

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



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

October 5, 2015

Sexsmith funding request for new fire hall – Council made a motion to provide \$500,000 in funding toward construction of a new fire hall in Sexsmith. The Town of Sexsmith sent a letter of request to the County to jointly fund the estimated \$1 million capital project for \$500,000. Council made the decision to fund the project from the 2016 budget. See media release, “**County to Fund \$500,000 in 2016 toward Construction of New Sexsmith Fire Hall**”.

QEII Hospital Foundation Key to Care funding request – Representatives of the QEII Hospital Foundation requested the County provide \$3.5 million to support a new capital campaign aimed at raising \$20 million to enhance patient care and further education at the QEII hospital and the new Grande Prairie Regional Hospital currently under construction. Council deferred this to budget and directed administration to bring back information on funding options to a maximum of \$3.5 million.

Veresen Midstream Donation – Darby DeSchipper and Lane Flaten of Veresen Midstream presented a \$15,000 cheque to the County of Grande Prairie for the reconstruction of the shelter at the Demmitt Campground. Council thanked Veresen Midstream for their investment and commitment to enhancing quality of life and recreation and tourism opportunities in our community. Demmitt Campground is located on Highway 43 (northwest of Hythe, near the Alberta, BC border) and is one of five campgrounds in the County of Grande Prairie. For more information on the County’s campgrounds and parks visit <http://www.countygp.ab.ca/EN/main/community/parks.html>

2016/2017 Private supply of gravel – Council approved proposals from Buffalo Gravel to provide 50,000T of 20 mm gravel for \$575,000 and 1000T of 40mm gravel for \$11,500; and Knelsen Sand & Gravel to provide 30,000T of 20mm gravel for \$390,000, 30,000T of 20mm gravel for \$405,000 and 1000T of 40mm gravel for \$13,500 for 2016 and 2017. The material will be used in the County’s annual local road gravel program.

Bylaws – Council gave Bylaw 2680-15-057 third reading which will allow for the redesignation of 27.97 acres of land located on Pt. SE-25-72-05-W6M and 3 ½ miles east of the Hamlet of Clairmont, adjacent to Rge Rd. 50 and Twp. Rd. 724 from Agricultural (AG) District to Country Residential (CR-5) District for the subdivision of two residential lots.

Wapiti Sand Dunes Logging Contract – Council awarded the contract for salvage logging in the Wapiti Sand Dunes to Tappen Contracting Ltd. The contractors will be removing and salvaging pine stands affected by the mountain pine beetle in the Wapiti Dunes Area in winter 2015-2016. This is one of several FireSmart projects in the County which aims to reduce the risk of wildfire in high risk areas. Council also approved the motion to have any surplus funds generated from the Wapiti Sand Dunes Logging Contract be placed in the FireSmart Reserve which can be used on other FireSmart projects in the County.

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County to explore provincial funding options for Physician/FCSS clinic in Clairmont – Council directed administration to research provincial funding options and possible sites for a physician’s clinic to be potentially located with a Family and Community Support Services office in the Hamlet of Clairmont.

Aquatera Utilities Update – CEO Bernd Manz provided an update on Aquatera Utilities. The presentation outlined projects planned to accommodate continued growth in Clairmont, including an improved wastewater treatment capacity (\$19M) and connection to Aquatera’s expanded Wastewater Treatment Plant (\$60M). Other plans include a regional sewer lift station and trunk mains (\$21M) and a future water reservoir on Mercer Hill (\$9M).

Next Council meeting will take place on October 19, 2015.

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