

# Council Highlights



An initiative Designed to Keep **YOU** Better Informed of Council Decisions and Initiatives

**March 11, 2013**

**Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund** – Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament for Peace River, on behalf of the Honourable Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification, announced support towards two infrastructure projects in the County of Grande Prairie under the Harper Government's Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF). The County will be using \$50,000 of the CIIF for upgrades to Pipestone Creek Campground, and \$26,000 of the CIIF for upgrades to Teepee Creek Fire Hall.

**Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal** –Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament for Peace River, presented the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to Leanne Beaupre, County Reeve. Leanne received the medal for her significant contributions to the community. Reeve Beaupre acknowledged she accepted the medal on behalf of all of County Council.

**Canada Post Address Change Initiative** – Council brought forth concerns to Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament for Peace River, in regards to the Canada Post rural municipal address change initiative that some County residents are being negatively affected by. Warkentin agreed to forward Council's concerns to Canada Post.

**Hythe Volunteer Fire Department** –Council made a motion to financially support the Hythe Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$140,000. The \$140,000 will go towards the purchase of a new Medium Duty Rescue Unit to better serve the region. The new unit is

designed to respond to a variety of calls including highway responses, fires, and rescue and medical calls throughout the region.

**County of Grande Prairie Sportsplex** – County Council and staff welcomed Ramona Rollins to the County of Grande Prairie Sportsplex. Ramona will be the new general manager for the County of Grande Prairie Sportsplex.

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Bezanson Fireman's Ball** – Council made a motion to sponsor the Bezanson Volunteer Fire Department Society's 8<sup>th</sup> annual Fireman's Ball in the amount of \$5,000. The Fireman's Ball will be held on April 13, 2013 at Bezanson Memorial Hall.

**Philip J Currie Museum Update** – Brian Brake, Philip J Currie Museum Executive Director presented the projected budget for the Philip J Currie Museum to Council. Brake also addressed any questions and concerns brought forward by Council. Council requested a detailed breakdown of the budget and other potential additional funding sources before construction of the museum can be approved.

**Local Road Paving Tender**– Council awarded the local road paving tender to Wapiti Gravel Suppliers Ltd. in the amount of \$3,965,630.85. Wapiti Gravel Suppliers will be paving a number of roads within the County.

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**Pipestone Creek Park Caretaker Services** – Council awarded the contract for 2013-2014 camping season caretaker services for Pipestone Creek Park to Mary Jane Cook in the amount of \$68,000.

**Public Hearings** – Council held a public hearing on bylaw to 2680-13-009 redesignate 7.76 acres of land located approximately six miles northeast of Beaverlodge, adjacent to Twp Rd. 724 and Rge Rd. 91 from Agricultural District (AG) to Country Residential (CR-5) to allow for subdivision of one lot. Council gave the bylaw third reading.

Council held a public hearing on bylaw to 2680-13-010 redesignate 9.26 acres of land located approximately half a mile southeast of Sexsmith, adjacent to Rge Rd. 55 from Agricultural District (AG) to Country Residential (CR-5) to allow for subdivision of one lot. The bylaw did not receive first reading.

Council held a public hearing on bylaw to 2680-13-005 redesignate 10.50 acres of land located approximately half a mile west of Clairmont, adjacent to Twp Rd. 730 and Rge Rd. 64 from Agricultural District (AG) to Country Residential (CR-2) to allow for subdivision of one lot. The bylaw has been deferred to a later Council meeting for the applicant to obtain more information regarding the application.

**Bylaw 2975** – Council gave local improvement bylaw 2975 third reading. The bylaw would allow for the installation of a water line that will connect to existing services and run through 112 Street, south of Sunrise Estates.

**Grow Op Free Alberta** – Council agreed to forward a list of stakeholders ranging from building codes and standard experts, to fire officials, and community organization representatives to Grow Op Free Alberta. Grow Op Free Alberta is a government agency that addresses the issues associated with marijuana grow operations (MGO). Grow Op Alberta will be conducting consultation meetings with these stakeholders regarding MGOs and the health and safety, remediation, cost recovery, electricity theft and privacy issues associated with them once they have been identified and are shut down.

**STEP Program** – Council made a motion to write a letter of concern to the provincial government in regards to the cancellation of the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP). The program provides funding assistance to employers providing summer employment to students in secondary and post-secondary institutions.

**Community Planning Association of Alberta** – Council made a motion to donate a \$150 door prize item to the Community Planning Association of Alberta for their annual planning conference which is being held in Red Deer from April 15-17, 2013.

**Next Council meeting is on March 25, 2013.**

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