

Council Highlights



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

April 8, 2013

Alberta Transportation's Removal of Animal Carcasses from Roadways – Council reviewed correspondence from the Regional Director of Alberta Transportation with respect to concerns previously raised by Council to him including the delayed in removing animal carcasses from highways within two weeks as per contract. Council will write a letter to Alberta Transportation requesting response times for removing dead animals off highways is improved.

La Glace Arena Building Assessment – Megan Schur, County Parks and Recreation Manager presented a summary of the findings from the building assessment of the LaGlace Arena conducted by Field, Field & Field Architectural-Engineering Ltd. The estimated cost on the identified improvements is \$1,743,759.00.

The La Glace Agriculture Society is developing a business plan to support the construction of a new \$7.5 million building that would incorporate the curling rink. Council accepted the building assessment information and requested the Agriculture Society present their business plan prior to County's fall budget deliberations. Council will write a letter of support to the Agriculture Society to use when they pursue potential funding supporters.

Development permit – Council approved a development permit for Ferus LNG Inc. to build and use a liquefied natural gas facility approximately one mile south of Elmworth on the current Conoco Philips Gas Plant Site.

The Land Use Bylaw designates this parcel as a Rural Industrial – Direct Control (RM-DC) District. The permit is subject to several conditions including a road use agreement.

2013 Election – Council approved the following recommendations for the 2013 Municipal Election. The Election will be held on a Monday and an advance vote will be held. The Reeve will be appointed by Council at large at the Organizational meeting rather than through ballots during election. Residents who do not have proof of identification when voting will be required to sign an affidavit which states that they are eligible to vote in the Election.

Teepee Creek Lift Station – Herb Pfau, Superintendent of Public Works presented the draft copy of the Teepee Creek Lift Station Assessment Report to Council. The draft copy concluded that the facility is in need of major repair. Council approved motion to construct a force main, convert the existing systems to a low pressure system, and replace the pumps for the Peace Wapiti School Division (PWSD) and County residents. This is on a cost-share basis with PWSD.

Second Access Construction to Subdivision – Council had requested staff provide information regarding the number of subdivisions with only one access and the estimated costs to construct a second access to each of these locations for safety reasons. There are 68 subdivisions in the County with only one access.

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The estimated total cost to construct a second access in each of these subdivisions is \$28 million. Council made a motion that funding be included in each budget to begin constructing these second accesses throughout the County.

Ownership Map Available on County Website – Council approved the motion for the County GIS Services to create a digital version of the County Ownership Map that will be available for purchase at www.countygp.ab.ca for \$250.00. This environmentally friendly option allows purchasers to have the information at their fingertips instead of driving to the County Administration Building to pick up their paper copies.

Grande Prairie Stompede – Council made a motion to write a letter to the Grande Prairie Stompede Association identifying the County has annually contributed funds to cover the majority of the costs to police this special event and requests their consideration to be recognized for that support.

In 2012, the County paid over \$15,000 in policing costs and supplied on-site Fire personnel and equipment at no charge.

New equipment purchases – Council awarded the tender for the purchase of office furniture for the new Public Works Building to Business Interiors by Staples in the amount of \$141,699.60.

Council awarded the Request for Quotation (RFQ) for the purchase of two new 2012/2013 three-quarter ton trucks to Windsor Ford in the amount of \$75,415.16.

Council awarded the RFQ for the purchase of two new 2012/2013 half ton 4X4 trucks to Windsor Ford in the amount of \$60,173.79.

Earth Day – Council proclaimed April 22, 2013 as Earth Day. Earth Day is a worldwide event consisting of educational programs and information sharing to improve environmental programs in communities. As many as six million Canadians and 500 million people in 180 other countries participate in Earth Day annually.

The County of Grande Prairie will be partnering with the City of Grande Prairie to host a lunch hour event for businesses on Monday, April 22nd from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Montrose Cultural Centre in celebration of Earth Day. During the event, the County and City will provide an information session to interested parties and businesses on bottle recycling. Pre-registration is required.

Next Council meeting is on April 22, 2013.

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