

Council Highlights



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

May 27, 2013

Philip J Currie Dinosaur Museum Economic Impact Study – Ainsley Lamontagne from the Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association made a presentation of the Philip J Currie Dinosaur Museum Economic Impact Study which included how the Museum will positively impact the community. Lamontagne also addressed Council's inquiries.

The study states the Museum will attract up to 60,000 visitors per year; retain and attract residents and businesses to the Region; increase revenue; create jobs; diversify the economy and types of employment in the area; increase the Region's cultural profile; promote education and science; and serve as the northwest hub for a province-wide Dinosaur Trail.

Philip J Currie Dinosaur Museum Update – County Administration informed Council that the County received a petition from ratepayers who are against Borrowing Bylaw 2981 – which would have allowed for the borrowing of \$5 million for the building of the Philip J Currie Dinosaur Museum. Administration advised that they require up to 30 days to validate the petition signatures. Options for proceeding in the petition process or funding from other sources were presented.

To avoid further delays in the project and borrowing money from Alberta Capital Finance Authority, Council alternatively made a motion to take \$5 million out of the County's Reserves to fund the construction of the Museum.

This will allow the construction of the Museum to move forward as soon as possible.

Odyssey Sunrise Golf Tournament – Council approved a motion to contribute \$3,000 to the Odyssey Sunrise Golf Tournament which is being held on June 14th at the Grande Prairie Golf & Country Club.

The Grande Prairie Youth Emergency Shelter has partnered with the Odyssey House Women's Shelter to host the Golf Tournament where all proceeds raised will go towards their shelters.

Valhalla 100th Anniversary Celebration – In celebration of Valhalla Centre's 100th anniversary, Council approved the motion to contribute \$25,000 to the Valhalla Heritage Society to build a commemorative patio for the Valhalla Viking Centre. Valhalla will be holding its 100th anniversary celebrations from June 29th to July 1st, 2013.

The County of Grande Prairie Sportsplex Update – Ramona Rollins, General Manager for The County of Grande Prairie Sportsplex provided Council with a report on the Sportsplex's overall operations from January to present day. Future improvements and plans that will increase facility usage were discussed. Council's questions and concerns were also addressed. Council requested that a financial report be included in future presentations and thanked Rollins for her report.

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As well, the Sportsplex Grand Opening date was announced for Sunday, September 8th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A series of activities are being planned. More details will be revealed in the near future.

Bylaw 2978 – Council gave Procedural Bylaw 2978 third reading. Bylaw 2978 guides and regulates how Council conducts business during Council Meetings.

Bylaw 2680-13-019 – Council gave bylaw 2680-13-019 third reading which will redesignate approximately 10 acres of land located adjacent to Sexsmith and Rge Rd. 61 from agricultural to rural medium industrial (RM-2). This will facilitate the development of one new lot for industrial use.

County of Grande Prairie Stompede Week – County Council proclaimed May 28th to June 2nd as County of Grande Prairie Stompede Week for 2013.

Next Council meeting is June 10, 2013.

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