |   |                  |                   |
| 15.1(a)                      | Allow diseased Dog in Public Space  | \$300            | \$600             |
| 15.1(b)                      | Failure to keep diseased Dog from disease-free Animals                                | \$300            | \$600             |
| 15.1(c)                      | Failure to secure diseased Dog  | \$300            | \$600             |
| 15.1(d)                      | Failure to report diseased Dog  | \$300            | \$600             |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>         |   |                  |                   |
| 16.3                         | Place Wildlife Attractant, or bait, feed, attempt to attract Feral Animal or Wildlife | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| 16.4                         | Abandon an Animal   | \$2,500          | \$5,000           |
| 16.5                         | Fail to claim an Animal   | \$500            | \$1,000           |
| 16.6                         | Allow deceased Animal or Wildlife on property   | \$500            | \$1,000           |



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**SCHEDULE "D"  
Requirements and Best Practices**

| <b>Section</b>            | <b>Description</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Rules</b>              |  |
| C1.1                      | Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.   |
| C1.2                      | For the purposes of this program, a hen must be a female chicken. Baby chicks as well as pullets and full-grown hens are allowed.  |
| C1.3                      | Roosters are not permitted. If a male bird is identified, it must be disposed of.  |
| C1.4                      | It is unlawful to slaughter hens within Village limits.  |
| C1.5                      | A maximum number of six (6) hens is allowed per household.   |
| C1.6                      | Yards must be securely fenced. There is no minimum fence height requirement, however higher fencing will protect against predators.  |
| C1.7                      | Participants will be warned once of any infraction. Any repeat infraction will be cause for fines in accordance with the bylaw and may be cause for disqualification from the program.   |
| <b>Coop</b>               |  |
| C2.1                      | Coop size cannot exceed 100 square feet without a building permit for an accessory building.   |
| C2.2                      | Coops must be designed to provide a minimum of 3 square feet per hen.  |
| C2.3                      | All chicken coops shall be located only in the rear yard and must fully enclose the chickens and prevent them from escaping.   |
| C2.4                      | Hens must have access to outdoor 'run' space which must fully enclose the chickens and prevent them from escaping.   |
| C2.5                      | Coops may be placed on lots developed with a single detached dwelling, side by side and duplexes only.   |
| C2.6                      | Coops must be in the rear yard, at least 1 metre from a property line where there is an adjacent neighbour. Where there is no adjacent neighbouring property (ie. lane or roadway fence line) coops are permitted to align with the zero '0' setbacks that apply to the construction of accessory buildings. |
| C2.7                      | Locate the coop in a place that will be mindful and considerate of your neighbours.  |
| C2.8                      | The chicken coop shall be designed and constructed to ensure proper ventilation and sufficient space for the chickens and be maintained in accordance with good animal husbandry practices and shall keep all vermin out.  |
| C2.9                      | The applicant must provide and maintain, in each coop, at least one perch, for each hen, that is at least 15 cm long, and one nest box; and adequate environmental protection as to shelter the hens from heat and cold injury.  |
| C2.10                     | Coops shall be maintained in good repair, kept in clean and sanitary condition, free of vermin and obnoxious smells and substances.  |
| C2.11                     | Backyard hens must not create a nuisance or disturbance to neighboring residents due to noise, odour, damage or threats to public health.  |
| <b>Care &amp; Feeding</b> |  |
| C3.1                      | Do your research on the care of hens - education online or in the community.   |
| C3.2                      | Follow biosecurity procedures recommended by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, referring especially to Biosecurity for Backyard Flock and Small Bird Owners.  |
| C3.3                      | Proper care and feeding practices must be followed to ensure the well-being of the hens. This includes providing each hen with food, water, shelter, light, ventilation, veterinary care and opportunities for essential behaviours such as scratching,  |

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|  | dustbathing, and roosting, all sufficient to maintain the hens in good health. Participants must not keep a hen in a cage.   |
| C3.4                                   | Food must be stored in a way to discourage predators.  |
| C3.5                                   | You must enlist a hen 'caregiver' when you plan to be away from home.  |
| C3.6                                   | Disposing of hens: If a hen dies of an unknown cause, it is recommended that it be checked by a veterinarian to protect the health of the other hens. Otherwise, it can be disposed of in the garbage in a sealed waste bag.   |
| <b>Approval / Registration Process</b> |  |
| C4.1                                   | The \$15 Backyard Hens Licensing fee is renewable annually by January.   |
| C4.2                                   | Once you are comfortable with the basic care of Backyard Hens, please apply by filling out the Backyard Hens Program Application Form available on the Village website or contact the Village Office.  |
| C4.3                                   | Please ensure the following accompanies your application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A copy of the submitted premises identification form (PID) submitted to the Province of Alberta.<br/><a href="http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/trace12354">http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/trace12354</a></li> <li>b) A drawing or description or photo of your planned coop and its location within the yard.</li> <li>c) The annual Backyard Hens Licensing fee.</li> <li>d) If applicable, a signed permission letter from your landlord.</li> </ul> |
| C4.4                                   | Applications will be reviewed by Administration, and you will be contacted within a week of receipt of the application.  |
| C4.5                                   | After the application is approved, you may commence with the construction of the coop.   |
| C4.6                                   | Once the Coop is built, you must call the Village to arrange for an Animal Control Officer to meet you at your residence to inspect the coop. At the time of inspection, the coop must be approved as being adequately outfitted for the care of hens.   |
| C4.7                                   | After inspection approval, the applicant will be contacted by Administration within one week, at which time the applicant may obtain their hens.   |
| <b>Compliance</b>                      |  |
| C5.1                                   | If a complaint is registered with the Village, Animal Control Officers may attend the residence at their own discretion. An appointment with the owner of the hens is not required in such cases.  |
| C5.2                                   | Participants may be fined for various infractions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) exceeding maximum number of hens permitted</li> <li>b) failing to maintain coop in a sanitary condition</li> <li>c) keeping hens while not permitted</li> <li>d) prohibited sale of manure, meat derived from hens</li> <li>e) slaughter hens within Village limits</li> <li>f) allow hens to escape or run at large</li> </ul>   |
| C5.3                                   | Participants may be disqualified from the Program for cause, including but not limited, to mistreatment of hens or repeated violations of the bylaw.   |

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| C5.4 | If so notified, participants must dispose of or remove all hens within 30 days of notification.            |
| C5.5 | We may continue to ask participants and neighbours to complete surveys regarding the Backyard Hen Program. |
| C5.6 | The Backyard Hens Program may be terminated at any time by the Village, for any cause.                     |

