



County of Grande Prairie No. 1

November 9, 2015 Council Meeting

Meeting Type : Regular Council Meeting

Date : Monday, November 09, 2015

Start time : 10:00 AM

Location : County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Administration Building

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Present were:

2. Deputy Reeve

- Ross Sutherland

3. Council

- Corey Beck
- Daryl Beeston
- Harold Bulford
- Richard Harpe
- Peter Harris
- Bob Marshall
- Brock Smith

4. Chief Administrative Officer

- Bill Rogan

5. Directors

- Arlen Miller
- Dale Van Volkingburgh
- Nick Lapp
- Dawn Sauv 

6. Manager of Legislative Services

- Sheryle Runhart

7. Recording Secretary

- Amanda Oravec

Absent:

1. Reeve

- Leanne Beaupre

CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. with the singing of O'Canada.

Recognition of 2015 Recreation

Council invited Mr. Ross Mather to be recognized for his achievement of the 2015 Recreation Volunteer Recognition award which he received on Friday, October 23, 2015, at the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association

**Volunteer
Recognition
Award**

(RECOGNITIONS AND
INTRODUCTIONS)
(Issue #20151027006)

conference.

Mr. Miller provided background on the activities Mr. Mather is active in. A letter of appreciation and a County jacket was presented to Mr. Mather. A photo was taken with Mr. Mather, Mr. Miller and Council. Mr. Mather thanked the County of Grande Prairie for nominating him for the award. He noted there was discussion on whether Rodeo was part of recreation, he was very proud to receive the award.

**National Child
Day Proclamation**

(RECOGNITIONS AND
INTRODUCTIONS)
(Issue #20151028002)

Meranda Ekins from SPARKED (South Peace Area Rural Kids Early Development) was present to request Council proclaim November 20th as National Child Day and provided some background information on SPARKED. Elizabeth Bell was also in attendance.

Resolution #CM20151109.1001

MOVED BY B. MARSHALL that November 20th, 2015 be proclaimed as National Child Day in the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

Carried

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA**

Resolution #CM20151109.1002

MOVED by H. BULFORD that the agenda for the November 9, 2015 Council Meeting (2015/11/09) be approved as presented.

Carried

**MINUTES
APPROVAL**

Resolution #CM20151109.1003

MOVED by P. HARRIS that the minutes for October 19, 2015 Council Meeting (2015/10/19) be approved as presented.

Carried

**10:10 am -
Grande Prairie
Regional
Innovation
Network**

(DELEGATIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS)
(Issue #20150930004)

Bruce Rutley and Chris King, Economic Development Officer, were present to comment on the Grande Prairie Regional Innovation Network. Mr. King noted that the ask for joining the network was included in the Economic Development budget for 2016.

The delivery of Innovation Services, also known as technology commercialization, inventor, innovator and or business innovation services in Grande Prairie and region is changing. As Director of GPRC Centre for Research & Innovation, Mr. Rutley was in attendance on behalf of the group of regional service providers who are working towards the formation of a new innovation service model for the region – a Grande Prairie Regional Innovation Network or GPRIN.

Mr. Rutley discussed with Council why the innovation service model is changing; what the GPRIN will look like; and invited the County of Grande Prairie to become a Founding Funding Partner at a cost of \$20,000.

There was discussion on the following:

- whether the City of Grande Prairie has contributed and became a partner. Mr. Rutley responded that he will be presenting to the City shortly;
- how all of the funding is collected, combined, and used for the network;
- whether the GPRIN is an extension of CRI. It was noted that it is not just an extension of CRI, it is a new model going forward with funding partners and a steering committee; the founders allocate resources

and direct the projects.

- whether all networks are funded fairly by the province. Mr. Rutley responded that they are funded equitably with other regional members; but the GPRIN have been lobbying for additional funds for this region;
- whether there is any percentage of the funding going back to the college as an endowment for the patents. Mr. Rutley responded that is not occurring at this time. There has been a couple situations where the fee for service model as a company has matured to reinvest in the projects.

Resolution #CM20151109.1004

MOVED BY B. MARSHALL to defer the request to join the Grande Prairie Regional Innovation Network as a Founding Funding Partner in the amount of \$20,000 to 2016 budget deliberations.

Carried

**10:30 am -
Community
Futures and
Grande Prairie
Chamber of
Commerce**

(DELEGATIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS)
(Issue #20150930005)

Mr. King introduced Holly Sorgen, Director of Community Futures Grande Prairie & Region, who presented the Business Visitation Program proposal to the County of Grande Prairie Council. The Business Visitation Program is a three year proposal, with a request for \$50,000 annually, for each of the three years. Mr. King noted that this visitation program has been an ongoing project that Economic Development has been looking into operating.

There was discussion on the following:

- according to Statistics Canada, the whole Peace Region is used to compile data sets, and that encompasses from BC to Peace River. We do not have all of the statistics for the County;
- primary contact on this project would be Community Futures and the Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce;
- currently no business licensing system in place and would be a benefit to know the nature of the operations, exports, etc. from the County;
- would include information from agriculture, industry, and all other businesses in the area;
- can focus on business expansion and retention - challenges and opportunities;
- Chamber of Commerce provided in kind support to develop the survey.

There was considerable discussion in regards to:

- the types of information that will be collected and whether it would be voluntary or mandatory. It will be voluntary information gathering from business owners;
- the push-back from business owners who would not want to supply the information they are requesting;
- who will receive and interpret the data once collected;
- whether the City of Grande Prairie was also approached for the same Business Visitation Program;
- the current process for business licensing in the City;
- that the use of modern technology (emails, text messages, etc) should be used to gather information and gauge whether this program would be accepted by the local business owners in the County;

- the National Occupation Classification (NOC) code system used by Statistics Canada, and that not all employment information is included because it is based off of a certain number of respondents;
- whether there would be any claw-back for the County on the \$150,000 they are requesting for funding. It was noted that there is no indication for claw-back at this time, but there is potential for that in the future.

Resolution #CM20151109.1005

MOVED BY C. BECK to defer the Business Visitation Program funding request, \$50,000 annually for three years, to Council budget deliberations.

Carried

Resolution #CM20151109.1006

MOVED by D. BEESTON that the meeting be recessed *11:09 a.m.* for a short break.

Carried

The meeting was reconvened at *11:19 a.m.*

Councillor Harpe was not present for the remainder of the meeting.

**10:50 a.m. -
Mighty Peace
Watershed
Alliance**

(DELEGATIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS)
(Issue #20151009002)

Rhonda Clarke-Gauthier, Executive Director with the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance (MPWA), presented an update on their activities and funding opportunities. Elaine Garrow, AAMDC Zone Representative, and City of Grande Prairie member, Councillor Chris Thiessen, were also in attendance as the Large Urban Director. There are 17 members currently and missing one Public Member at Large to represent the Mining sector (speaks to aggregate as well), anyone can apply, if there are any people Council believes would be a good fit to let them know to apply.

The MPWA was designated to do work under the Water for Life Program:

1. check on the state of watershed and;
2. focus on future water management planning.

The Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance, as the Government of Alberta designated Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for the Peace and Slave River watersheds, has been working towards a number of its goals since it was formed in spring of 2011. The board felt this would be an opportune time to indicate to the County what the major projects are at this time and the progress being made;

- received funding from the Environmental Damages Fund (EDF) for the Red Willow and Heart River Restoration Plans;
- State of the Watershed report;
- Wapiti River Water Management plan (WRWMP); November 17-18th there will be an Open House for comments;
- Initiating work on the Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP); will focus on the functioning of aquatic ecosystems and the sustainability of reliable drinking water sources for small communities along the tributaries and on lakes; and the level of understanding of the role and values of wetlands in the watershed first, then will tackle other concerns when funding is available;
- May 2016 will provide an update and see how to go forward with recommendations;
- organizational update;
- Alberta Environment and Parks supplies funding, have 3 full-time

staff members, meet as a Board every 6-8 weeks.

- \$1000-\$2000/year is asked from the participating municipalities as government grants cannot cover GST or any training opportunities.

Councillor Sutherland commented on the Wapiti River Management Plan, and inquired if the MPWA see that plan as a template for moving forward. Ms. Clarke-Gauthier responded that MPWA plan is specific to AEP. They have already addressed a lot of the information in the State of the Watershed report.

Three Public Information Sessions have been announced and Councillor Sutherland inquired if they could move some of the sessions out of the City of Grande Prairie into the County, or other rural areas. Ms.

Clarke-Gauthier responded that those Open Houses are specific to social and economic values to water. They have invited stakeholders to these sessions and there will be other opportunities to comment after those initial sessions. There will be 5-6 sessions in the City/County/MD of Greenview after the initial social/economic sessions are completed.

Ms. Garrow commented on the Water Source Workshop that was held last week and that they would like to have the ASB in the meetings because not all producers have access to the same information. Councillor Sutherland inquired if there was anyone providing input from BC at the meetings. Ms. Clarke-Gauthier responded that the WPAC process is an Alberta initiative, they have had conversations but would like the Alberta Government to move forward with more trans-boundary agreements. They have signed off on NWT/AB but not BC/AB and the County can try to lobby for the agreement to be signed between AB/BC.

Councillor Beck asked for clarification on the wetland policy definitions. Ms. Clarke-Gauthier responded that there is no real definition of "wetland" and the new Act speaks to compensation and City planning for wetland areas.

Councillor Smith inquired when and where was the Beaverlodge River tested that resulted in low oxygen levels. Ms. Clarke-Gauthier will forward that information to County.

Council inquired about the budget. Ms. Clarke-Gauthier responded that around \$300-\$350,000/year is needed for basic travel and office space. They asked for \$600,000 this year from the Province and received just over \$300,000.

**11:30 am -
Teepee Creek
Stampede
Association**

(DELEGATIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS)

(Issue #20151027001)

Megan Schur, Manager of Parks and Recreation, introduced Mr. Mac Erno, previous President, and Mr. Dustin Hollingsworth, new President of the Teepee Creek Stampede Association, who presented their 2016 Capital Assistance Grant and 100th Anniversary Grant applications.

Ms. Schur noted that the Teepee Creek Stampede Association is unable to attend the November 12 & 13 Capital Grant deliberation dates as they are attending the Pro Rodeo Canada Convention to receive an award for Rodeo Committee of the Year.

Capital Assistance Project: Addition to the Enframe Building. There is only one quote in the application. Administration spoke with the organization, and due to the buildings naming rights and the cost savings from Enframe, they prefer to remain with Enframe as the builder.

100th Anniversary Project: Move and restore the teepee that sits at the Rycroft corner in time for the 100th Anniversary celebration in 2016.

Councillor Smith commented on the Association only obtaining one quote for the Enframe Building addition and that it went against County policy for the Capital Grant application. Ms. Schur noted that she will follow-up with the Recreation Program Coordinator for background information.

Councillor Harris noted that concerts are listed as a usage for the AG Events Centre but they are already using the Enframe Centre for that use. Mr. Erno responded that the Enframe Barn is heated and inside and they cannot house all people in the AG Events Centre for concerts because of fire code (can only have 300-400 people as per the sprinkler system).

Councillor Beck asked for clarification. It was noted that there are two different grant applications proposed: one for the addition through the Capital Grant application, and one is for moving the teepee from Rycroft with the 100th Anniversary grant.

Resolution #CM20151109.1007

MOVED BY C. BECK to defer the Teepee Creek Stampede Association's 100th Anniversary application and Capital Assistance Grant application to the Capital Grant Deliberations on November 12-13, 2015.

Carried

CAO, Bill Rogan asked Council to advance the 2018 AB Summer Games item before lunch as the delegates are in attendance.

2018 AB Summer Games

(UNFINISHED BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151022008)

Mrs. Schur noted that at the September 8, 2015 Council meeting, a motion was passed to submit a joint 'Intent to Bid' letter to the Alberta Sport Connection for the 2018 Alberta Summer Games. This indicated that the County was interested in submitting a joint bid with the City of Grande Prairie to bring the youth games to our area. The deadline to submit the formal bid package is on November 13, 2015. Members of County Administration, the 2018 Alberta Summer Games Bid Committee, and the Grande Prairie Sport Council are available to review the content of the bid package with Council, and request a letter of support for the package contents. The completed bid package was submitted to Council in hard copy for review. Members from the Bid Committee were present to comment on the bid package: Mr. Lionel Robins, Ms. Karna Germsheid, and Mr. Jan Nutting.

The content of the bid package is intended to prove that we have the ability and the capacity to host the Games. If the bid is successful, there is the chance to refine the proposal if it is determined that certain facilities or events should be used differently to provide the best product. Sport categories and the associated facilities were displayed on the overhead screens, the Dinosaur Museum would be the opening ceremony venue and they would use museum as much as possible for other ceremonies.

Jan Nutting from Fletcher, Mudryk and Co. commented on the financial information for the games.

- Grants from AB Sports Council - \$370,000 plus \$50,000 legacy.
- requesting \$100,000 from County and City;
- requesting \$15,000 from the M.D. of Greenview.
- \$538,000 for fundraising - this would be cash deficit if no fundraising is done.
- CIP grant of \$75,000 is available from Province if a facility can be identified that requires improvements for the games.
- \$615,000 from other jurisdictions;

- will bring up to \$1.9 million budget total.
- initial request for Council was \$75,000, but now will be asking for \$100,000 from both City and County and the \$15,000 from Greenview.

Councillor Beck inquired when the funds would have to be transferred as it is for the 2018 games. Mr. Nutting responded that it will be in Quarter 4 of 2017 and Quarter 1 of 2018.

Councillor Sutherland inquired how the Committee decided on the amount requested from each municipality. It was noted that initially a larger amount was requested from the M.D. of Greenview, but they will only use Nitehawk, so the asks were based on the facilities that will be used in each municipality. The majority of the events will be held in the County and City.

CAO, Bill Rogan inquired if they are aware of how many others are submitting bids for the games. Ms. Germsheid responded that the AB Sport Connection wouldn't release that information. Bonnyville will be bidding, and maybe Cold Lake as well. There has not been one hosted in Zone 8 in almost 20 years. She also noted that on Nov 24-25th, the AB Summer Games Selection Committee will be in town to review the areas and the Dinosaur Museum has one of the largest pulls for this region.

Resolution #CM20151109.1008

MOVED BY B. MARSHALL that the content of the 2018 Alberta Summer Games bid package is representative of the County of Grande Prairie's value and priorities, and that the County provide a letter of support for inclusion in the bid package.

Carried

Resolution #CM20151109.1009

MOVED by C. BECK that the meeting be recessed 12:30 p.m. to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

Carried

The meeting was reconvened at 1:33 p.m.

**1:00 p.m. - Drager
- Flashover
Simulator**

(DELEGATIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS)
(Issue #20151030001)

Everett Cooke, Fire Chief, and Trevor Grant, Deputy Fire Chief Urban Operations were present to comment on the Drager - Flashover Simulator. The County of Grande Prairie Regional Fire Service has requested a Drager Flashover Simulator in the 2016 Budget. This simulator is used to expand on the education that is provided at the Dunes training facility. It can simulate a variety of fire conditions that cannot be simulated in the current facility. The Simulator, currently in the 2016 Capital budget, is a stationary prop that the service was looking to have stationed at the Community Service Building. This would allow for multiple live fire training events to happen concurrently. Drager has approached the County of Grande Prairie Regional Fire Service with a "Demo" model of a portable simulator. The portable simulator retails as \$84,150.00 (CND). This simulator is at a reduced cost as it is a demonstration model. The Cost of the Stationary Unit is \$60,553.50, the portable (demo) trainer is \$49,550.00 which is a difference of \$11,003.50.

On top of the savings, this portable simulator will be able to be towed to any of the County's rural fire stations to facilitate training at their stations and it could also be made available to our contract service providers, or even other regional partners throughout the Northwest region on a cost

recovery basis. Due to a slow fire season and revenues received to date, the fire service is projecting an operating surplus of over \$180,000.00. The portability of this training unit will also allow Fire Departments throughout the region to benefit from this type of training without having to travel to Peace River or Edmonton.

Councillor Bulford inquired that if other partners use the equipment would the County have to supply the training and an operator. Deputy Chief Grant responded that they would have to supply training and an operator, however, himself and one other captain are certified trainers, and Drager will provide some training as well.

Councillor Marshall wanted to ensure that the used unit was in good functional order. Fire Chief Cooke responded that it is.

Councillor Harris inquired what vehicles would be used to tow the unit. Fire Chief Cooke responded that he has been in discussions with All Transport in Clairmont for the transportation of the unit. The owner of the company has a fire background and expressed interest in the contract to move the unit, free of charge.

Councillor Beeston asked for clarification on the prices of the units.

Resolution #CM20151109.1010

MOVED BY B. SMITH to move forward with the purchase of the Drager Demo Phase 1, Flashover Simulator using funds from the 2015 Fire Services operating budget.

Carried

Amendment to "Oil and Gas Surface Lease Agreements"

(UNFINISHED BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151016002)

Dale Van Volkingburgh, Director of Public Works, requested that Council table this item until the November 23, 2015 Council Meeting so Deryle Penner, Resource Coordinator, can be present comment on the amendment.

Resolution #CM20151109.1011

MOVED BY B. MARSHALL to table the item on the Amendment to Oil and Gas Surface Lease Agreements until the November 23rd, 2015 Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

Rio Grande Bridge Survey Results

(UNFINISHED BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151029001)

Mr. Van Volkingburgh commented that as per County Council request, a survey was circulated in July to residents within the area of the Rio Grande Bridge to determine the importance of the bridge to their business or farming operations. Of the three hundred and forty (340) surveys circulated seventy-eight (78) were returned. Fifty-four (54%) percent of the respondents felt the existing bridge did not have an effect on their business or farming operations. Forty-five (45%) percent of the respondents felt the existing bridge had a negative effect.

The existing structure consists of a 61.0 meter long through truss on a steel and timber substructure. The Rio Grande Bridge's predicted end of life is 2025. The replacement costs for this bridge at this time is \$4.9 million, estimated to be \$5.4 million in 2019. Our current bridge funding deficit for the next five years is \$35.8 excluding the cost of the Rio Grande. Currently, there is \$600,000 in reserve for the replacement of this bridge.

There was discussion on the following:

- that much construction can be delayed by doing minor repairs and maintenance but overhaul does need to be done eventually;
- whether traffic counts are being done to ensure that the bridge work is needed;whether it was a County or Provincial Bridge Inspector that assessed the Rio Grande Bridge. CAO, Bill Rogan noted that it was a Provincial inspector because it was beyond the scope of the qualified bridge inspectors the County has.
- turnaround and how often the bridges are re-decked, as well as the costs associated with the re-decking (took 2-3 days at a cost of around \$15,000, and was done by the Beaverlodge Crew);
- whether resources are being transported across this bridge. Mr. Van Volkingburgh responded that the bridge is seldom used to transport industry resources, they typically go around the bridge for logging or rig moves.

Resolution #CM20151109.1012

MOVED BY P. HARRIS to defer a decision on the Rio Grande Bridge replacement to the 2016 Council Budget deliberations.

Carried

**Request to lease
County land
NW-23-70-8-W6
Lot 1, Block 1,
Plan 1021161**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151023010)

CAO, Bill Rogan noted that the County has received a request for purchase or lease of a County owned property located at NW-23-70-8-W6 Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 1021161, with the intent to cultivate/harvest grain and hay, as well to possibly be used for pasture at a later date.

Historically, the County only leases County-owned parcels to adjacent landowners. Administration reviewed the request and it is not recommended to sell the land as there is a dugout located on the above mentioned lot and it is used for Public Works and fire fighting purposes. County of Grande Prairie Regional Fire Service and Public Works Department have no objection with the possible lease of the property as long as there is 24 hour access to the dugout.

Councillor Beeston inquired if anyone has wanted to lease this parcel before. CAO, Bill Rogan responded that there has been no interest in leasing the parcel until now.

Resolution #CM20151109.1013

MOVED BY P. HARRIS to approve the request to lease NW-23-70-8-W6 Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 1021161 for haying on a three year lease, at market value.

Carried

**Estate and
Financial
Planning Week -
November 12 -18,
2015**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151028003)

Dawn Sauv , Director of Corporate Services, noted that correspondence was received from Darrell Wiens, a member of Estate & Financial Planning Institute (EFPI) in Grande Prairie. The EFPI is planning a series of events during Financial Planning Week. The kick off event is on November 13, 2015 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Grande Prairie Golf and Country Club and they have invited County Council along with the City of Grande Prairie to join them in proclaiming November 12-18, 2015 Estate and Financial Planning Week.

EFPI is a joint collaboration of professionals that raises awareness and promotes the benefits of financial planning, estate planning and planned giving for the benefit of our communities.

Resolution #CM20151109.1014

MOVED BY B. MARSHALL that the Reeve or alternate be allowed to attend the Estate and Financial Planning Week kick off event on November 13, 2015 at the Grande Prairie Golf and County Club to Proclaim November 12 - 18, 2015 "Estate and Financial Planning Week" in the County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

Carried

**PARDS Request
for Letter of
Support**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151028001)

CAO, Bill Rogan noted that The Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society (PARDS) is currently completing a grant application to the Government of Alberta for the Community Initiatives Program and are requesting the County's assistance in providing a letter of support for PARDS' relocation and expansion project, specifically to complete the barn area including stalls, mats, asphalt and water troughs. The grant deadline is December 15, 2015 so they are requesting receipt of the letter of support by November 30, if possible.

PARDS has been serving the Grande Prairie and Area community since 1984. Over the past 30 years, they have evolved from an entirely volunteer managed program, serving 5 riders and utilizing borrowed facilities and horses to a dynamic staff and volunteer driven organization, inhabiting their own 10,000 sq. ft. facility on 20 acres of land and serving a membership of over 600 individuals and families through a variety of programs. Their current volunteer base consists of over 200 volunteers providing over 12,000 hours of support in lessons, facility maintenance, events, fundraising and governance.

Resolution #CM20151109.1015

MOVED BY H. BULFORD that the County of Grande Prairie provide a letter of support for PARDS application to the Government of Alberta for the Community Initiatives Program for their relocation and expansion project.

Carried

**Home Hardware
Canada Cup of
Curling Opening
Banquet**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151028006)

Reeve Beaupre and a guest have been invited to be recognized at the Opening Banquet on December 1, 2015 at the Patch located in the Bowes Family Garden (located inside of Revolution Place) beginning at 6:00 p.m. Reeve Beaupre has accepted this invitation. As a Community Partner Sponsor the County has received 4 additional tickets to the Opening Banquet on December 1, 2015. This is a total of 6 tickets of which two are for the Reeve and guest. Extra tickets are available to purchase for \$40 per person.

Grande Prairie will be the host of two major curling championships during the 2015-2016 season. The 2015 Home Hardware Canada Cup, December 2-6, 2015 and the Scotties Tournament of Hearts, February 20-28, 2016. The County of Grande Prairie is a Community Partner for these events and contributed \$25,000.

Attending with guest: Reeve Beaupre, Councillor Harris, and Councillor Beeston. No additional tickets will need to be purchased.

**Committee
members: Town
of Sexsmith Fire**

Arlen Miller, Director of Community Services, noted that the Sexsmith Town Council has invited the County of Grande Prairie to have two representatives sit on the Building Committee for the new fire hall to be

**Hall Building
Committee**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20151028010)

located in Sexsmith.

As Council is aware, the County has agreed to provide \$500,000 in funding to assist in the construction of a new fire hall in Sexsmith. As per the resolution made at the Town of Sexsmith Council meeting (#385-10-15), one committee member is to be a County Council member and one is to be a member of County Administration.

Resolution #CM20151109.1016

MOVED BY C. BECK to appoint Councilor Beck and Arlen Miller, Director of Community Services, to represent the County of Grande Prairie on the Sexsmith Firehall Building Committee, with Reeve Beaupre and CAO, Bill Rogan as the alternates.

Carried

There was considerable discussion in regards to what would happen if the Town of Sexsmith were to decide to cancel their Fire Services. CAO, Bill Rogan and Mr. Miller commented that there have been discussion with the County's legal representatives in regards to any form of agreement with the Town of Sexsmith for the Fire Hall. They will also be having meetings with the CAO of Sexsmith shortly.

Mr. Miller asked Council's permission to leave the meeting. Council gave permission and Mr. Miller left the at 2:17 p.m. He did not return for the remainder of the meeting.

**Brownlee LLP
Emerging Trends
in Municipal Law
Seminar - 2016**

(WORKSHOPS,
CONFERENCES,
SEMINARS)
(Issue #20151026001)

The Brownlee LLP Emerging Trends in Municipal Law Seminar dates for 2016 have been released:

- February 11, 2016 at the Coast Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre in Calgary; and
- February 18, 2016 at the Edmonton Expo Centre in Edmonton.

There is no conflict in Council's Calendars for the February 11, 2016 Seminar in Calgary. The February 18, 2016 Seminar in Edmonton conflicts with the last day of the Growing the North Conference in Grande Prairie. A few Councillors have attended this in the past and was budgeted for. The cost of registration is \$125.00.

Resolution #CM20151109.1017

MOVED BY C. BECK that any Councillor wishing to attend the Brownlee LLP Emerging Trends in Municipal Law Seminar may attend, in either Calgary on February 11, 2016 or in Edmonton on February 18, 2016.

Carried

**Monthly
Statement -
August 31, 2015**

(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20151028007)

Report includes year to date financial operations & capital, monthly cash flows, investments and accounts paid for August 2015. The report is submitted monthly for Council's review and consideration.

Councillor Sutherland posed a question on investments and whether we have any with the AAMDC fund. Mrs. Sauvé responded that the County does not, but we have a good relationship with another investment manager that gives us good rates.

Resolution #CM20151109.1018

MOVED BY H. BULFORD that Council accept the August 2015 monthly statement as presented.

Carried

Proposed Hamlet of Bezanson Access Revision Options - Email from the Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation

(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20151028011)

An email was received from the Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation in regards to the redesign for the intersections in the Hamlet of Bezanson. They have noted that the lines of communication will continue to stay open in regards to alignment options. The County has engaged the Province in a proposed redesign for an interim solution at the intersection of Highways 733, 670 and Highway 43 at the Hamlet of Bezanson.

Letter from the Minister of Health RE - Provincial Funding of the Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society (STARS)

(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20151104001)

County of Grande Prairie received a letter from the Minister of Health in response to our letter dated August 26, 2015 regarding Provincial funding of the Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society (STARS). It was noted that each province has business arrangements with STARS to meet the unique need for helicopter services within their respective EMS system. As such, funding, governance and operating models will differ from province to province. Alberta Health does not have access to agreements that STARS may hold with other provincial governments.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councillor Beck:

- FireSmart workshop;
- Synergy Alberta Conference;
- Peace Region ASB Conference in the Hamlet of Guy;
- phone/text/email complaints from ratepayers because of the gravel roads and moisture. The roads are really bad with lots of water pooling, and a "slime" feeling on the road surface. Mr. Van Volkingburgh responded that he has had discussions with the area foremen and they will re-assess the gravel used on the problem roads. He noted that testing is done each year before the first applications of the gravel, and that gravel is bought from various pits. Councillor Beck commented that he sees the correlation between complaints and the gravel locations done each year.

Councillor Smith:

- Peace Region ASB Conference in the Hamlet of Guy.

Councillor Beeston:

- Peace Region ASB Conference in the Hamlet of Guy;
- Synergy Alberta Conference;
- getting the same road complaints as Councillor Beck, he knows the roads were graveled last year, but there is a "slimy" layer;
- PREDA meeting - Alberta Health was in attendance, he distributed the report.

Resolution #CM20151109.1019

MOVED BY D. BEESTON that the County cover the hosting and meal costs in the amount of \$1700 for the PREDA Meeting held November 6, 2015.

Carried

Councillor Beeston:

- commented on Range Road 63 and that the landowner is not interested in working with the County.

- Councillor Beck commented that the Alberta Health report distributed was for Peace River, there was also one for the City of Grande Prairie, and inquired if there was a report specific to the County. The information will be given to Administration to distribute to Council.
- Councillor Smith noted that he spoke to Mr. Van Volkingburgh this morning and we should approach another landowner as they are across from the property in discussion. They County already owns some of the land on the quarter. CAO, Bill Rogan noted that the design will be done shortly and they can try to plan after that for the southeast quarter.

Councillor Bulford:

- Molly Weleski's Farewell Party;
- FireSmart Conference / Seminar;
- Synergy Conference in Calgary;
- Peace Region ASB Meeting in the Hamlet of Guy.

Councillor Harris:

- Synergy Conference in Calgary, it was good exchange of views done in a civil manner;
- Peace Region ASB Meeting in the Hamlet of Guy;
- CARB Hearing - was very short as the complainant did not submit documentation for complaints so the Board had nothing to discuss.

Councillor Marshall:

- Conference call with AAMDC and Reeve Beaupre on presentation to be made at AAMDC Conference.

Deputy Reeve Sutherland:

- Synergy Alberta Conference - Aboriginal attendance was mentioned often and are getting heavily involved;
- Peace Region ASB Meeting in the Hamlet of Guy. He inquired how many ASB resolutions actually come to fruition. Councillor Beck, Chairman of the ASB, noted that we often get a "canned" response or they defer the resolutions to lots of other people for comments.
- Range Road 75 railroad crossing fixed. Mr. Van Volkingburgh noted that have also done the crossing at Range Road 64, south of airport. He noted that a list was supplied of the challenging crossings and at least 3-4 of the five identified have been done this year.
- PARDS Banquet - very well attended, good fundraiser this year with lots of interest. CAO, Bill Rogan commented that Jennifer Douglas will come back to update Council on PARDS, but they hope to be in the new building by March 2016. Councillor Sutherland noted that Ms. Douglas had a few people approach her for major sponsorships at the banquet.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

CAO, Bill Rogan:

- confirmed meeting with the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General on November 18th at AAMDC;
- confirmed meeting with the Minister of Alberta Health on November 19th at 8:30 - 8:50 a.m. at the Legislature Building. The invite will be sent through Council calendars;
- 2016 budget dates have not been set by motion: need a motion designating December 1-3, 2015 as the 2016 Budget Deliberation

dates, with December 4th as a tentative date.

Resolution #CM20151109.1020

MOVED BY C. BECK that December 1-3, 2015 be confirmed as the County 2016 Final Budget Deliberation dates, and December 4, 2015 as the alternate date, if needed.

Carried

Mr. Van Volkingburgh:

- update on Red Willow closure. Will be closed one night in next 1-2 weeks, midnight to 5am to do the adjustments. Tentatively fully open for the winter on December 15th, and partially closed again in the Spring for the surfacing work. Councillor Harris inquired if the County is being compensating for having to re-route traffic to the Rio Grande Bridge. Mr. Van Volkingburgh responded that he is working with Alberta Transportation and will continue with negotiations. The Provincial Government was supposed to pay to strip the bridge and re-deck it as we have evidence the current deck has not met the 5 year term expected.
- Festival of Trees submission was set up on Sunday, was chose as one of the Live Auction exhibits already;
- Councillor Beeston inquired about the gravel for use this year and whether all the Councillors received the same gravel from the same pits. Mr. Van Volkingburgh responded that some came from the Wapiti Pits south of town, and that Range Road 52 & 53 would be the gravel pit boundary split for Council divisions.

Mr. Lapp had nothing to add.

Mrs. Sauvé noted that the Grande Prairie Rural Crime Watch meeting was held on November 3rd in Debolt and was attended by Manager of Legislative Services, Sheryle Runhart, members from Regional Enforcement Services, and other County departments.

CAO, Bill Rogan for Mr. Miller:

- met with Wembley, Beaverlodge, and Hythe regarding the Mutual Aid Fire Agreement. There will be a bump over the normal 3% and the agreement will come back before the end of December for Council's review and consideration for approval.

Councillor Beeston noted that the Northern Spirit Light Show begins on November 20th and they have asked if the County Councillors would run the hot chocolate booth on that night starting at 5:15 - 5:30 p.m. The event will be put into Council calendars.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #CM20151109.1021

MOVED BY P. HARRIS that the meeting adjourn at 2:49 p.m.

Carried

These minutes approved the _____ day of _____ 2015.

Reference #

REEVE

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR